By agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Province of British Columbia, the Host Province, the Expo 86 Corporation was established within British Columbia as a non-profit agency of the Crown, responsible for the planning, operation and financial administration of EXPO 86. The Hon. Claude Richmond was Provincial Minister responsible.

The Expo 86 Corporation was organized with a Board of Directors under the Chairmanship of Mr. Jim Pattison who also acted as President of the Expo 86 Corporation from May 1985 to October 13, 1986.