

Contractual difficulties stall the production start of the Omnimax film and threaten ability to meet preview deadline. Van Blankenstein stresses emphasis on schedule and budget.

MARCH 1984

Foreshore work is underway at the east end of the creek but the start of construction on the preview centre is delayed because of problems with splitting pilings. The very late start will necessitate double-shifting to regain schedule. A dome has been chosen and the Board is deciding whether the preview centre will be a temporary or permanent legacy building.

Contractual difficulties delay start of Omnimax production another month. Schedule now critical. Fearing the onset of spring conditions, Imax finances Arctic location shoot on speculation without contract. Tentative agreement to contract Imax on basis of sequential approvals. Initial pre-production funding granted and pre-production research begins.

The drawings and documentation for the area architectural packages is complete. Design is underway for gates, tunnels, and ALRT station. A mini-corp pavilion concept, allowing combined participation by smaller corporations, is in the design process. Weekly exhibit meetings begin. Theme pavilion and theme plaza concepts are being refined to model planning stage. The "funk and flash" concept has been introduced for the Viaduct pavilions. CP Systems develops a critical path for exhibits. A structural plan for site planning and development is established and creative staffing and budget estimates prepared. Participant guidelines and information packages prepared for BIE and theme line is changed from "Man in Motion" to "World in Motion - World in Touch". Premier Bennett announces open-site union/non-union policy. Plebiscite votes to replace Cambie Bridge.

APRIL 1984

Labour difficulties centered on the open-site construction issue threaten continuation of the project. Jim Pattison has recommended to Premier Bennett that the project be cancelled unless a contract can be negotiated with the building trades. A freeze is placed on all hiring and spending. On April 13 Premier Bennett announces that the project will proceed and, if necessary, legislation will be invoked to assure its completion.