



Pacific National Exhibition

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NEWS RELEASE

PNE HONOURS CANADIAN HOCKEY ICON

Vancouver, B.C. - The Pacific National Exhibition (PNE), original home of the Vancouver Canucks from their inception as an NHL franchise in 1970 until the team moved to the newly constructed GM Place in 1994, honoured **Canadian hockey icon Jim Robson** for his role in helping make the PNE's Pacific Coliseum British Columbia's favourite venue.



As part of the January 10th, 2006 game between the Vancouver Canucks and the Toronto Maple Leafs PNE President Michael McDaniel surprised Jim with a set of historic Coliseum seats (circa 1968) during the first intermission pay-per-view broadcast.

"Jim was the voice of the Pacific Coliseum for 24 years," says PNE President and CEO Michael McDaniel. "The PNE is an organization that celebrates history and tradition, and there is no better way to do that than by honouring Jim Robson for his incredible contribution to this company, this building and this city."

The Coliseum officially opened in 1968, but it took two more years for the Canucks to be granted an NHL franchise. Jim Robson was the play-by-play announcer for that historic first NHL game, and continued to be the memorable voice of the Canucks and the Coliseum through the 1994 move to GM Place.

Today the Pacific Coliseum is home to the WHL franchise the Vancouver Giants, hundreds of sporting events, concerts, trade and consumer shows annually.

The historic seats presented to Mr. Robson were removed from the Coliseum as part of upgrades being done to the building in preparation for the upcoming 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The Coliseum will be the venue for figure skating and short track speed skating.

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Owned by the City of Vancouver, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is a healthy and vibrant non-profit charity 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 business streams: an annual 17-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, maintenance and care of the Hasting Park site and management of the site's year-round facilities. These facilities are utilized to celebrate a variety of hockey, amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

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