

committed nations, there are now more than 40 international participants, far exceeding the initial estimate of 20.

Three major countries, the US, the USSR and China, will be participating together for the first time at a world exposition in North America.

A record number of corporate exhibitors will also be there, with 26 already committed. This exceeds the number of combined corporate exhibitors, sponsors and suppliers at the Los Angeles' Olympics last summer.



Clusters of international pavilions near completion on the False Creek site.

EXPO '86 is also attracting many conferences and conventions. Vancouver Island is organizing the conference of Islands of the World and the Sunshine Coast community of Sechelt is developing an International Mariculture Showcase to study state-of-the-art technology for cultivating and harvesting the ocean's wealth. And in Vancouver there are now more than 80 major events booked.

Host province gears up

Communities across British Columbia have become very active in preparations for EXPO '86. Many have initiated sister city visits, family and school reunions, as well as cultural and business exchanges. Special tourism events include the possibility of naming a mountain or winning an island.

Premier Bill Bennett has launched one of the world's largest marketing and public relations program, "BC invites the world", in which each BC resident has been asked to add the names and addresses of out-of-province family members, friends, clubs and business associates to an Expo guest list. Every person on the list will receive a personalized invitation to visit EXPO '86 from the premier.

Under a new SuperHost program, British

Committed participants

International — Britain, Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts/Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines), Kenya, Canada, Senegal, Saudi Arabia, United States, Peru, Indonesia, Australia, France, Ivory Coast, Spain, Thailand, Mexico, People's Republic of China, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Colombia, Italy, Republic of Korea, Federal Republic of Germany, Pakistan, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Japan, Switzerland, Barbados, Norway, Romania, The Philippines, European Community, Belgium, Cuba, Singapore, Hong Kong, Brunei, Hungary and the United Nations.

Provinces and Territories — British Columbia, Quebec, Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

US States — Washington, Oregon and California.

Corporations — Exhibitors: Canadian Pacific Ltd., Canadian National, Via Rail, Royal Bank of Canada, CP Air, Telecom Canada, Air Canada, Pacific Western Airlines, Dairyland, Rothmans, Wine Industry of B.C., Scott Paper Ltd., Imperial Oil Ltd./Esso, General Motors of Canada, Crossroads Christian Communications Inc., IBM Canada Ltd., Kodak Canada Inc., Coca Cola Ltd., Xerox Canada Inc., McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd., Farwest Systems Corporation, Holland America Westours Inc., Crown Life Insurance Company, MBB Helicopter Canada Ltd., Lily Cups Inc. and Boston Pizza.

Other Participants — B.C. Ferry Corporation, B.C. Rail and B.C. Place Corporation.

Columbia's tourism and hospitality industry is redoubling its efforts to welcome vacationers. Hotels, restaurants, shops and other hospitality facilities in the program will ensure that visitors receive a warm welcome and fair prices during their stay in the province. Tourism BC hopes to have 50 000 "super-hosts" by May 1986.

Visitors in the outlying areas will find that they will be able to get to the Expo site rapidly and conveniently. The Vancouver Regional Rapid Transit system, scheduled to open in January 1986, will be able to trans-

port people at speeds of up to 75 kilometres an hour, directly to the Expo gates.

On the Expo site, the BC pavilion has almost been completed near the BC Place Stadium. In the dynamic complex, more than 10 000 visitors will be able to gather under its glass-canopied Plaza of Nations to enjoy national day ceremonies. Pop and rock stars will entertain in the covered 4 300-seat outdoor Expo Theatre nearby and, at night, the BC pavilion area will light up with Expo After Hours, a laser and fireworks extravaganza.

A line-up to dazzle

The World Festival, which will run concurrently with EXPO '86, in Vancouver's three major civic theatres, will present more than 30 world-class attractions.

Sponsored by EXPO '86 and the Royal Bank of Canada, the \$9-million arts festival will be the largest international celebration of the performing arts presented in Canada since EXPO '67.

Some of the companies and performers that are scheduled to appear include:

- Leningrad's Kirov Ballet will make its first North American appearance in 22 years with performances of *Swan Lake* and a contemporary ballet, *The Knight in the Tiger's Skin*.
- The Royal Ballet from London, England will perform Kenneth MacMillan's *Romeo and Juliet* and a mixed program.
- A gala ballet performance will feature world premières from the National Ballet of Canada, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet as well as commissions of new works from five Canadian modern dance choreographers, Lee Eisler, Paula Ross, Jennifer Mascal, Ginette Laurin and Christopher House.
- Dance in Canada will include Jumpstart, Paula Ross Dance Company, EDAM, O Vertigo danse and Toronto Dance Company.
- Traditional Indonesian dances from the village of Teges on Bali will be performed for the first time outside Indonesia.
- The Philadelphia Orchestra conducted by Riccardo Muti will give two performances.
- The Vancouver Symphony will present five events and feature soprano Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, mezzo soprano Dame Janet Baker, trumpet virtuoso Maurice Andre, and French piano duo, Katia and Merielle Labeque.
- The Vancouver Opera Association will present Bizet's *Carmen*, with Canadian mezzo soprano Jean Stilwell.
- The World Drum Festival will be directed by percussionist John Wyre.
- The Vancouver Playhouse has commissioned a musical by Canadian playwright Sharon Pollock with music by Bruce Ruddell.