

8. National and Special Days

In keeping with the tradition of world expositions, EXPO 86 designated National Days to honour international participants. International organizations, provinces, states and corporations were honoured with Special Days. The date of a participant's National or Special Day was determined in accordance with protocol and with a view to emphasizing the participant's important celebrations. Both National and Special Days featured cultural components, specifically the music, language, movement and multi-disciplinary arts of the participants.

Ceremonies usually began at 0011 hours in the Plaza of Nations, or on occasion in the Xerox International Theatre, and included flag-raising ceremonies, formal addresses by public leaders and cultural performances.

See Appendix/National Day Visitors; Also Appendix/Official Visits.

9. Provincial and Territorial Participants (in order of commitment to participate)

BRITISH COLUMBIA

SPECIAL DAY: August 4, 1986

COMMISSIONER: Mr. Thomas G. Rust

DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS: Mr. Jack McKeown, Mr. David Podmore

PAVILION DESCRIPTION: 4.5 hectares (11 acres) - Blue Zone. Three permanent buildings and a glass-covered Plaza of Nations. Architect: Waisman Dewar Grout Carter, Vancouver

EXHIBITS: Discovery B.C.: 5000 square metres (53 800 sq. ft.), glass galleria pavilion entered through a landscaped Walk in the Forest; 500-seat theatre featured film Zargon starring child actress Fairuza Balk in a 16-minute, 70 mm Showscan film (Director: Rob Turner, Vancouver; Producer: Peter O'Brian, Independent Pictures (B.C.) Inc.); main hall featured Discovery Trees (elevator exhibits on innovative technologies) and live theatre vignettes; 335-seat restaurant; East Wharf and Water Theatre outside the Pavilion featured coastal scene fish boats, tugs, and Ivanhoe, the Pavilion flagship. Challenge B.C.: 1800 square metres (19 500 sq. ft.), featured whimsical, 12-minute multi-media and live performance show on B.C. industry as well as a 360-seat theatre with 35 mm Trimax projector system film Our British Columbia (Director: Richard Jeffries); Business Centre; Business Conference Facility; Media Centre; Expo 86 Corporation administrative offices and retail facilities. Showcase B.C.: President's Lounge and the Pacific Station three-cabaret entertainment complex; CKNW Radio broadcast facility.

OTHER: Plaza of Nations: a 5000-square-metre glass-covered area for official ceremonies, entertainment and community events; accommodated up to 10 000 people. Activities here included B.C. Regional Weeks (10 regions showcased their attractions, special events and performers); B.C. Entertainment Showcase (professional entertainers and fashion designers); B.C. Talent Show (professional and amateur talent performances).