

Expo 86: Singapore To Participate In World Exposition

Singapore will participate in EXPO 86 in Vancouver. The announcement was made July 5 during the visit of Vancouver Mayor Michael Harcourt at a news conference attended by Mr Lim Chin Beng, Deputy Chairman of the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board (STPB). In addition to participation by STPB, Singapore Airlines (SIA) and Telecoms will comprise major components of the exhibit. With a budget of approximately \$2 million for its participation, Mr Lim stated that Singapore desires to project to the estimated 15 million visitors its unique story of being "a dynamic modern metropolis that has retained so many elements of a fascinating past". It is expected that the exhibit would highlight the country's "rich, thriving, multi-racial culture tied to a historical trade route and its rapid and dramatic development as an efficient high technology communication centre". The Republic would also wish to accent the fact that it is a jumping off point for the rest of the region. Singapore will have a 500 square meter exhibit in an area reserved for ASEAN pavilions.

The announcement served as a highlight to the visit of Mayor Harcourt leading a 14-member economic mission setting out the opportunities offered by Vancouver to Singapore, both as a place to do business and to vacation as Canada's third largest city and its gateway to the Pacific.

In that context, a seminar on trade and investment opportunities was organised in cooperation with the Singapore Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The seminar on July 5 was divided into two sessions and involved the themes "Vancouver: A



PHOTO COURTESY OF STRAITS TIMES, SINGAPORE

Mayor Michael Harcourt of Vancouver with Mr. Lim Chin Beng of the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board at the press conference announcing Singapore's participation in EXPO 86.



Market for Singapore Exporters" and "Vancouver: A Market for Singapore Investors". A Roundtable Discussion was also jointly convened July 6 on two-way trade and investment by the Canadian High Commission and the Economics Department of the National University of Singapore.

EXPO 86, which runs from May 2 – October 13, 1986, celebrates a century of developments in transport and communications and will feature achievements across the board, from tall ships and airships, to space vehicles, monorails, hydrofoils as well as the latest achievements in telecommunications.

The announcement, which was welcomed by Mayor Harcourt, will bring to a total of 45, the number of countries that will participate in EXPO 86. The exhibition also coincides with Vancouver's centennial.

Canada's Pavilion

At the second EXPO 86 site, a huge three-hectare pier reaching 3½ city blocks out onto Burrard Inlet, north of False Creek, construction is progressing well on Canada Place. It will house the Canadian pavilion and exhibits from several corporations.

A main feature of the large structure, designed like a sailing ship under full canvas, is a 500-seat theatre with a three-dimensional version of the super-large Imax format. The National Film Board is producing a film that will be shown on a curved screen in the theatre, nearly six storeys high.

After EXPO 86, Canada Place will become a permanent trade and convention centre, and a hotel and office complex.



Opening of EXPO Centre is a unique prelude to the 1986 World Exposition in Vancouver.