



## Pacific National Exhibition

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NEWS RELEASE

### **2007 A BANNER YEAR FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA'S FAVOURITE FAMILY EVENT – THE FAIR AT THE PNE**

#### **MISSION RESIDENT WINS '07 PRIZE HOME**

**VANCOUVER, B.C.:** A record number of entertainment attractions, including 2007 Fair favourites the Peking Acrobats and the brand new Toontastic Celebration Parade, as well as dozens of Fair classics including the Superdogs and Pig Races, made for another successful year at the PNE.

*"The 2007 Fair at the PNE will go down as one of the strongest in our history," says the PNE's President and CEO Michael McDaniel. "We are thrilled that the \$4 million we invested in Fair entertainment was experienced by so many British Columbians, many who braved our less than spectacular summer weather to take in all of our attractions."*

**Despite seven days of rain (including three key weekend days), attendance at the 17-day Fair was 906,808.**

#### **New Entertainment**

The '07 PNE presented its largest offering of free family entertainment and free shows in its history, boasting 725 free attractions, including the most popular act this year, the Peking Acrobats, the spectacular Toontastic Celebration Parade, the returning nightly musical show Rollin' Thunder, a magic and illusion show, and a high dive show.

#### **Red Robinson Talent Showdown**

A brand new talent contest, hosted by famed DJ Red Robinson, brought out some of the most talented youth and adult performers the PNE has ever seen. This year, the Fair featured semi-finalists from across British Columbia who performed in the Red Robinson Talent Showdown's daily competitions. The showdown's \$10,000 grand prize winner was Kerry O'Donovan, who competed in the adult division of the semi-finals, of Surrey/White Rock. Singing and playing the piano, O'Donovan blew the judges and audience away with his rendition of Queen's "Somebody to Love." The youth talent winner was Elaine Mareau of Kelowna who amazed the judges with her rendition of "Art Is Calling For Me" by Kiri Te Kanawa. Mareau will represent the PNE at the 2007 Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions in its Canadian Youth Talent Competition on November 14-17, 2007.

#### **3rd Annual PNE International Sand Sculpture Competition**

The brightest talents in the world of sand sculpture competed at the 3rd annual PNE International Sand Sculpture Competition, now one of the largest invitational events in the world. First place was won by Russia's Ilya Filimonstev, with his sand creation entitled, "The Time of the Musketeer." Second place went to the Czech Republic's Radovan Zivney with his rendition

of B.C. champion swimmer Brian Johns in "Swimmer." Third place, and the people's choice award, went to Richard Varano of the United States, for his creation, "Fantasy Sand Castle."

### **Prize Home Draw**

67-year-old Hilda Kosiorkiewicz of Mission was awarded the 2007 PNE Prize Home after faithfully purchasing PNE prize home tickets since 1963! Although Kosiorkiewicz was unable to attend the Fair this year, her children carried on the tradition and bought her the winning ticket on the tenth day of the Fair. Kosiorkiewicz moved to Vancouver from Germany in 1954. She is happily married to Gunther, a retired construction official, and has four children. Vancouver Mayor Sam Sullivan made the phone call to the lucky winner.

The 3,000-plus square foot, Whistler-inspired home was professionally designed and built by Britco Structures of Langley. Named "The Cypress," the home features a 25-foot vaulted ceiling, gorgeous timber beams, a gourmet kitchen and eating area naturally lit by a row of skylights, and a customized glass mural, which adorns the entrance of the home. Featuring eco-friendly and sustainable materials, the home is enhanced with cedar siding, natural stone, and Energy Star rated appliances and high efficiency windows.

A SAFERhome,™ the 2007 PNE Prize Home maximizes livability for all ages and walks of life with features such as wider doorways and hallways, varied countertop heights, and flush thresholds to reduce any chance of tripping.

Designed to fit comfortably into the beautiful surroundings of the Sunshine Coast, "The Cypress" will be relocated to an approximately 1/2 acre lot in Sechelt, BC after the lucky winner is drawn September 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Grand Prize Package includes:

- 3000+ sq. ft Whistler inspired home professionally designed and built by [Britco](#)
- A beautiful \_ acre lot located in Sechelt on the beautiful Sunshine Coast, BC (lot size is approximate)
- Champion 505i Allante boat from [Galleon Marine](#)
- Furniture from [Lane Home Furnishings](#) & EQ3 (A division of Yaletown Interiors)
- \$10,000 pre-loaded enviro VISA card from [Vancity](#)
- Home electronics from [Best Buy](#)
- Appliances and outdoor living from [The Home Depot](#) featuring a hot tub and barbeque
- Custom gourmet kitchen
- \$2,500 grocery package from [MarketPlace IGA](#)
- One year [MiniMaid](#) housecleaning service
- One year subscription to [The Province](#) newspaper

The PNE Prize Home Lottery is BC's oldest and still most affordable home lottery, started in 1934. Tickets for the PNE lottery were 5 for \$25 or 15 for \$50. Along with a chance to win the

2007 Prize Home, every ticket purchased was also eligible to win one of 14 amazing vehicles including: Hyundai Accent 3-Dr, Jeep Wrangler 2-Dr, Kia Spectra 5 LX, Hyundai Tiburon SE, Dodge Nitro SXT, Toyota FJ Cruiser, Toyota Prius Hybrid, Toyota Camry Hybrid, Dodge Charger SXT, Volvo C30, Chrysler Sebring Convertible, Lexus IS 250, or Lexus SC 430 Convertible.

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**2007 PNE Prize Vehicle Winners:**

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|--|------------------------------|
| 2007 Lexus SC 430 Convertible          | R Toth, Coquitlam            |
| 2007 Jeep Wrangler 2-Dr                | Larry Yong, Coquitlam        |
| 2007 Kia Spectra 5 LX                  | Lana Campagna, Coquitlam     |
| 2007 Hyundai Tiburon                   | Larry MacDonald, Burnaby     |
| 2007 Lexus IS 250 AWD                  | Morley Shopka, Surrey        |
| 2008 Chrysler Sebring Convertible      | Alicja Kopernik, Vancouver   |
| 2007 Volvo C30                         | Janie Apostolakos, Victoria  |
| 2007 Toyota FJ Cruiser                 | Margaret Campbell, Vancouver |
| 2007 Hyundai Accent                    | B. Bannochie, Burnaby        |
| 2007 Dodge Charger SXT                 | John Gaumont, Comox          |
| 2007 Toyota Camry Hybrid               | Sherry Russell, Richmond     |
| 2007 Toyota Prius Hybrid               | Stella Wolzen, Delta         |
| 2007 Dodge Nitro                       | Edie Jones, North Vancouver  |
| Harley Davidson FLHRS Road King Custom | Bruce Halstead, Nelson       |

### **School Ticket Program**

One of the oldest and best-loved traditions at the Fair is the elementary school ticket program. Over 350,000 tickets are distributed each year to elementary school students across British Columbia. This year, in excess of 175,000 students redeemed their tickets for a free fun day at the Fair. Since the Elementary School Ticket program began at the 1940 Fair, over three million tickets have been redeemed.

### **Charity Programs**

The 2007 Fair supported five charities. The organization raised money for the Canada Safeway Foundation, BC Youth In Agriculture Foundation, Raise-A-Reader, the Vancouver Food Bank, and the Salvation Army. In all, over 70 thousand dollars was donated to those charities during the Fair.

### **2007 Fair at the PNE – Fast Facts**

- 725 - number of free shows included in PNE admission price (record)
- 91,800 - number of cards used in over two weeks by Brian Berg in creating the Vancouver skyline at the Cardstacker display (6.5 kilometers long stretched end to end)
- 572 kilograms – weight of cards in the Cardstacker display by last day of Fair
- 175 thousand - number of elementary school tickets redeemed during 2007 Fair at the PNE
- 2.25 million – number of mini donuts sold at the Those Little Donuts booth (record)
- 50 – number of rides at Playland (record)
- 5000 – numbers of participants in the Festival Square community showcase program
- 3 million – number of individual rides in Playland during the Fair (record)
- 235 thousand – number of stuffed animals won on the midway (record)
- 20 thousand – number of pounds of fried onions used on burgers at Jimmy's Lunch hamburger stand
- 5 – number of pigs born during PNE
- 200 – approximate number of baby chicks born during the PNE
- 1 – number of donkeys born on site during the PNE
- 22 – dumpster loads of dung taken away during the PNE

- 6,000 – number of bees in the bee beard
- 36,500 – number of candy floss sold during PNE
- 350 – exhibitors on site
- \$35,835.00 – money raised at the 2007 Egg Auction during the PNE (money is donated by the PNE to the BC Youth in Agriculture Foundation).
- 200 -- cast members and performers in the PNE's live shows
- 16 – number of performers in Peking Acrobats show
- 600 – number of participants in 4H Festival
- 3.175 million (and counting) – number of free admission tickets redeemed as part of the PNE's Report Card Ticket Program since the program started in 1940
- 1934 – first year of PNE Prize Home program
- 22 – number of bands in Masque Beer Garden
- 1000 – number of seats in Masque Beer Garden (Vancouver's largest outdoor patio)
- 55 – numbers of acres re-greened at Hastings Park
- 68 – number of years Dal Richards has played the PNE

Planning is now underway for the 2008 Fair at the PNE, August 16 – September 1, 2008. For further information 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.

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