

AT THE FOREFRONT

2008/09 ANNUAL REPORT



HANDS-ON EXPLORATION

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

THE ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE



...GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Take more than 400 science centre leaders from around the world and gather them in Toronto. Add passionate and provocative speakers such as former UN Ambassador Stephen Lewis, Mohammed Hassan, Executive Director of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World, Inuit leader and climate change activist Sheila Watt-Cloutier and leading Canadian scientists and researchers. Then focus on the role of science centres as agents of change: locally, nationally and internationally.

The result? The highly successful 5th Science Centre World Congress (5SCWC), hosted by the Ontario Science Centre in June 2008. Our “agents of change” theme played out in many ways, including keynote speakers who dared delegates to think in new ways; a live, global webcast that connected youth from around the world; and green initiatives, such as purchasing carbon credits and limiting paper use, to reduce the ecological footprint of the conference.

Most significantly, the Congress wrapped up with the release of the *Toronto Declaration* — the first time science centres around the world issued a collective statement of beliefs and goals.

The landmark document commits delegates to a three-year action plan to promote dialogue on important issues, contribute to the achievement of the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals, and tear down barriers that prevent people from engaging and connecting with science in a meaningful way.

“This is a major milestone for the science centre community.”

Tengku Nasariah Ibrahim,

President of the Asia-Pacific Network of Science Centres

AT THE FOREFRONT OF...



...HANDS-ON EXPLORATION

Since opening its doors in 1969, the Ontario Science Centre has developed an international reputation for intriguing, hands-on experiences that help make science come alive.

FACING MARS: Would You Survive the Journey? continues that tradition. This groundbreaking exhibition, developed and designed by Ontario Science Centre staff, explored the physical, psychological and scientific challenges of reaching the red planet.

At the entrance, visitors were confronted with one simple question: "Would you go?" Inside, 650 square metres of interactive stations offered them the opportunity to design rockets, test their susceptibility to space sickness, experience the low-gravity "Mars walk," select a crew with all the "right stuff" for a successful mission to Mars, and tackle a number of other issues involved in interplanetary travel.

After its highly successful seven-month run at the Science Centre, *FACING MARS* began touring the United States in May 2009.

"The *FACING MARS* exhibit was AWESOME!"

Ontario Science Centre visitor

...COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Toronto is a city of immigrants, bringing together a rich variety of cultures. Through *Sultans of Science: 1000 Years of Knowledge Rediscovered*, the Ontario Science Centre reached out to that diverse community, transporting visitors to the golden age of Islamic science.

The international touring exhibition showcased the spirit of scientific innovation that flourished in the Islamic world from the 8th to the 18th century and examined how it has shaped modern understanding of everything from mathematics to medicine and aeronautics to architecture.

It included accurate reproductions of the world's first flying machine, the first pinhole camera, an assortment of sophisticated astronomical instruments and dozens of other models and artifacts, as well as plenty of opportunity for hands-on exploration.

The pioneering exhibit — a Canadian premiere — attracted many first-time visitors to the Centre during its three-month run.

"Thoroughly enjoyed *Sultans of Science* at Ontario Science Centre. Worth a re-visit!"

Karim Kanji, from Twitter

ANNUAL REPORT

2008/2009

During a year rife with economic challenges, the Ontario Science Centre continued to engage visitors and foster increased understanding of the world.

In late May, we opened ***FACING MARS: Would You Survive the Journey?*** Designed and built by Ontario Science Centre staff, in consultation with leading space exploration experts, the exhibition showed that the challenges of a human mission to Mars aren't limited to issues of technology or funding. Visitors were able to explore whether humans have the physical and psychological capacity to travel to Mars as well as the scientific ingenuity to solve the fundamental challenges of the next phase of interplanetary space travel and exploration.

Just one week later, the Ontario Science Centre hosted the 5th Science Centre World Congress, the first such Congress to be held in North America. The Science Centre's selection as host reflected our dual position as one of the first interactive science museums in the world when we opened in 1969 and as a current leader in the development of a science centre for the 21st century! At the Congress, for the first time, science centres from around the world made a collective global statement of belief and purpose. The ***Toronto Declaration*** is a framework for inspiration and future action for the entire field.

The Ontario Science Centre is known for the diversity of its audience base. In 2008/09 we made further strides in this area:

- increasing the diversity of the Centre's Board
- as an active participant in Toronto's DiverseCity initiative.
- as a founding member of the Institute for Canadian Citizenship's Cultural Access Pass program
- hosting our first community citizenship court

Complementing these activities, in February, the Science Centre opened ***Sultans of Science: 1000 Years of Knowledge Rediscovered*** (an exhibition from Dubai) and the new IMAX® film, ***Journey to Mecca: In the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta***, continuing to expand our appeal to visitors of all ages and all

cultures. The exhibition and film celebrated scientists, inventors and explorers from the Muslim world, sharing this rich history with the broader community. It was a chance for all visitors to expand their understanding of the history of science. For adults from the Muslim community, it was an opportunity to share their rich heritage. For many children, it was the first time that they had seen scientists and innovators who looked just like them - a powerful motivator for a child. The Ontario Science Centre had worked with representatives of Toronto's Muslim communities to promote the exhibition-film experience – thanks to this powerful partnership, attendance exceeded all expectations.

On reflection, a common theme for the year was Ontario Science Centre's leadership role in building bridges and increasing understanding among science centres around the world and among communities within Toronto, very appropriate for an organization that uses science as the lens to inspire and actively engage people in new ways of seeing, understanding and thinking about themselves and the world around them.



Mark Cohon
Chair, Board of Trustees



Lesley Lewis
Lesley Lewis
CEO

MAJOR ANNUAL SPONSORS AND DONORS

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of our supporters.

Department of Canadian Heritage
/ Capacity Building Supporter

KRG Children's Charitable Foundation
/ Programming Supporter

Ontario Ministry of Culture
/ Operating and Capital Supporter

Ontario Tourism Marketing
Partnership Corporation / Tourism
Marketing Supporter

Pepsi Bottling Group / Exclusive Soft
Drink Supplier

Siemens Canada / Premier Partner &
SCI FRI Lead Sponsor

TELUS / School Programs Lead Sponsor

The Munk Centre for International
Studies / School Access Supporter

Tourism Toronto / Tourism Marketing
Supporter

Biovail Corporation / Science School
Lead Sponsor

CA, Inc. / Planetarium Refurbishment
Lead Supporter

CA Canada / Programming Supporter

Celestica / Robot Building Workshop
Sponsor

Dow Chemical Canada Inc.
/ Among-the-Exhibits School Programs
Lead Sponsor

Hydro One / Professional Development
Programs Supporter

LG Electronics Canada / LG Film Series
Title Sponsor

Scotiabank / Community Access
Program Founding Supporter

Credit Suisse / Programming Supporter

Honda Canada Finance / Community
Access Program Supporter

RBC Foundation / Super Mondays Lead
Supporter

Xbox 360® / March Break Sponsor

Mastermind Educational Technologies
Inc.

Stanley Todorow Estate

ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL DONORS

The following individuals have generously supported our work to keep science learning current, relevant and accessible to all.

Thank you.

Innovator \$5,000 to \$9,999

Tony and Moira Cohen
George and Susan Cohon
Peter Irwin, Carolyn Everson & Family
Curtis and Mary McCone
Noella and Chris Milne
The O'Brien Family

Champion \$2,500 to \$4,999

Mark and Suzanne Cohon
Mitch, Leslie and Joshua Frazer
Bruce Poon Tip
Anonymous

Pioneer \$1,000 to \$2,499

David and Elisa Dime
David Fuller
Jonathan W. Goodman
Rosemary Hall
Bonnie and Hart Hillman
Lesley Lewis and Marvin Strauch
Carol McNamara
J. Michael Scott
Anonymous

Explorer \$500 to \$999

Kathy Hoy
Robert J. Macdonald
Walter Ribeiro

Discoverer \$100 to \$499

Jehad Aliweiwi
Janet Bannister
Shiraz Bharmal
Timothy Bradley
David Caloia
Mariana Catz
Marilyn Chester
Michelle Connolly
Maurice G. Corbett
Timothy Costigan
Jim Davidson
Deirdre Derby
Michelle DiPalma
Nancy Evans
Robin Fowler
Lisa Gerstle
Kevin Graham

Tom Haslett
Ann Hebert
Aileen Hernandez Halpenny
The Khimji Family
Frank Kim
Esperanza Kremetsova
Melissa LaFlair
J. Alex Langford
Roy Liddiard
Neil Macklem
Jim MacPherson
Suzanne and David McQueen
Robert Miller
Lissa Muir
John and Sarah Nagel & Family
Ronald Nishi
Geoffrey Ogram
Barbara Ostroff
Christopher Petrik
Ron Philipp
Charles Price
Mark J. Quigley
Louise and Cameron Reynolds
Lene Rosenmeier
Maria Smith
Geoffrey Taber
Eugenie Tjan
Andrew van Nostrand
Libby Wildman
Ryan Wilson
Anonymous (3)

5TH SCIENCE CENTRE WORLD CONGRESS

Province of Ontario / Lead Sponsor

Nortel / Presenting Sponsor

Siemens / Presenting Sponsor

Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada
/ Plenary Partner

IMAX® Corporation / Keynote Sponsor
- Creating the Future

Canada Foundation for Innovation
/ Congress Supporter

Arius3D Inc. / Session Sponsor

Lord Cultural Resources
/ Session Sponsor

Swinburne University of Technology
- Centre for Astrophysics and
Supercomputing / Session Sponsor

2008 INNOVATORS' BALL SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsors

Tiffany & Co.
DundeeWealth
TD Securities

Valet Sponsor

Mark J. Mooney & Associates

Entertainment Sponsor

Solutions with Impact

Cocktail Reception Sponsor

Porter Airlines

Platinum Table Purchasers

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Hal Jackman Foundation
Sarah & David Macdonald
Mackenzie Investments
Maritz Canada
Medcan Health Management Inc.
Pricewaterhouse Coopers
RBC Financial Group
TELUS

Patron Table Purchasers

Accenture
AGF Management Limited
Anderson DDB
Arts & Communications
Tony and Moira Cohen
Mark and Suzanne Cohon
Marcus Doyle
DuPont Canada
Amoryn Engel
Anonymous
Magna International
McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd.
Monitor Group
The O'Brien Family
Osler, Hoskin and Harcourt LLP
Pizza Pizza Limited
Martha Rogers
Siemens
Soberman LLP
University of Toronto
The W. Garfield Weston Foundation

In-Kind Sponsors

C.J. Graphics
Chair-man Mills
Grey Goose
Halpern Enterprises
Jackson-Triggs Estate Wines
L.A. Inc.
Malivoire Wine Company
Pepsi Bottling Group
Select Wine Merchants
Sons and Daughters
Steam Whistle Brewing
The Bay
Yellow Tail

YEAR IN REVIEW

2008/2009



Top Left

Lesley Lewis greets a new Canadian at a citizenship ceremony held at the Ontario Science Centre.

Top Right

Retired astronaut Marc Garneau points out galaxies to students inside the newly-refurbished CA Planetarium.

Bottom Left

Singer Leslie Feist (centre) joins students taking part in the Cape Farewell Expedition.

Bottom Right

2008 Ontario Science Centre Science School Students.

“Science is key to understanding the world around us, and science centres play an essential role in engaging citizens with science. Science centres are places where science and society intersect; we help people understand the world and take action.”

Dr. Per-Edvin Persson, Executive Director, Heureka - The Finnish Science Centre

ATTENDANCE

Welcoming visitors 364 days a year, attendance numbers remained healthy at 1,006,791 — surpassing the million visitor mark for the fifth year in a row.

Ontario’s second annual Family Day holiday weekend brought 24,500 people to the Science Centre, up more than 35% from the previous year.

This one-of-a-kind venue was booked for nearly 300 private events from corporate team-building to wedding receptions, attracting 52,639 visitors and garnering a North York Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence award for hospitality.

MEMBERS

18,000 households representing 72,000 members, enjoyed the benefits of an Ontario Science Centre membership, a growth of more than 4% from 2007/08. A record 1,628 memberships were sold during March Break 2009.

Member visits totaled 186,300, with 67,146 members visiting the Shoppers Drug Mart® OMNIMAX® Theatre.

SUPPORTING SCIENCE LEARNING

The Ontario Science Centre offers the best-attended museum-based education program in Canada. It provides more than 40 school programs for students in junior kindergarten to grade 12, all tied to the provincial curriculum.

Last year, over 188,000 students and teachers attended the Ontario Science Centre as part of a school trip. Over 4,400 teachers attended various educator-focused events at the Science Centre.

The Ontario Science Centre Science School, a full-time one-semester enriched grade 12 program, attracted 84 students from across the province in 2008/09. In the fall semester, students were given a cross-curricular cumulative project that promoted innovation and environmental awareness and was designed to further integrate students into the Science Centre. The result was four projects that determined the carbon footprint of the Centre with recommendations as to how this could be reduced.

The Science Centre launched the Weston Youth Innovation Award to recognize 14 to 18 year-olds who are using science and/or technology to create solutions for real-world problems. The award was created to encourage and reward youth who have put their ideas into action, and as a result, have had a positive impact either in their own community or on a broader scale.

“As visitors, you inspire us daily with your desire to know more about science and the world around you. Thank you for your enthusiasm for learning, your creativity, your questions and your honest feedback. You motivate us to always do better.”

Lesley Lewis, CEO, Ontario Science Centre

"Thank you for a terrific World Congress! ... There is no doubt in my mind that the 5SCWC will be seen as a watershed."

Professor Mike Bruton, Director of Imagineering, MTE Studios



Top Left

SCI FRI's volunteer Youth Advisory Council.

Top Right

Ontario Science Centre Science School students in the DNA lab.

Bottom Left

Chef Susur Lee and MC Cheryl Hickey, host of Entertainment Tonight Canada, at the 2008 Innovators' Ball.

Bottom Right

A visitor experiences a simulation of martian gravity in FACING MARS: Would You Survive the Journey?

OUR DONORS & SPONSORS

- Corporate sponsors, foundations, government granting programs and individual donors contributed \$1,822,540 to the Science Centre, helping it develop and grow.
- For the second year, Siemens was the Centre's Premier Partner and Lead Sponsor of the SCI FRI program.
- CA Canada's five-year partnership supports space-related programming and the refurbishment of Toronto's only public planetarium, now named the CA Planetarium.
- School Programs continued to be supported by Lead Sponsor TELUS.
- RBC, Dow and Hydro One all renewed commitments to support Science Centre education programs, including the popular Super Mondays and Among-the-Exhibits school programs and professional development programs for teachers.
- Honda Canada Finance supported the Community Access Program.
- Biovail continued its sponsorship of the Science Centre's Science School, including \$5,000 to fund the annual Biovail Bursaries for out-of-town students.
- The second annual Innovators' Ball, with presenting sponsors Tiffany & Co., DundeeWealth and TD Securities, attracted more than 1,400 guests and netted \$350,000 for community access initiatives.
- Heritage Canada provided funding to support the Science Centre's Strategic Web Master Plan.
- Ontario Tourism Event Marketing Partnership Program and Tourism Toronto funded marketing activities to support the *FACING MARS* exhibition.
- Pepsi Bottling Group continued to be the Exclusive Soft Drink Supplier.
- For the fifth year in a row, Celestica supported robotics workshops for local children and families.
- March Break activities at the Centre were sponsored by Xbox 360®.

2008 INNOVATORS' BALL - ROCK

THE RED PLANET

- "Rock the Red Planet" was the out-of-this-world theme of the 2008 Innovators' Ball. Five hundred of Toronto's movers and shakers enjoyed an exclusive dinner created by celebrity chef Susur Lee. They were joined by another 900 guests later in the evening for an exclusive "future glam" party in the spectacular Weston Family Innovation Centre, as well as a sneak peak at the *FACING MARS* exhibition.
- Proceeds from the Ball ensure that the Science Centre can continue to offer engaging experiences for families, adults and thousands of school-aged students and help keep programs affordable through initiatives like the Community Access Program that provides subsidized access to the Centre.

EXHIBITS & PROGRAMS

- Canadian astronaut Marc Garneau officially unveiled the newly renovated CA Planetarium, now boasting cutting-edge projector technology, 3D digital software and imagery based on real-time data. March Break alone brought 5,800 Planetarium viewers to two stunning new shows: *Cosmic Journeys* and *Journey Through the Ages*.
- Nine Sleepovers were a big hit, as more than 7,100 overnight guests donned their jammies and unrolled their sleeping bags among the exhibits. The 2009 theme was Cosmic Quest in honour of the International Year of Astronomy.
- Nearly 2,000 campers blasted off at the Amazing Space and Science Centre Insiders: Space Investigation Camps or got green at the Eco-Logical Summer Camp.
- In the Weston Family Innovation Centre's !dea gallery, a new interactive multimedia exhibit *On Thin Ice: Youth Respond to International Polar Year* presented student artwork on climate issues in the Arctic, while *FishNet* featured a "chandelier" of hundreds of fabric fish crafted by Toronto students to raise awareness of environmental issues in the Great Lakes.

"The Centre enriched me in a way nothing else ever has."

Shane Johnson, President, Avatar Metrology Inc.



Top Left

*A young artist displays her contribution to **Project Fishnet**.*

Top Right

*"YouTubers" from around the world meet, greet and interview each other during **888torontomeetup**.*

Bottom Left

*Kevin von Appen, Lesley Lewis and Hooley McLaughlin visit **Arcade**, an exhibition featuring repurposed Science Centre exhibits displayed at **Harbourfront**.*

Bottom Right

*Musicians entertain guests at a special preview of **Journey to Mecca: In the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta**.*

- Visitors can now meet Canada's largest indigenous snake, the black rat snake, and peer into the secret chambers of the new leaf-cutter ant colony in the updated Living Earth Hall and TELUS Rain Forest.
- The Weston Family Innovation Centre garnered a prestigious Leading Edge Award for Visitor Experience from the Washington-based Association of Science-Technology Centers, the global network of science centres.

Special Programs

- More than 460 YouTubers from as far away as Australia and Argentina gathered in person to perform, celebrate and make videos at 888torontomeetup, the first YouTube meetup in Canada and the first ever at a science museum.
- Earth Hour brought over 2,000 visitors to a free lights-out Star Party and storytelling in the TELUSCAPE plaza.
- Monthly SCI FRI nights continued to attract teens and young adults for music, munchies and super-cool science. A new Youth Advisory Council helped promote the program.
- The International Year of Astronomy saw a galaxy of events at the Science Centre, including Star Parties, a free Astronomy Festival and Yuri's Night, a smash success that brought more than 900 youth and young adults together to celebrate the anniversary of the first human space flight.
- Young visitors and their caregivers enjoyed more than 20 different KidSpark workshops and programs, from storytelling to backyard bird-watching to birthday parties.
- Creative Science Workshops gave teens and families an opportunity to bring their imagination to life through video, DJ-ing, sound effects, "garbage art" jewellery and puppet-making.
- The Science Centre served as the launch site for Cape Farewell Youth Expedition 2008, an international initiative that saw 28 high school students from around the world, including 16 Canadians, voyage to the Arctic to examine the impact of climate change. Sponsored by the British Council, this project united scientists, artists and youth to become climate change ambassadors.

Shoppers Drug Mart® OMNIMAX® Theatre

- More than 331,000 visitors were right in the middle of the action of *Mysteries of the Great Lakes*, *Roving Mars*, *The Light Before Christmas*, *The Alps*, and *Journey to Mecca: In the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta*, thanks to the 24-metre-high screen and wrap-around sound of the IMAX Dome Theatre.
- *Journey to Mecca: In the Footsteps of Ibn Battuta* attracted many first-time visitors to the Science Centre to retrace the steps of the 14th-century Islamic explorer on his first Hajj.

Beyond the Walls

- Inquiring audiences debated a variety of science issues at the Rivoli Café at the expanded slate of Café Scientifique discussions, now offered every month.
- More than five million virtual visitors checked out the Science Centre's web offerings, from the podcasts on RedShiftNow.ca to the videos on YouTube channels to the online ticket window for IMAX films.
- Six artists took recycling to a whole new level, transforming decommissioned Science Centre exhibits into "Arcade," a Harbourfront Centre installation that incorporated parabolic sound reflectors, a player piano, and a bicycle generator.

INTERNATIONAL SALES

- *Sports Arena* opened to rave reviews at the Hong Kong Science Museum in June 2008, marking the first time the Ontario Science Centre has sent a travelling exhibit to China. More than 260,000 people saw the show during its six-month run, exceeding all expectations.
- Ontario Science Centre designed and fabricated travelling shows *Strange Matter*, *Candy Unwrapped*, and *Circus! Science Under the Big Top* -- all toured in the U.S.
- The Science Centre also secured several exhibit sales. *Kinetic Sculptures* was purchased by Technopolis in Belgium and the Children's Museum of Houston in Texas, while *Build Your Own Coaster* found several buyers: Discovery Place Kids in Charlotte, North Carolina; the Don Harrington Discovery Center in Amarillo, Texas; and the Kearney Area Children's Museum in Kearney, Nebraska.

**"Thank you Science Centre for making a difference, one life at a time."
Arun Bishnoi**



Top Left

A family of new Canadians poses with an RCMP officer and the citizenship judge following the ceremony.

Top Right

Wall of Faces, an interactive exhibit designed for the Toronto Public Library.

Bottom Left

A young visitor spends the night sleeping among the exhibits during a Sleepover.

Bottom Right

A family enjoys a free visit thanks to Tourism Toronto's Relax, Recharge & Renew program for children with special needs.

- Meanwhile, design and production teams were busy. Staff designed, fabricated and installed *Wall of Faces*, an interactive exhibit for the Toronto Public Library that promotes literacy through the use of imagery and words. The Science Centre secured a consulting and design-build contract with the Ontario Farm Animal Council to create *Farmz on Wheels*, an engaging and interactive travelling exhibit. It also won a contract to design and build 12 exhibits for Royal Botanical Gardens' new Stedman Exploration Hall in Burlington, Ontario.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Fifty nine people from 35 countries became Canadian citizens at the first-ever citizenship ceremony hosted at the Ontario Science Centre.
- High school students from priority neighbourhoods gained valuable skills and experience through work placements at the Science Centre, as part of the Ontario government's Learn and Work Program.
- More than 62,000 visitors received free or discounted admissions through community access programs, run in collaboration with United Way, adding two new initiatives: The Museum and Arts Pass, available at 32 Toronto Public Libraries in high-priority neighbourhoods, and the Cultural Access Pass offered to new Canadian citizens in the city.
- Nine children from the local neighbourhood, a high priority community, were each given the opportunity for a free week of Summer Camp.
- Co-op placements were provided for 26 secondary school students, eight post-secondary Faculty of Education interns and nine interns from Ryerson University's Early Childhood Education program.
- The Science Centre also provided free passes to parents of children with special needs in Toronto, Mississauga and York Region through Tourism Toronto's new Relax, Recharge & Renew program.
- The youth volunteer program reached over 130 teens, providing them with opportunities for skill development and application of learnings in a professional environment. These youth contributed over 9,000 hours in the Summer Camp and Sleepover programs.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Name	Date Appointed	Appointment Expiry Date
Mark Cohon (Chair)	September 17, 2004	January 29, 2012
Peter Irwin (Vice Chair)	September 17, 2004	September 16, 2010
Jehad Aliweiwi	February 21, 2007	February 20, 2010
Brian Chu	December 19, 2008	December 18, 2010
Anthony Cohen	May 17, 2006	May 16, 2012
Mary Anne Drummond	December 7, 2005	December 6, 2008
Mitch Frazer	August 12, 2008	August 11, 2011
David Fuller	August 24, 2006	August 23, 2012
Jonathan Goodman	June 22, 2005	July 22, 2010
Bonnie Hillman	November 10, 2005	November 9, 2011
Robert J. Macdonald	April 9, 2003	June 13, 2009
Robert Miller	July 31, 2002	July 30, 2008
Noella Milne	February 21, 2007	February 20, 2010
Sarah Mitchell	June 17, 2004	June 16, 2010
Gail O'Brien	September 9, 2002	September 8, 2011
Bruce Poon Tip	June 11, 2008	June 10, 2011
Barbara Sherwood Lollar	April 4, 2007	April 3, 2010
Hari Venkatacharya	February 4, 2009	February 3, 2012
Sam Zuk	July 31, 2002	July 30, 2008

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL INFORMATION

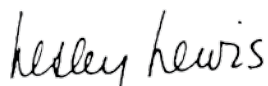
July 21, 2009

Management and the Board of Trustees of the Ontario Science Centre are responsible for the financial statements and all other information presented in the Annual Report. The financial statements have been prepared by Management in accordance with the Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and, where appropriate, include amounts based on Management's best estimates and judgments.

The Ontario Science Centre is dedicated to the highest standards of integrity in its business. To safeguard assets, the Centre has a sound set of internal financial controls and procedures that balance benefits and costs. Management has developed and maintains financial and management controls, information systems and management practices to provide reasonable assurance of the reliability of financial information.

The Board of Trustees meets quarterly to oversee the financial activities of the Centre, including an annual review of the financial statements and the Auditor General's report.

The financial statements have been examined by the Auditor General. The Auditor General's responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The Auditor's Report outlines the scope of the Auditor's examination and opinion.



Lesley Lewis
CEO



Grant Troop
Chief Operating Officer

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of the Centennial Centre of Science and Technology and to the Minister of Culture

I have audited the balance sheet of The Centennial Centre of Science and Technology as at March 31, 2009 and the statements of operations, changes in equity, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Centre's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Centre as at March 31, 2009 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



Gary R. Peall, CA
Deputy Auditor General
Licensed Public Accountant

Toronto, Ontario,
July 21, 2009

THE CENTENNIAL CENTRE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BALANCE SHEET

As at March 31, 2009

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	10,735	10,281
Accounts receivable	538	403
Prepaid expenses	694	524
Due from the Province of Ontario	–	2,176
Inventory of general stores and small tools	137	132
	12,104	13,516
Capital Assets (Note 5)	39,992	43,049
	52,096	56,565
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,822	3,549
Deferred revenue	2,883	2,026
Due to the Province of Ontario	2,062	1,841
Loan Payable [Note 11(b)]	500	500
	8,267	7,916
Long-Term Liabilities		
Obligation for Employee Future Benefits	3,866	3,677
Loan Payable to Province of Ontario [Note 11(a)]	5,300	5,300
Loan Payable to Ontario Financing Authority [Note 11(b)]	3,500	4,000
	12,666	12,977
Deferred Capital Contributions (Note 6)	33,060	35,942
	33,060	35,942
Equity		
Invested in Capital Assets (Note 7)	6,932	7,107
Deficit	(8,829)	(7,377)
	(1,897)	(270)
	52,096	56,565

See accompanying notes to financial statements

On behalf of the Centre:



Mark Cohon

Chair, Board of Trustees



David Fuller

Trustee

THE CENTENNIAL CENTRE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

For the Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
REVENUE		
Province of Ontario		
Operating grant	14,184	16,360
Occupancy grant [Note 13(b)]	3,967	3,967
Other grants	279	320
General Admission and Parking Fees	5,005	6,761
Revenue from Ancillary Operations (Schedule 1)	11,538	11,205
Corporate Donations - Agents of Change Project (Note 14)	431	448
	35,404	39,061
EXPENSES		
General Operations		
Exhibits and Programs	2,162	2,753
Marketing and Advertising	1,967	2,069
Visitor Services	4,295	4,510
Facility Operations	6,024	5,413
Program Management	3,756	3,999
Administration	3,779	3,544
Occupancy Costs [Note 13(b)]	4,307	4,939
Expenses from Ancillary Operations (Schedule 1)	9,718	8,527
Agents of Change Project (Note 14)	431	448
	36,439	36,202
Net income/(loss) before amortization	(1,035)	2,859
Amortization of Deferred Capital Contributions (Note 6)	5,123	4,971
Amortization Expense	(5,715)	(5,735)
	(592)	(764)
Net income/(loss) for the year	(1,627)	2,095

See accompanying notes to financial statements

THE CENTENNIAL CENTRE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009 (\$ 000)			2008 (\$ 000)
	Equity Invested in Capital Assets	Deficit from Operations	Total	Total
Balance, beginning of year	7,107	(7,377)	(270)	(2,365)
Investment in capital assets	417	(417)	–	–
Net income/(loss) for the year	(592)	(1,035)	(1,627)	2,095
Balance, end of year	6,932	(8,829)	(1,897)	(270)

See accompanying notes to financial statements

THE CENTENNIAL CENTRE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	10,281	10,341
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net income/(loss) for the year	(1,627)	2,095
Adjustments for items not requiring an outlay of cash		
• Amortization of capital assets	5,715	5,735
• Amortization of deferred capital contribution	(5,123)	(4,971)
	(1,035)	2,859
Net change in non-cash working capital	2,217	(2,534)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	1,182	325
Cash Flows used in Investing Activities		
Capital Assets acquisitions	(2,658)	(3,280)
Net cash used in investing activities	(2,658)	(3,280)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Net increase (decrease) in other long-term liabilities	189	(284)
Loan - Ontario Financing Authority	(500)	-
Deferred capital contributions - Agents of Change	765	1,304
Deferred capital contributions - other projects	1,476	1,875
Net cash generated from financing activities	1,930	2,895
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	10,735	10,281

See accompanying notes to financial statements

THE CENTENNIAL CENTRE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SCHEDULE OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FROM ANCILLARY OPERATIONS

For the Year Ended March 31, 2009

	2009 (\$ 000)			2008 (\$ 000)		
	Revenue	Expenses	Net	Revenue	Expenses	Net
Omnimax	2,105	1,726	379	1,897	1,467	430
International Sales and Rentals	1,544	1,866	(322)	1,645	1,895	(250)
School Admissions/Programs	1,458	2,003	(545)	1,550	1,930	(380)
Camps	757	851	(94)	767	878	(111)
Memberships	1,916	739	1,177	1,952	570	1,382
Concessions	566	85	481	660	102	558
Interest	375	5	370	691	4	687
Facility Rentals	665	391	274	569	398	171
Sponsorship/Donations	1,544	1,247	297	1,430	969	461
Other	608	805	(197)	44	314	(270)
Totals	11,538	9,718	1,820	11,205	8,527	2,678

See accompanying notes to financial statements

1. NATURE OF THE BUSINESS

The Centennial Centre of Science and Technology, commonly known as the Ontario Science Centre, a government enterprise of the Province of Ontario, was incorporated without share capital pursuant to the *Centennial Centre of Science and Technology Act*. The objectives of the Centre are to:

- a) maintain and operate a science centre and related facilities that will stimulate the interest of the public;
- b) conduct a program of education in the origins, development and progress of science and technology, and their relationship to society;
- c) depict the role of Ontario in the furtherance of science and technology; and
- d) collect, manufacture, market, exhibit and sell objects and displays.

As an Ontario Crown agency, the Centre is exempted from federal and provincial income taxes.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The significant accounting policies used to prepare these financial statements are summarized below:

(A) Revenue Recognition

Operating and occupancy grants are recognized in the year they become receivable.

Revenue from exhibits manufactured for sale is recognized on a percentage of completion basis.

Revenues from general admissions, parking and other ancillary operations are recognized when the services are provided.

Pledged donations are recognized as revenue when funds are received.

(B) Expense Recognition

Expenses are recognized on an accrual basis as incurred, in the period to which they relate.

(C) Deferred Capital Contributions

Deferred capital contributions represent the amount of donations and government grants received and used to acquire capital assets but not yet recognized as revenue. Revenue is recognized over the same period as the expected life of the capital assets to which they relate, in order to properly match revenues with costs.

(D) Cash And Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and balances with banks.

(E) Deferred Revenue

Deferred revenue is comprised mainly of the unexpired portion of annual membership dues and deposits for future exhibit rentals.

(F) Capital Assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization begins when capital assets are ready for use. Amortization is calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as indicated below:

Omnimax Theatre	20 years
Leasehold Improvements	
Leasehold Improvements	10 years
Exhibits	10 years
Exhibits - Rentals	4 or 5 years
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	5 years
Computers	3 years

The land on which the Centre is located is leased from the City of Toronto for \$1 per annum on a 99-year lease, which commenced July 1, 1965. The Province owns the buildings, which house the Centre. For details of occupancy costs see note 13(b).

(G) Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or replacement cost.

(H) Financial Instruments

The Centennial Centre of Science and Technology follows the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) new accounting standards pertaining to financial instruments. These standards establish guidance for the recognition and measurement of financial assets and liabilities and how financial instrument gains and losses should be accounted for. Under these new standards, all financial instruments are classified into one of the following five categories: held-for-trading, held to maturity, loans and receivables, available for sale financial assets, or other financial liabilities.

All financial instruments are required to be measured at fair value upon initial recognition except for certain related party transactions. After initial recognition, financial instruments are measured at their fair values, except for financial assets classified as held to maturity or loans and receivables and other financial liabilities, which are measured at cost or amortized cost.

The Centre's financial assets and liabilities are classified and accounted for as follows:

- Cash and cash equivalents are classified as held for trading and recorded at fair value.
- Accounts receivable are classified as loans and receivables and are valued at face value which approximates fair value given their short term maturities.
- Accounts payable, Due to the Province of Ontario, and loans payable are classified as other financial liabilities and are recorded at face value which approximates fair value given their nature.

(I) Use Of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires that management make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities as at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual amounts could differ from these estimates.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

It is management's opinion that the Centennial Centre of Science and Technology is not exposed to significant interest rate, currency, liquidity or credit risk arising from its financial instruments due to their nature. The risks related to the Centre's financial instruments are as follows.

Credit risk – The Centre is exposed to credit risk by its exhibit sales. The Centre determines on a continuing basis, the probable credit losses and sets up a provision for losses, if necessary, based on the estimated realizable value.

Currency risk – The Agency realizes approximately 3% (2008

– 4%) of its total revenue in foreign currency. Consequently, some assets and revenues are exposed to foreign exchange fluctuations. Cash, accounts receivable, and deferred revenue in US dollars are converted into Canadian dollars at year-end.

4. CHANGES IN DISCLOSURE

Effective April 1, 2008, the Centre adopted the following Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) Handbook Section:

Capital Disclosures

Section 1535, Capital Disclosures requires the disclosure of both qualitative and quantitative information that enables users of financial statements to evaluate the Centre's objectives, policies and processes for managing capital.

In managing capital, the Centre focuses on its liquid resources – cash and cash equivalents. The Centre's objective is to have, at the minimum cash and cash equivalents on hand sufficient to meet obligations and to meet approved capital expenditure for the current fiscal year.

The Centre believes that these levels of liquid resources provide the flexibility to deal with any unexpected adverse developments and to take advantage of opportunities that may arise.

As at March 31, 2009 the Centre met these objectives.

The Centre does not take any significant risks in its investing activities (note 3). The Centre's internal policy limits the type of investments that the Centre may access. Consequently, it invests only in short-term, high-grade, Canadian and U.S. dollar debt instruments. The Centre is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets consists of the following:

	2009 (\$ 000)			2008 (\$ 000)
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Leasehold Improvements	27,260	8,377	18,883	20,034
Exhibits	21,023	7,017	14,006	16,125
Omnimax Theatre Leasehold Improvements	15,332	9,629	5,703	6,510
Exhibits - Rentals	1,030	30	1,000	365
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	144	12	132	15
Computers	312	44	268	–
Totals	65,101	25,109	39,992	43,049

Net carrying amounts of Capital Assets (work-in-progress) not being amortized at the end of March 31:

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
Exhibits - Rentals	1,000	365
	1,000	365

6. DEFERRED CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The changes in the deferred capital contributions balance are as follows:

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
Balance, beginning of year	35,942	37,733
Net additions/transfers during year	2,241	3,180
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(5,123)	(4,971)
	33,060	35,942

The ending balance of deferred capital contributions consists of the following:

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
Agents of Change Project	23,784	26,896
Omnimax	3,175	3,629
Health and Safety Initiatives	6,101	5,417
	33,060	35,942

7. EQUITY INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Equity invested in capital assets represents the following:

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
Capital assets, net	39,992	43,049
Less amount financed by deferred capital contributions	(33,060)	(35,942)
	6,932	7,107

8. PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

Certain maintenance and repair expenses of the Centre are absorbed by the Province of Ontario, through Ontario Realty Corporation, and are not included in the Statement of Operations.

9. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Centre is dependent on the Province of Ontario for financial assistance to cover some of the cost of operations.

10. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

(A) Pension Benefits

The Centre's full-time employees participate in the Public Service Pension Fund (PSPF) and the Ontario Public Service Employees' Union Pension Fund (OPSEU-PF), which are defined benefit pension plans for employees of the Province and many provincial agencies. The Province of Ontario, which is the sole sponsor of the PSPF and a joint sponsor of the OPSEU-PF, determines the Centre's annual payments to the funds. As the sponsors are responsible for ensuring that the pension funds are financially viable, any surpluses or unfunded liabilities arising from statutory actuarial funding valuations are not assets or obligations of the agency.

The Centre's annual payments of \$1,091,395 (2008 - \$1,076,863), are included in salaries and employee benefit costs allocated to various expense categories in the Statement of Operations. See also note 12.

(B) Non-pension Benefits

The costs of severance entitlements under the *Public Service of Ontario Act* and unused vacation entitlements earned by employees during the year are accrued for in the financial statements. The cost of post-retirement non-pension benefits are paid by the Ministry of Government Services and are not included in the Statement of Operations.

11. LOANS PAYABLE

(A) Loan From Province Of Ontario

The Province made an interest-free repayable loan of \$5.3 million to the Centre to construct the Ominimax Theatre. The Centre was expected to repay this loan by annual payments commencing in 1999/2000 in amounts equal to 50% of the average annual profits from the Ominimax Theatre during the previous two fiscal years, if any, as disclosed in Schedule 1, minus an overhead cost allocation. To date the Centre has not been required to make any annual payments.

(B) Loan From The Ontario Financing Authority

In 2005/06, the Ontario Financing Authority (OFA) lent the Centre \$10,000,000, at short-term interest rates calculated by the OFA and payable quarterly. The Centre had repaid \$6,000,000 of the principal loan balance by March 31, 2009. The remaining balance is to be repaid as follows:

	(\$ 000)
2009/10	500
2010/11	500
2011/12	500
From 2012 to 2017	2,500
	4,000

12. BREAKDOWN OF EXPENSES

Expenses are reported in the Statement of Operations on a functional basis. Total expenses by type are as follows:

	2009 (\$ 000)	2008 (\$ 000)
Salaries and Benefits	21,506	21,189
Other Direct Operating Expenses	14,933	15,013
	36,439	36,202

13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCY

(A) IMAX Dome Projection System Maintenance Agreement

The Centre renewed its IMAX dome projection system maintenance agreement in fiscal year 2006/07. The new agreement commits the Centre to an annual maintenance fee of \$87,400 for 2008/09 (adjusted to reflect future changes in the Consumer Price Index for Toronto) for as long as the Centre utilizes the system in their theatre.

(B) Occupancy Cost

The Province charges the Centre an accommodation fee for occupying its facilities. The fee covers rent, taxes, maintenance and certain operating costs. The lease is being renewed on a year-to-year basis until a new agreement is reached between the Centre and the Province. The minimum lease payment for the coming year is \$4,168,670. The Centre receives a Ministry grant each year to fund a majority of this expenditure.

14. PLEDGES FOR AGENTS OF CHANGE PROJECT

The Centre embarked on a capital project called Agents of Change, which focused on innovation and renewal of about one quarter of the Centre's public space, including the creation of seven new Experience Areas. As at March 31, 2009, the Centre has received approximately \$41 million of contributions, \$16.5 million of which was received from the Government of Ontario and the remainder from private sector companies or individuals. Amounts pledged but not yet received from the private sector are as follows:

	(\$ 000)
2009/10	1,176
2010/11	1,037
2011/12	495
Up to 2017/18	3,419
	6,127



**ONTARIO
SCIENCE
CENTRE**

An agency of the
Government of Ontario

Public Sector Disclosure

This statement is provided under the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act.

The following employees of the Ontario Science Centre were paid a salary of \$100,000 or more in 2008.

EMPLOYEE	POSITION	SALARY	TAXABLE BENEFITS
Joann Bennett	Director, Business Development	\$128,673.28	\$216.67
Errol D'Costa	Director, Finance	\$110,876.29	\$193.56
Heather Farnworth	Associate Director, International Sales	\$105,547.28	\$184.22
Bernard Gorecki	Director, Marketing & Visitor Services	\$122,639.65	\$213.97
Peter Legat	Associate Director, Information Services	\$104,485.73	\$182.66
Lesley Lewis	Chief Executive Officer	\$176,426.00	\$294.60
Hooley McLaughlin	Director, Visitor Experience	\$117,757.13	\$207.92
Catherine Paisley	Director, Science Education	\$117,695.85	\$210.12
Lynn Row	Associate Director, Operations & Service Management	\$103,560.64	\$175.67
Grant Troop	Chief Operating Officer	\$128,673.28	\$216.67
Kevin von Appen	Associate Director, Daily Experience Operations	\$104,682.03	\$182.66

Ontario Science Centre

770 Don Mills Road
Toronto, ON M3C 1T3

www.OntarioScienceCentre.ca
www.RedShiftNow.ca