



New Appointments Made to VCCEP and PavCo Board

PavCo, the parent corporation of the Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre, has seen the appointment of a new Chairman and Board of Directors. The new Chairman is David Podmore, who is President and CEO of Concert Properties Ltd. — a Canadian owned \$1.0 billion diversified real estate development company founded in 1989.

Directors are Derek Brindle, Counsel, Singleton Urquhart; Peter Brown Chairman & CEO, Canaccord Capital Corporation; Bob Bryant, independent consultant (former Chairman, TBWA Canada); Susan Gomez, indepen-

dent consultant (former General Manager, Pan Pacific Vancouver); John Horning, Senior Vice President & CFO, International Forest Products Limited; Daniel Jarvis, independent consultant; Miriam Kresivo, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Chevron Canada Limited; Terry Lyons, Chairman, Northgate Minerals Corporation; and Grant Ritchie, independent consultant (former Senior Vice President, UMA Engineering).

Chairman David Podmore has more than 33 years in the real estate development industry, and has been actively involved in the community, both professionally and personally,

throughout that period. His extensive development career includes serving as Vice President of Planning, Design and Engineering for BC Place Ltd. and as President and Chief Executive Officer of the British Columbia Pavilion Corporation at Expo 86. In addition to serving as the Chair of PavCo, he also chairs the Vancouver Convention Centre Expansion Project (VCCEP). At the same time, he is a Director of Borealis BC Labs Inc., and Vice President of the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) Foundation. ■



David Podmore, the new Chairman of VCCEP and PavCo Board.

International Ambassador!

In October 2001, VCEC President Barbara Maple was the first North American President elected to the Association Internationale des Palais de Congrès (AIPC). Founded in 1958 and based in Brussels, AIPC is the leading convention and congress centre organization in the world, representing 152 convention centres in 53 countries.

When her presidency came to an end in 2006, Barbara was the only President to be elected for three consecutive two-year terms. She will continue to serve on the AIPC Board of Directors as Past-President. In addition, she is currently Chair of the World Council of Venue Management and President of the Joint meetings industry Council, which represents nine international Meetings Industry associations.

"Since I was elected President of AIPC six years ago, our industry has seen incredible changes in areas ranging from security and travel issues to demographic shifts and sustainability," said

Maple. She added: "The impact of global events such as SARS, 9/11, threats of terrorism, and changes in world economics were issues that all convention centres needed to manage and AIPC provided an important forum for helping do that."

"Today more than ever, there is a much bigger emphasis on the longer term rather than focusing on three to five year strategic planning horizons, as was more common in years past," Maple concluded. "We all need to work together to share common goals, ideas, and prepare for an exciting future."

At the same time, she noted the importance of her AIPC role in building industry awareness of Vancouver and British Columbia in the international market. "The VCEC depends heavily on the international congress and corporate markets to diversify our business and we have had some real success in those areas. Although we had significant challenges in terms of aware-

ness, I'm pleased to say that my role with AIPC gave me the chance to raise Vancouver's and Canada's profile throughout the meetings and convention world and I think that will deliver benefits to the VCEC for a long time to come". ■



VCEC's Barbara Maple opening the AIPC Annual Conference in Montpellier, France July (2006).

