



Pacific National Exhibition

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SPECIAL GRAND MARSHALS LEAD THE WAY IN PNE'S BRAND NEW CELEBRATION PARADE

For Immediate Release

Vancouver, B.C.: The Pacific National Exhibition is proud to present a line-up of special grand marshals who will be making one-time appearances at the PNE's brand new Toontastic Celebration Parade, held twice daily throughout the 2007 Fair.

Featuring everyone from the cast of *The Great Big Boo!* to famed children's show celebrity, J.P. Patches, the varied line-up is guaranteed to bring a unique flair to the PNE's Toontastic Celebration Parade.

Opening Day grand marshals will be the **family of the late Peter Rolston**, a long-time PNE Fair entertainer. Beginning his run at the PNE in the early 1960's, Rolston was a faithful performer, working every summer for more than 20 years. His family, including daughter Karsha Rolston, will open up the very first Toontastic Celebration Parade at **3:00 pm on Saturday, August 18th**.

Also to appear as grand marshal of the PNE parade will be the much-loved children's entertainer, **J.P. Patches**. Star of one of the longest running children's shows in television history, J.P. Patches is an icon in the hearts and minds of many.

The force will be with the PNE as **Star Wars characters** – members of the 501st Legion's Badlands Garrison – will take their turn at grand marshalling throughout the Fair. A worldwide legion, members dress up as Stormtroopers, Bounty Hunters, and other characters from the beloved Star Wars series to make special appearances, such as the PNE Fair.

The cast of **The Great Big Boo!** – a live action Halloween musical traveling throughout the Lower Mainland this October – will also make an appearance as grand marshals of the Toontastic Celebration Parade. With Vinnie the Vampire and Priscilla the Princess, it's guaranteed to be a spook-tacular time!

Special guest families will also get their turn at marshalling throughout the Fair.

The Toontastic Celebration Parade will make its debut at the 2007 Fair at the PNE at **3:00 pm on Saturday, August 18th**. Come cheer on your pals from the Saturday morning cartoons – Woody Woodpecker, Pink Panther™, Betty Boop, Thomas the Tank Engine™, Scooby Doo™, Cat in the Hat, and Strawberry Shortcake™ as they make their way through the Fairgrounds, which starts on

Miller Drive, travels past Spirit Plaza, up the main line, in front of the Rogers Amphitheatre and past the Marketplace. Together with giant inflatables, massive props and over 90 performers, there's something for everyone in the biggest party the PNE has ever seen.

For more information about this year's Fair at the PNE (August 18-September 3, 2007) visit www.pne.ca.

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Owned by the City of Vancouver, the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) is a healthy and vibrant non-profit charity organization dedicated to providing over 3 million visitors a year with first-class cultural, sporting and family entertainment events. Founded in 1910, the PNE operates from a 114-acre site at Hastings Park, a multi-facility venue in Vancouver where the organization operates four activity streams: an annual 17-day Fair, Playland Amusement Park, maintenance and care of the Hasting Park site and management of the site's year-round facilities. These facilities are utilized to celebrate a variety of hockey, amateur sporting, music, community, social, cultural and commercial events throughout the year.

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