



SPRING ISSUE 2007 VOLUME 18

# Viewpoints

*From the Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre*



Vancouver  
Convention &  
Exhibition Centre

## VCEC Selected to Pilot International Quality Standards Program

The VCEC is one of five convention centres in the world – including Helsinki, Lisbon, Brighton, and San Sebastian – chosen by the International Association of Congress Centres (AIPC) – to pilot a prestigious new quality standards program for global convention centre management. AIPC is a Brussels-based organization representing 152 convention centres in 53 countries worldwide.

The program, which is expected to complete its pilot phase by July 2007, was designed to address quality standards in key areas of operations and management, perform a self-assessment, and set ongoing goals for continuous improvement. These quality standards include service excellence, industry relations, facility operations, accessibility, employee relations, environmental responsibility, health and safety, and community relations.

“The VCEC is looking forward to setting the course for this important program and helping to establish a global standard for the kind of operational quality clients expect from an international convention centre,” said Barbara Maple, VCEC President.

“Our facility has always placed a big emphasis on developing quality standards and it is a tribute to this effort that such standards are now being pursued internationally,” she concluded. ■



## ICCA Names Vancouver Top City in North America for International Meetings

The International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA), based in Amsterdam, has ranked Vancouver as North America's top destination for international meetings in their 2006 International Association Meeting Market report. Placed far ahead of Toronto, San Francisco, New York City, and Seattle, the next best ranked North Ameri-

can cities were Boston and Montreal, which tied for an international ranking of 44.

Last year Vancouver hosted 50 meetings, placing it 24th internationally and improved its 2005 placement from 39th internationally with 28 meetings. ■



## Comings and Goings

Some recent and upcoming major events at the VCEC

### RECENT EVENTS

(No. of delegates)

#### February 2007

- Bible Study Fellowship Retreat (2,415)
- Buildex 2007 (11,000)
- Financial Forum (2,000)
- Bridal Trends (2,500)
- National Franchise & Business Opportunities Show (600)
- KNOW?SHOW Fall 2007 (2,100)
- Esthétique Spa International (4,500)
- BC Real Estate Convention (2,000)
- Catholic Educators Conference (1,180)

#### March 2007

- Business Career Expo (900)
- Bottom Line Conference: Mental Illness in the Workplace (290)
- Wellness Show (8,000)
- Pacific Dental Conference (9,000)
- EPIC Sustainable Living Expo (2,500)
- Wood Solutions Fair (800)
- CES/Optofair (500)
- BC Complete Beauty Show (5,000)
- Massive Technology Show (4,000)
- Vancouver Playhouse Wine Festival (12,500)

#### April 2007

- 1st Annual Sea to Sky International Cheerleading Championships (3,400)
- Grocery Showcase West (8,000)
- Canadian Health Food Association (3,000)

- Stampin' Up (800)
- TOPS (950)
- Fuel Cells 2007 Conference & Tradeshow (800)
- National Meetings Industry Day (150)
- Storage Networking SAN/NAS Summit (400)
- Vancouver Real Estate Forum (700)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

(No. of delegates)

#### May 2007

- DV Interior Design & Urban Living Expo 2007 (3,500)
- HRMA Conference 2007 (700)
- 16th International Congress of Cytology (1,000)
- 10th International Society of Travel Medicine Conference (1,500)
- International Indoor Gardening Expo (800)

#### June 2007

- World Confederation for Physical Therapy (2,500)
- 19th IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion (2,500)
- World Gold Investment Conference (4,000)
- Autosense AGM/Trade show (300)

#### July 2007

- Canada Day (85,000)
- ERA Franchise Systems "Beyond Excellence" (350)
- International Society for Prosthetics & Orthotics (1,500)

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