



## Pacific National Exhibition

2901 East Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5K 5J1 Telephone: 604 253-2311 Fax: 604 251-7753  
[www.pne.ca](http://www.pne.ca)

### **PNE INVESTS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO ENSURE REMARKABLE CULTURAL PROGRAMMING AT THE '07 FAIR**

For Immediate Release

Vancouver, B.C.: Guests to the 2007 Fair at the PNE will be treated to some of the most amazing art and cultural experiences, all included for free with the price of admission to the Fair.

Brand new to the Fair, the PNE will host for the first time a professional international touring act, the **Peking Acrobats**. Normally performing in large city centre arts venues, the Peking Acrobats are a must-see attraction at this year's PNE. From treacherous wire-walking to trick-cycling, precision tumbling, and maneuvers atop a precarious pagoda of chairs, these acrobats continually defy gravity – and the audience's expectations.

Performing three times daily during the Fair (with the exception of Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>), the Peking Acrobats will dazzle Fair-goers with amazing displays of contortion, flexibility, and balancing acts.

Also new for the '07 Fair will be the **Red Robinson Talent Showdown**, a fresh take on the classic talent discovery contest, designed to bring together some of BC's best entertainers. Hosted by the famed former rock DJ, Red Robinson, the contest will hold separate categories for kids, youth, and adults, capped off with an all ages finale, featuring a \$10,000 grand prize. Past PNE talent competitors have included internationally famed singer Michael Buble and country singer Lisa Brokop.

The "**Twinkle Twinkle Little Boars – Splendid Lanterns of Taiwan**" Lantern Festival is sure to please this year, as the beautiful creations celebrate the Year of the Boar. Located on the Pacific Coliseum concourse, this year's festival features many lanterns from Taiwanese artists such as Master Lin, Yu-Chu, a lantern specialist. The exhibit will be open to the public each day of the Fair.

The world famous Taiwanese lantern festival, also known as the Shang Yuan Festival, takes place on the fifteenth day of the first moon. This "second New Year" is widely celebrated by families all around Taiwan. On the night of the festival, decorative lanterns depicting birds, beasts, historical figures, and other themes are carried by children or are used to adorn temples. Combining traditional art with modern technology, the Lantern Festival carries on a centuries-old folk custom, and has become a major activity marking the beginning of the Chinese New Year.

Returning this year to the 2007 Fair is the PNE's much-loved **Art Cars at the PNE** event. Fairgoers of all ages are invited to participate in the Fair's free public art project, in which a '51 pickup truck, a '64 Valiant, '78 Volkswagen Van, 60's-style Volkswagen Bug, and three classic Fair Bumper cars will be painted. Grab a paintbrush and help create!

The 2007 Fair will also feature one of the largest sand sculpture events in North America, the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual PNE International Sand Sculpture Competition**. This popular event returns to the PNE this year with a spectacular International Sandcastle-building Demonstration and Competition. World-renowned sand sculptors from the United States, Canada, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Portugal, and Australia will compete over the duration of the Fair.

The PNE is delighted to showcase the best in community talents as part of the **Neighbourhood Showcase at Festival Square**. Each year over 5000 performers participating in over 100 groups are featured at the Fair. The popular family program runs daily at the PNE.

For more information about the Pacific National Exhibition or the annual Fair at the PNE 's visit: [www.pne.ca](http://www.pne.ca)

-30-

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 activity streams: an annual 17-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, operations 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 hockey, amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

**For more information, please contact:**

Laura Ballance  
Media Relations  
Pacific National Exhibition  
604-252-3533  
604-771-5176 (cell)  
[laura@curvecommunications.com](mailto:laura@curvecommunications.com)