

JULY 1982

Chairman Pattison is convinced that in Michael Bartlett he has identified the right man to build and run EXPO 86. Bartlett's American citizenship poses complexity because there is a matter of national pride and sensitivity involved. With Michael Burns wishing to leave his post, Pattison pledges hands-on management. Bartlett is hired as a consultant through a third-party Canadian firm.

The Federal Government forms a corporation to manage the Pier BC project as an order-in-council establishes Canada Place and the Canadian pavilion.

An EXPO 86 Resource Centre is established. A report is issued on off-the-shelf buildings for international pavilions. Mayor Harcourt, still opposing both BC Place and Expo, visits the Knoxville World's Fair and returns with a negative impression.

AUGUST 1982

The Freschi design team begins work on a site model. Evaluation begins on a series of proposals for alternate building systems for use as international pavilions as required for a BIE special-category exposition. A design advisory panel of expert consultants is formed for theme planning. The site planning team moves to a spacious working environment. Plans to moor a converted weather ship in False Creek as a head office are abandoned. Vancouver City Council issues legacy wish-list including an arts, science, and technology centre; False Creek shoreline development; a major park; a False Creek fountain; a peplemover to the downtown core; a False Creek-Burrard Inlet water connection; a performing arts centre; an outdoor amphitheatre; and political support for a new Cambie Street Bridge.

SEPTEMBER 1982

The Corporation moves to a larger, expandable office building on Georgia Street. The first electrical and mechanical consultants are hired. Bogue Babicki is engaged to develop a system of land- and water-based modules, custom-designed for the use of international participants. The first milestone charts are produced. On September 27, 1982, the EXPO 86 Board of Directors appoints Michael Bartlett as interim General Manager. The following day, he issues the clarification that he is in fact an outside consultant who will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of EXPO 86.