

Advance praise for  
**FIVE RING CIRCUS**

Chris Shaw brilliantly and grippingly uncovers the looting of Vancouver, how the IOC and its drug-fuelled Games poison our democracies, award gold licenses to land speculators, and dump the bill on taxpayers. It's a story of grotesque deceit confronted by heroic protests and citizen-driven corruption investigations that shame the co-opted media. A must-read for any community under threat from the Olympic boosters.

— ANDREW JENNINGS, investigative reporter and filmmaker

We are told that the slogan of the Olympics is Faster, Higher, Stronger. But for far too many host cities, it's been Greed, Guns, and Graft. Chris Shaw's *Five Ring Circus* is a remarkable contribution to unmasking what really goes down when the Olympics come to town — in Vancouver and beyond. This is an urgent must-read, and the best sporting expose I've read in years.

— DAVE ZIRIN, author *A People's History of Sports in the United States*.

A crucial tale, told under pressure on the fly, of public-spirited citizens standing up for shared truths forged in the teeth of the blizzard of lies pumped out by Olympic industry media. A gripping epic about corporations sociopathically obsessed with re-colonizing our sacred places as subsidized outdoor malls for bored and lonely tourists to go to for retail therapy. Read it and realize that local networks of citizens can be re-invigorated in the struggles against these place invaders.

— MARTIN SLAVIN, gamesmonitor.org.uk

The Olympic juggernaut must be stopped! I wholeheartedly agree with Christopher Shaw, and you will, too, after you read this book. This is the real Olympic story, a careful and passionate documentation of every hidden detail behind the Vancouver bid and organizing committees' "feel good" facade.

— HELEN JEFFERSON LENSKEY, author of *Inside the Olympic Industry: Power, Politics and Activism*, *The Best Ever Olympics: Social Impacts of Sydney 2000* and *Olympic Industry Resistance: Challenging Olympic Powers and Propaganda*; Professor Emerita, University of Toronto

The Olympic Games are often regarded as a gift to host cities. In his thoughtful but impassioned *Five Ring Circus*, Chris Shaw succeeds in tearing away the public relations wrapping and IOC ribbons. With well-worded precision, he examines the real prize inside, meant for developers and insiders: a countdown clock wired to a civic incendiary device.

— GEOFF OLSON, *Common Ground* magazine

Ten minutes of this book is enough to throw one inside a world once known by only a handful of people. Shaw describes the true face of this private leviathan, the IOC: its deep and consolidated fascist roots, and the unbeatable string of financial disasters left after the rodeo has gone from town. If you want to know exactly what the *olympics* are, and what they absolutely are not, just don't miss it.

— STEFANO BERTONE, co-founder of the Turin 2006 Antiolympics' Committee.  
Member of the Worldwide Opposition to the "olympic games".

In the public mind, the Olympics are all about international brotherhood, and friendly contests among amateur athletes from around the world. Well-researched and important, *Five Ring Circus* reveals the realities of how this world really works and what it's really about — greed and money. *Five Ring Circus* is about more than just the Olympics; it's a vehicle, a microcosm, that can open people's minds to looking beneath the surface of *the spectacle* of fantasy media reality.

— RICHARD MOORE, author *Escaping the Matrix: How We the People can change the world*

This book is the IOC and VANOC's worst nightmare. *Five Ring Circus* is a well-researched and challenging examination of how the Olympics is, at its heart, all about real estate mega deals, and making rich developers even richer. Christopher Shaw should get a gold medal for investigative journalism.

— DAVID EBY, lawyer, Pivot Legal Society

Everything you wanted to know about the Olympic Games is in *Five Ring Circus*. Shaw exposes the massive corporate corruption surrounding the Games, and names our British Columbian politicians who align themselves with the vile, wretched schemes of corporate vandals to defraud the rest of us of our public lands, waters, and money. A must-read for every Canadian. Or for that matter, for citizens everywhere who may be in danger of being conned into giving up their birthright by these economic terrorists.

— BETTY KRAWCZYK, Citizen Granny

In 2003 they promised us a world class city. Instead the people of Vancouver got a doubling of the homeless rate, erosion of civil liberties, surveillance cameras, an ever-increasing crime rate, increasing rents, evictions, an ecological disaster and, to make matters worse, we will be paying for this for the next 30 years. If you are wondering how this mess came about, this book is an essential read.

— CONRAD SCHMIDT, director "Five Ring Circus" documentary film;  
founder, Work Less Party; and author, *Workers of the World Relax*