

Popesku promotes Pavilion show

By Shelley Browne

Peace Country people have good reason to be proud of their area of the province — and the time has come to show that pride.

The B.C. Pavilion, a 6039 square-metre exhibit space on the Expo 86 site, will showcase the different regions of the province during the world transportation and communication fair being held in Vancouver May 2 to October 13, 1986.

Each of the nine tourist regions in British Columbia will be highlighted in a regional week in the main plaza of the B.C. Pavilion. Themes or storylines which make a statement about the unique and indigenous character of each area will be portrayed by regional performers during these weeks.

Communities in the individual regions will have 15 to 20 minutes

to show the rest of the world why their area of Expo's host province is so special.

POPESKU HIRED

Regional Program Producers have been hired to assist each region in the preparation of its show. Region H, the tourist area into which Fort St. John falls, is represented by producer Sue Popesku.

Popesku is responsible for locating talent to represent Region H at the world fair next summer.

Since being hired in July, Popesku has already introduced many communities in her region to the opportunity they have to showcase their areas at the B.C. Pavilion next summer.

She has been travelling throughout Region H — the area of northeastern B.C. north of McLeod Lake and south of the Yukon border — and encouraging in-

dividuals and groups to become involved in their region's week at Expo.

"It is very important to make people aware of the regional weeks being held at the B.C. Pavilion during Expo because we want everyone who wishes to have an opportunity to audition," Popesku said in an interview last week.

AUDITIONS HELD

Auditions for regional week programs will be held in the January to March, 1986, time period. Applications for regional auditions must be submitted to regional producers by September 30, 1985.

The audition deadline doesn't mean performances must be ready for the stage by end of September, Popesku said. Performers will still have until January to refine and polish their acts.

"We want to start scheduling

auditions for the New Year so we must have all names in by the end of next month. People still have four or five months to work on their performances, however," Popesku said.

Other than the stipulation that performers reflect the theme or nature of their region, there are few restrictions on performance proposals.

MANY CATEGORIES

Performance categories can include music, dance, theatre (short sketches), native, multicultural, storytelling, sport performance (figure skating or gymnastics, for example), and general entertainment.

In addition to presenting their individual 15 to 20 minute performances at various times throughout the week, people representing the different communities of each region will also

join together for their Regional Show, a communal extravaganza in which all the performers from each region participate.

REGIONAL SHOW

Regional Shows will be interspersed throughout the various community group and individual performances during each regional week.

While these shows will be researched and produced by Pavilion staff, regions are encouraged to suggest themes for their area's show. As with the individual performances, themes which reflect the unique nature of each region are being sought.

As well as coordinating talent for the individual and group performances, Popesku is also responsible for canvassing Region H for ideas for its Regional Show.

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Popesku.....

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MAGNITUDE

"Region H is known for magnitude, for big things," Popesku said. "The oil industry, the Bennett Dam, the Alaska Highway, our big game hunting — all of these things represent largeness."

"We're looking for ideas that we can call our own, ideas that specifically reflect the unique nature of our region and its people, places and activities," Popesku said. "The more creative and imaginative these ideas are, the better."

In suggesting possible theme concepts, Popesku said that Region H is widely known for its magnitude.

"The oil industry, Bennett Dam, Alaska Highway, wide sky country and our big game hunting — all of these things represent largeness."

Popesku also referred to the northern lights and festivals such as Mukluk Rendezvous as potential ideas around which to build the script for Region H's show.

WELL-KNOWN PLAYWRIGHT

John Gray, a well-known Canadian

playwright who penned such pieces as 'Billy Bishop Goes to War', will write the script for Region H's show. Gray met with representatives from the various communities in Region H earlier this week to discuss script ideas for the Regional Show.

Fort St. John will be treated to a special preview of all the skits and acts, including the Regional Show, being performed at the B.C. Pavilion next summer by Region H representatives. Heritage Festival '86 will showcase all Region H Pavilion appearances next July.

Approximately 300 performers and technical support crew will represent each region during its week at the Pavilion.

Performers will be provided with honorariums for travel expenses, free admission to Expo each performance day and a complimentary three-day pass to the exposition site.

Further information about B.C. Pavilion activities and auditions may be obtained by contacting Sue Popesku at Fort St. John's B.C. Pavilion Office at 785-1986.

Pavilion is mobile

British Columbia's Mobile Pavilion for promoting Expo 86 will be in Fort St. John on July 12, 13 and 14.

In preparation for the visit of the Mobile Pavilion, a specially-designed double trailer unit, two representatives were in Fort St. John to meet with Donna Spear of the local Expo 86 committee.

Craig Aspinall, manager of communications for the B.C. Pavilion, was one of those involved in discussing the arrangements for the Friday, Saturday and Sunday visit of the mobile unit.

The Mobile Pavilion will be set up at the North Peace Recreation Centre from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the Friday and Saturday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on July 14.

The unit will be on display in Dawson Creek this weekend, set up at the Northern Alberta Railway Park from today through Sunday. The hours of viewing in Dawson Creek are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day.

The Mobile Pavilion

provides an audio-visual and special effects presentation reflecting the themes of the main B.C. Pavilion in Vancouver.

Transportation, communications and other industries will be part of the presentation in the mobile pavilion.

Aspinall indicated he hoped Mayor Brian Palmer and Peace River North MLA Tony Brummet would be on hand for the official opening — which the Mobile Pavilion goes through in each community it visits.

Aspinall said he will be trying to have the presentation of awards for the Rodeo Parade conducted in the Mobile Pavilion.

The annual North Peace Light Horse Association's Fort St. John Rodeo is set for next weekend and the Rodeo Parade is slated for a 10 a.m. start next Saturday.

Plans call for the local Expo committee to set it up so that senior citizens and handicapped will be able to visit the Pavilion on the Friday.

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Mobile pavilion is here

For three days, residents of Fort St. John and area will be able to get a sneak preview of what to expect from the B.C. Pavilion and Expo 86.

The B.C. Pavilion mobile unit is in Fort St. John and will be set up for visitors on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the North Peace Recreation Centre parking lot.

The mobile unit will be open for viewing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday.

The mobile pavilion is a

specially designed double-trailer unit that provides audio-visual and special effects presentations reflecting the themes of the main B.C. Pavilion in Vancouver and Expo 86.

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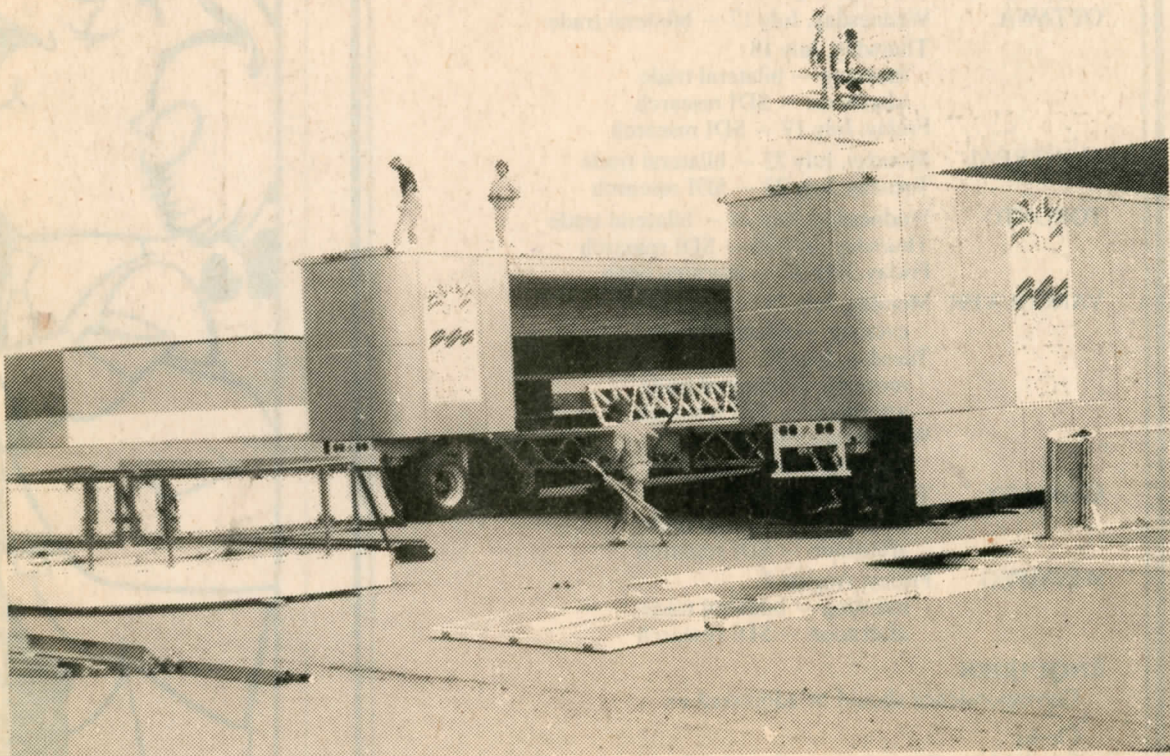
An opening ceremony, held in each community it visits, will be held on Friday and plans were being considered to have senior citizens and handicapped visit the

mobile unit on Friday.

Craig Aspinall, manager of communications for the B.C. Pavilion, indicated efforts were being made to have the presentation of awards for the rodeo parade done at the mobile Pavilion.

The mobile pavilion tours the province, providing a preview of what to expect of the main Pavilion in 1986.

Last weekend, the mobile unit was at the B.C. Railway Park in Dawson Creek.



Workers ready the B.C. Pavilion mobile unit, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The mobile unit is set up at the North Peace Recreation Centre.