



IPSCO Place receives *Business of The Year Award (Over 50 Employees)* from Tourism Saskatchewan

For immediate release

Regina, Saskatchewan - President and CEO of IPSCO Place Mark Allan is pleased to announce that IPSCO Place was named *Business of The Year (Over 50 Employees)* at last night's Tourism Saskatchewan's Awards of Excellence and Gala Evening. This award caps off a banner year for IPSCO Place, a world-class hospitality complex for trade, agri-business, entertainment and cultural events.

The category for "Business of The Year" was for those businesses that had more than 50 employees and had demonstrated all-around excellence and was a model for best practices in the industry, resulting in strong growth and/or a record of success. The organization is also committed to human resource development, community involvement and leadership and is recognized as a strong partner in tourism and for achieving high levels of customer satisfaction.

"Everyone at IPSCO Place is honored to have received this award," says Allan. "This is wonderful recognition for our dedicated and hard-working board of directors, staff, management and volunteer teams. We believe that today's best practices will result in future growth and prosperity, something that we feel has been reflected in our recent partnerships, sold-out concerts and record-breaking events."

IPSCO Place had one of its best years in 2006, due in part to attracting and/or hosting top tourism events like the Tim Hortons Brier, the Western Canada Farm Progress Show and the Royal Red Arabian Horse Show. The organization was also a main stop for major concerts like The Black-Eyed Peas and Nickelback. The biggest tourist attractions last year that IPSCO Place had a significant role in were the two sold-out, back-to-back Rolling Stones concerts. These concerts put Regina on the international concert map. Partnerships with important shows like Canadian Western Agribition continue to benefit both parties while further advancing the agri-business sector both provincially and nationally. All these events and activities have made IPSCO Place the number one tourist destination in the province.

"These are exciting times for IPSCO Place," says Allan. "Building on our past successes, we can confidently look forward to more great achievements in the future. Our plans for revitalization and renewal will allow us to do that much more in enriching the community by providing us with the opportunity to give back to those who have helped IPSCO Place realize its goals and fulfill its mission."

IPSCO Place encompasses 102 acres, including more than one million square feet of indoor space, between Lewvan Drive and Elphinstone Street in the heart of Regina. IPSCO Place is an economic engine with a \$66 million dollar annual impact in the Regina community and touches a broad range of people with over 70% of those within an 80 km radius visiting at least once per year. Over 1.5 million people pass through the gates of IPSCO Place each year.

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