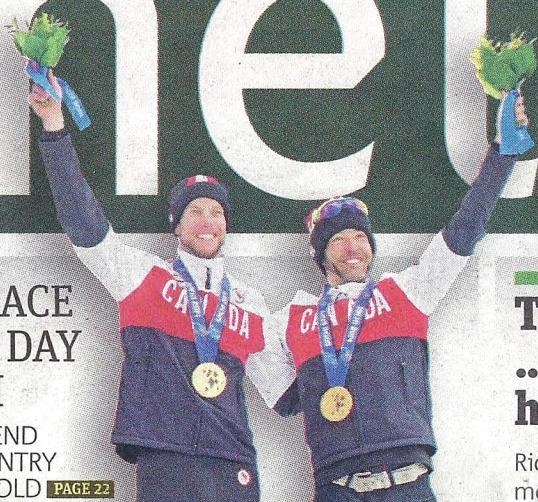




FIRST PLACE ON LAST DAY IN SOCHI

PARALYMPICS END AS CROSS-COUNTRY SKIERS GRAB GOLD **PAGE 22**



The Devil is a Lie ... but I'm in no hurry to check

Rick Ross is thinking a lot about mortality after drive-by **PAGE 11**

Parents ask: Was Afghan mission worth their lives?

Families open up as Canada's last 100 soldiers return **PAGE 5**

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Early mornings

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TED Talks to set your imagination aflame this week

Vancouver's first. Bill Gates, Chris Hadfield and others to speak at renowned conference

NICK WELLS
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The screens are up and the guests have arrived, paving the way for Vancouver's very first TED Talk.

A range of speakers, thinkers and even an astronaut are all set to take the stage to share their ideas with the West Coast crowd.

Celebrating its 30th anniversary, TED — which stands for Technology, Entertainment and Design and features the slogan "Ideas Worth Spreading" — announced they would switch up their presentations and

location.

While the signature 18-minute talks will still dominate, a reduced audience size and a special "All-Star" series are set to debut at this week's event.

Bill and Melinda Gates, Sting, and Canada's favourite astronaut Chris Hadfield are all scheduled to speak this week at the Vancouver Convention Centre.

The topics range from the human psyche to contemplating humanity's future.

If you're not able to score a \$7,500 ticket to the exclusive event, there are 25 locations across the city offering free web streams of every session.

A separate talk is also taking place in Whistler but will still include web casts of the Vancouver event.

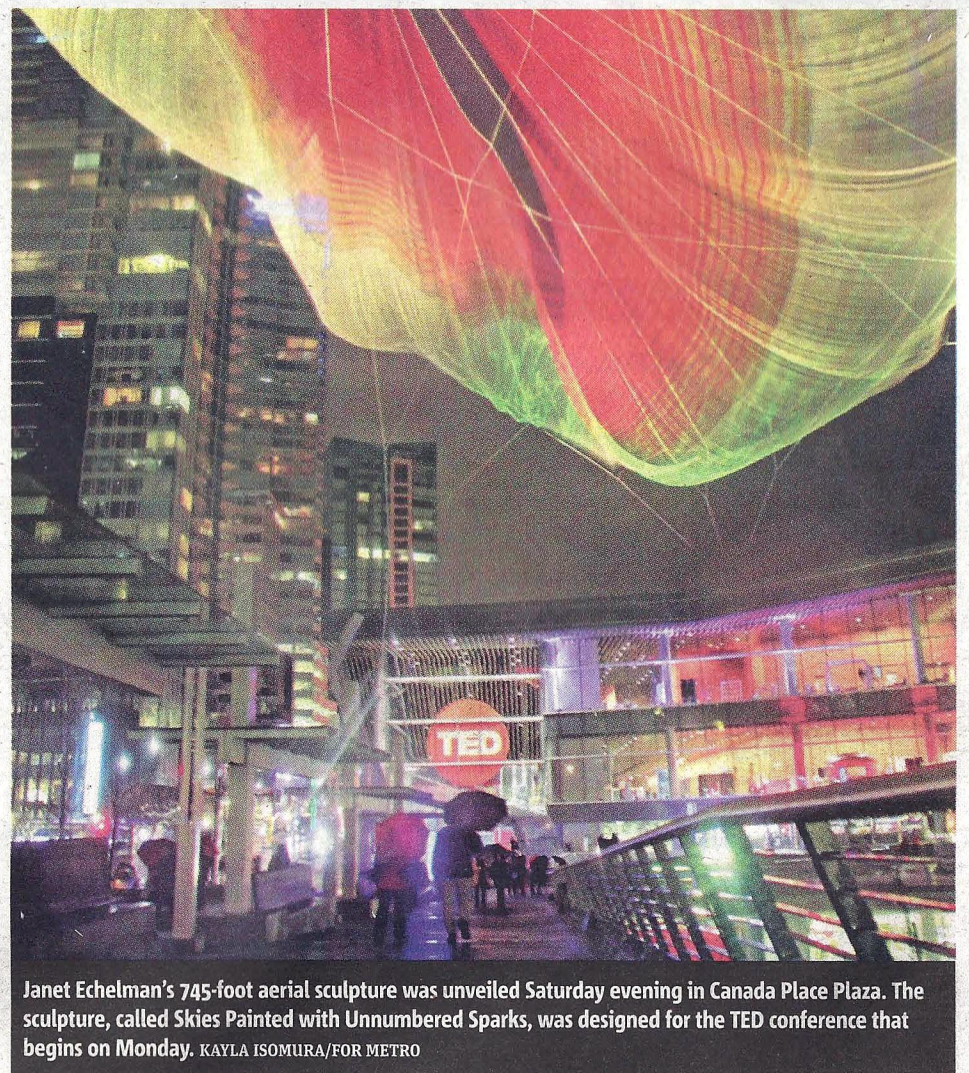
For local educators and academics, the talks present an opportunity to get people

Where to tune in

- Terry Fox Plaza at BC Place
- Downtown branch of the Vancouver Public Library
- UBC Sauder School of Business
- Grouse Mountain
- Trout Lake Community Centre

interested in knowledge.

"This is as important as going to see the Dalai Lama speak. To be with friends and colleagues and have this cohesive sense of gaining knowledge is a fantastic opportunity," said Skooker Broome, an exhibition designer at the Museum of Anthropology.



Janet Echelman's 745-foot aerial sculpture was unveiled Saturday evening in Canada Place Plaza. The sculpture, called *Skies Painted with Unnumbered Sparks*, was designed for the TED conference that begins on Monday. KAYLA ISOMURA/FOR METRO

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