

MARCH 1986

Acceleration of construction activity has virtually assured completion before opening. Malaysia has been located at the east end and is employing prefabricated components. The Pacific Islands pavilion on fast-track schedule. Ontario, the Pavilion of Promise, Amex, CN, and Ramses all tight but possible. List of problem internationals now reduced to eight: Romania, Yugoslavia, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Hungary, California, France, and Pacific Islands. Concessionaire fit-out progressing well and most are now on site. The Expo Centre dome is secured and repair work stopped. Progress is being sensitively monitored because, with the labour contracts running out next month, it is difficult to put overtime or double-shift pressure on the late projects.

Virtually all theme elements are completed, and sign-offs are completed on the Air and Marine Plazas. The Land Plaza is substantially complete and ready for sign-off. The exterior and interiors of the scheduled nations are complete, and the first of the internationals are ready to be signed off. The rides are installed and ready for testing. The Monorail and skyrides are complete and being commissioned. The HSST and Soule systems are installed and running. Work has begun on the Special Periods tent. All sculptural elements are in place. HIGHWAY 86 is complete. Food carts are arriving. Lighting is virtually complete. Flags, banners, billboards, and kinetic sculptures are being installed site-wide. The colour zone painting program is virtually complete. Final planting and cleanup of hard landscaping underway. There is heavy container delivery activity for internationals, 500 containers expected in all. The labour protests regarding foreign workers have abated.

Boeing has agreed to supply a nose section for the Air Plaza. This is the last element to be undertaken and the most critical for opening. The international roster is finally frozen at 54 governments.

APRIL 1986

EXPO 86 moves from the construction to the operational phase. Construction is completed on time and 8 million dollars under budget. Final elements receive sign-off. Pavement embellishment added in several elements as last aesthetic change. Boeing nose section is installed on schedule and Cambie Bridge Child's Play is completed. Expo Centre sponsorship is sold to Hasbro, which plans post-opening cosmetic treatment to structure. Site-wide cleanup is started by Operations Division on April 19.