

# Canadian Women's Hockey Team Celebration Controversy

The News Literacy Project

# Facts:

- The Canadian women's hockey team won the gold medal when they beat the United States women on Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010
- The match was in Vancouver, British Columbia (Canada)
- Over 30 minutes later, the Canadian women's team came out of the locker room and had a celebration on the ice

# More Facts

- The players were in uniform for the celebration
- The celebration involved players drinking beer, champagne, and smoking or holding cigars
- The rink was not empty, and some people saw and took photographs
- One player, Marie-Philip Poulin, is only 18 years old and was photographed and seen with a beer
- The legal drinking age in Vancouver is 19

# Even More Facts

- Another player, Rebecca Johnston, tried to drive the ice resurfacing machine
- The Associated Press informed the International Olympic Committee, and there was public outcry
- Some people think that the players acted inappropriately, and others think they did nothing wrong
- IOC Executive Director, Gilbert Felli, said it was "not what we want to see...I don't think it's a good promotion of sport values," he said. "If they celebrate in the changing room, that's one thing, but not in public. We will investigate what happened."
- The players later apologized, but still insist they did nothing wrong.

# Wait! A Few More Facts

- The Canadian Olympic Committee did not provide any of the alcohol or cigars
- No one was hurt
- "We understand that they were asked to go back onto the playing field after the stadium had emptied to take a photo," IOC spokesman Mark Adams said. "We understand that some people may have felt that their behavior was over-exuberant."

Here are some photos:









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