



MEDIA ADVISORY

**For immediate release
July 27, 2017**

Vancouver, B.C. In an abundance of caution, the Pacific National Exhibition, operators of Playland Amusement Park, have made the decision to voluntarily close The Beast ride today for supplemental inspections of all aspects of the ride. This follows from ride accident yesterday in Ohio, which involved a ride made by KMG, the same manufacturer as The Beast.

"The regulations overseeing ride operations in British Columbia are some of the most progressive in the world. In Playland all of our rides are inspected by the BC Safety Authority prior to the opening of season." Says Laura Ballance PNE spokesperson. "Additionally, each ride at Playland is inspected daily by our ride technicians, as well as our operations teams and we are very confident in the safety of all our rides. The safety of our guests is our number one priority so we have made the decision to do supplemental inspections of The Beast today."

The Beast ride was purchased new from manufacturer KMG of the Netherlands, assembled at Playland where it underwent diligent inspections and testing prior to opening in 2015. It continues to have twice daily inspections prior to each operating day and two annual inspections by a third-party industry contractor.

"It is important to understand a key difference between Playland's Beast and travelling models. Our ride is a permanent structure assembled once and thoroughly inspected and tested prior to when it opened in 2015. Smaller travelling versions are by their nature continually assembled, operated, disassembled, and then shipped to its next location."

About the PNE:

Owned by the City of Vancouver, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is a healthy and vibrant non-profit organization dedicated to providing over 3 million visitors a year with first-class cultural, sporting and family entertainment events. Founded in 1910, the PNE operates from a 114-acre site at Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver where the organization operates four activity streams: an annual 15-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, maintenance and care of the Hastings Park site and management of the site's year-round facilities. These facilities are utilized to celebrate a variety of amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

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