

MEDIA RELEASE



VANCOUVER TO HOST THOUSANDS OF CLINICIANS AND SCIENTISTS FOR ONE OF THE LARGEST INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ON TRANSPLANTATION

A Joint News Release from Tourism Vancouver and the Vancouver Convention Centre

August 12, 2010

Vancouver, BC



Over 4,500 experts from around the globe will gather at the Vancouver Convention Centre from August 15 to 19 for the XXIII International Congress of the Transplantation Society.

"Securing this prestigious meeting has been over six years in the making. We are very excited to welcome this important medical and scientific group and to ensure they have an exceptional experience in our facility and city," says Ken Cretney, General Manager, Vancouver Convention Centre.

One of the largest international gatherings of clinicians and scientists in the transplantation field, the XXIII Congress will examine innovations in genomics and proteomics to therapeutic and technical advances in transplant medicine and surgery, encompassing a myriad of topics at the cutting edge of gene, cell and solid organ transplantation.

Apart from generating important discussions and knowledge about transplantation, this group of international experts will also contribute an estimated \$13 million in direct spending to the province.

"Tourism Vancouver is very pleased to welcome delegates from the Transplantation Society to our destination," said Paul Vallee, Tourism Vancouver's Executive Vice President. "Through our 'Be a Host' program, we worked with the Vancouver Convention Centre and local members of the Transplantation Society to help bring this congress here. During the conference, Tourism Vancouver will be operating a Visitor Information Desk assisting delegates in further exploring the city's attractions, restaurants and neighbourhoods."

The XXIII Congress, organized by International Conference Services Ltd. based in Vancouver, will include Nobel and Gairdner Laureates, keynote speakers, addresses by leading scientists, and specialist seminars with close to one thousand presentations covering crucial data in transplantation science and medicine.

"The XXIII International Congress promises to be an unprecedented meeting in terms of quality and content, and at the forefront of discovery and development in organ transplantation around the world," said Dr. Paul Keown, Chair, XXIII International Congress of The Transplantation Society. "Vancouver is an exceptional location for the Congress. It is renowned as one of the world's outstanding convention cities."

Fiscal 2011 and 2012 are shaping up to be the largest convention years ever for Vancouver. For fiscal 2011 (April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011), 425 events are confirmed to date, including conventions, conferences, trade shows, consumer shows, special events, banquets and meetings.

1055 Canada Place
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6C 0C3, Canada

Telephone (main) 604 689 8232
Toll-free (North America) 866 785 8232
Fax 604 647 7232

Email info@vancouverconventioncentre.com
www.vancouverconventioncentre.com

MEDIA RELEASE



The Vancouver Convention Centre is the only two-time winner of the International Association of Congress Centres' APEX award for "World's Best Convention Centre." Since inception in 1987, the facility has demonstrated a constant commitment to service, technical and culinary excellence, as well as environmental sustainability. With its expansion complete, the Centre has tripled its size to cover 1.1 million square feet (or four city blocks) for a combined total of 466,500 square feet of pre-function, meeting, exhibition and ballroom space.

-30-

Media Contacts:

Jinny Wu, Vancouver Convention Centre
604.647.7353
jwu@vancouverconventioncentre.com

Amber Sessions, Tourism Vancouver
604.631.2870
asesions@tourismvancouver.com

1055 Canada Place
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6C 0C3, Canada

Telephone (main) 604 689 8232
Toll-free (North America) 866 785 8232
Fax 604 647 7232

Email info@vancouverconventioncentre.com
www.vancouverconventioncentre.com