

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Boldest and oldest:  
Penticton Trade and Convention Centre celebrates 50 years with national contest**

**Penticton, BC:** Opened in 1965, Penticton's Peach Bowl Convention Centre was Canada's first stand-alone convention centre. A bold vision for the then quaint waterfront city, home to 13,500 people, 50 years later the legacy of meetings and conventions continues. For five decades, the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre has welcomed millions of delegates and encouraged each to stay, play and experience all Penticton has to offer.

"Penticton has a rich history being a premier tourism destination, and the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre has been a key economic driver by creating year-round visitations by delegates and their families," said Penticton Mayor Andrew Jakubeit. "Council of the day had great vision to invest in a tremendous facility for our community's benefit. Fifty years is something we need to celebrate and be excited about."

"As the caretakers of the convention centre, we're very proud of the facility and the city's past, present, and future vision," noted Dean Clarke, General Manager and Regional Vice President. "For 50 years, the convention centre has generated millions of dollars in economic impact, transformed delegates into annual vacationers and permanent residents, and stimulated hundreds of jobs in the South Okanagan."

To celebrate 50 extraordinary years of hosting, the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre is launching a national contest with an exciting prize, a golden trip to Penticton and Wine Country. The contest is sponsored by Air Canada, Tourism Penticton, Penticton and Wine Country tourism partners and the convention centre. Local partners contributing to the package include:

- Crooked Tree Bed & Breakfast Guest Suites
- The Coconut Express
- The Hooded Merganser Bar, Grill and Marina
- Cannery Brewing
- Freedom the Bike Shop
- LocoLanding Adventure Park
- Burger55
- Kettle Valley Steam Railway
- Lang Vineyards
- SS Sicamous
- Cherry Lane Shopping Centre
- The Bench Market

The national contest, open to residents of Canada, runs until December 31, 2015. One winner and a guest will win the ultimate Penticton experience, starting with award-winning flights aboard Air Canada and a three day and two night trip to Penticton and Wine Country in 2016.

**To enter or for more information, please visit: [pentictonconventioncentre.com](http://pentictonconventioncentre.com).**

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## **ABOUT PENTICTON TRADE AND CONVENTION CENTRE:**

Owned by the City of Penticton, the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre offers 60,000 square feet of flexible meeting and exhibit space in the heart of BC's wine country. As the Okanagan's only full-service convention centre, the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre seamlessly hosts meetings, conventions, banquets, special events, and trade and consumer shows. With up to four daily flights serviced by Air Canada direct from Vancouver, Penticton is made to meet.

## **ABOUT GLOBAL SPECTRUM FACILITY MANAGEMENT:**

Global Spectrum ([global-spectrum.com](http://global-spectrum.com)) manages the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre and South Okanagan Events Centre, as well as more than 100 other public assembly facilities around the world. Nearly 24-million people attended more than 15,000 events in Global Spectrum venues last year. Based in Philadelphia, PA, Global Spectrum is part of Comcast-Spectacor, one of the world's largest sports and entertainment companies. Comcast-Spectacor, which operates in 48 of the 50 United States, also owns the Philadelphia Flyers of the National Hockey League, Ovation Food Services, a food and beverage services provider, Paciolan, the leading provider of venue establishment ticketing, fundraising and marketing technology solutions, Front Row Marketing Services, a commercial rights sales company, and Flyers Skate Zone, a series of community ice skating rinks.