



The Best Place on Earth

Message from Bill Bennett
Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts



As the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, I am pleased to welcome you to the BC Museum Association's 52nd Annual Provincial Conference 2008, being held in B.C.'s beautiful capital city, Victoria.

This year marks B.C.'s celebration of 150 years since our founding as a Crown Colony in 1858. It is a time to showcase our great heritage, rich cultural diversity and many achievements. I am delighted that this year's conference theme is "Storytelling in B.C. – People, Places & Perspectives," for it is the people, the language and the cultural traditions that help make B.C. the best place on Earth to live, work and play.

I wish you all a very productive and informative time. With an expected attendance of approximately 300 delegates, presenters and exhibitors, this conference is the ideal setting for exchanging creative and innovative ideas on the challenges and opportunities facing B.C.'s arts, culture and heritage sectors.

Thank you to everyone involved in coordinating this year's conference. Events like this would not be possible without the collective efforts and talents of organizers, sponsors and countless volunteers. Congratulations on being recognized by the Canadian Museums Association as "the best provincial museums association conference in Canada."

Sincerely,

Bill Bennett
Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts