Aerial view of downtown Vancouver with main EXPO 86 site along the north shore of False Creek. The Canadian Pavilion is located 1.2 kilometres away at Canada Place on a pier in Vancouver harbour.

World of Construction ’86

AWCI is Among Several Associations Sponsoring this Major Canadian Construction Show

In the first week of July, contractors, manufacturers and suppliers and construction people from across Canada will be gathering in Vancouver, B.C. for “World of Construction ’86.” We recently asked Bob Walker, vice-president, special projects, British Columbia Construction Association what the world-class event is all about and how AWCI members can participate.

What is it?
An event to bring together all sectors of the international construction industry to showcase the comprehensive capabilities of the Canadian construction industry.

Actually it is a two-part event. First there is the “World of Construction ’86 Trade Show” and concurrently delegates can take advantage of the “World of Construction—Beyond the ’80s” conference.

Tell me about the show
The “World of Construction ’86” show will include all sectors of construction equipment and material

Expo Centre’s 131 strobe lights illuminate the stainless steel dome of the 17-storey facility. The dome houses the world’s largest Omnimax Theatre showing the film, “A Freedom to Move,” the Design 2000 exhibit of future technology and the Futures Theatre, Canada’s first interactive theatre.
“Even though EXPO ’86 will mean a scarcity of hotel rooms, World of Construction ’86 organizers have made sure there are plenty of accommodations for exhibitors and delegates at good savings over normal prices.”

manufacturing, design and engineering groups, development and contracting companies and the directly-related service industries. From electrical, mechanical and road construction equipment to insurance and bonding organizations and computer manufacturers, all imaginable varieties of construction products and services will be represented at the show.

What about the conference?

Participants and delegates will represent government, industry, major buyers of construction and educators. Conference themes include “Marketing the Construction Industry (At Home and Abroad),” “Major Canadian Construction Achievements,” “Productivity,” “Computers,” and “Management/Labour Relations—The Future.”

The conference will take place over three days during the trade show and it will provide a comprehensive overview of the difficulties and opportunities of doing business in Canada and abroad.

Who will be there?

At both the trade show and the conference, buyers and construction exhibitors from over 40 countries will be in attendance. One of the goals is to provide a focus for Canadian expertise and special efforts have been made to attract prospective buyers from Canada, the U.S., China and the Pacific Rim countries.

Because “World of Construction ’86” is being held at the same time Vancouver is hosting Expo ’86, the construction show can expect widespread international interest.

Where is it taking place? When?

The trade show takes place July 1-4 under the world’s largest air-supported Teflon fibreglass dome covering B.C. Place Stadium—directly across from the 173-acre Expo ’86 site.

The conference takes place July 2, 3 and 4 in Vancouver as well.

How is AWCI involved?

The Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industries - International (AWCI), along with the Association of Wall and Ceiling Contractors of British Columbia (AWCC), is sponsoring a unique “Convention-Within-A-Convention,” with special social events and educational programs geared to the wall and ceiling industry.

In addition, AWCI has arranged for a special section in the massive World of Construction exhibit hall for the exclusive use of suppliers to the wall and ceiling industry, which will be des-
ignated by special draping, carpet color and signage.
Several of AWCI’s chartered chapters in Canada and the Pacific Northwest will be participating in the show as well. For registration information, contact either the AWCI meetings department at (202) 783-2924, or John Reeve, AWCC, (604) 430-0617.

What about Expo ’86
Expo ’86 in Vancouver is the World’s Fair that sneaked up on everybody. After a string of World’s Fairs that ranged from partial success to disaster at the box office, Expo ’86 seems well on the way to becoming a solid hit with North American tourists even before it opened last month, with over 15 million visitors expected to attend.

Expo ’86 is billed as a World Exposition on Transportation and Communications, and the fair’s mix of government and industrial exhibits reflect the theme. Over 40 nations, including (for the first time in North America) China and the Soviet Union, are hosting major exhibits. Of course, there are the usual amusement rides and virtually continuous entertainment, ranging from casual street players to headline acts.

Tell me about Vancouver
Vancouver, located only 31 miles from the U.S. border, is the San Fran-
Cisco of Canada: It enjoys a superb setting and mild year round climate. Like San Francisco, Vancouver is cosmopolitan, laid-back, and strongly linked with the nations of the Pacific.

Canada’s third largest city (with a population of over 1.5 million), Vancouver boasts a sparkling city centre and an automated rail system for getting around. Like San Francisco, Vancouver is proud of its restaurants, their quality and their variety. And of course, Expo will feature a wide variety of foods from throughout the world.

Can we get hotel rooms?

No problem. Even though Expo ’86 will mean a scarcity of hotel rooms, “World of Construction ’86” organizers have made sure there are plenty of accommodations for exhibitors and delegates at good savings over normal prices.

Hotel information and reservations can be obtained from the show’s official travel agent—Marlin Travel. The toll-free phone number is 800-663-0378.

What about travel arrangements?

Again, just call Marlin Travel. Transportation is available at excellent savings, over current fares, and even better savings are guaranteed if the effects of de-regulation push fares down before July.

Whom do I call for more details?

If it isn’t a travel or accommodation question, the person to call for more information about the show or conference is Bob Walker at the B.C. Construction Association. The phone number is (604) 662-3738.

What have I got to lose?

Nothing. What better place to be this July than in beautiful B.C. for the double-header of the construction trade show and conference and Expo ’86? Make your plans today.