

Meeting Encore Moment

Summer 2018

Upcoming Holidays

August 6th—
Civic Day

September 3rd—
Labour Day

September 10th—
Rosh Hashana

September 19th—
Yom Kippur



This issue features ...

- ◆ Meeting Encore wins the Bay Street Suit Challenge
- ◆ Summer Fun
- ◆ Meeting Encore visits
 - ~ Saskatoon
 - ~ Barcelo Resorts
 - ~ Bisha Hotel
 - ~ IMEX
 - ~ MPI WEC
 - ~ Berlin/Amsterdam
- ◆ Quartier français!
- ◆ Stay in the know with IntuitiveCE

Summer is here and not a moment too soon! We hope you are enjoying as much patio, backyard and cottage time as you can. To help you get into the rest and relaxation mode, here are 5 of the top reads this summer according to Amazon Books editors:

My Year of Rest and Relaxation – Ottessa Moshfegh
 The Ruin – Dervla McTiernan
 Believe Me - JP Delaney
 Dear Mrs. Bird – AJ Pearce
 What We Were Promised – Lucy Tan

It has been a busy first half of 2018 for Meeting Encore as we welcomed two fantastic Regional Directors in key markets to the team; Isabella Ma in Vancouver and Lori Wagner in Ottawa. Check out our past newsletters on our website if you missed their announcements.

From cruise ship meetings to discovering new venues in our own backyard, our travel schedules have been jammed packed with educational trips and conferences to Banff, Lake Louise, Halifax, Las Vegas, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Rome, Belfast, Saskatoon, Cancun, Mexico, Niagara-on-the-Lake to name a few.

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at IncentiveWorks in Toronto in August. This year will be extra special for us as our very own Jenn Glynn has been nominated in the Industry Volunteer category for the 2018 Meetings + Incentive, Travel Hall of Fame. The winner will be announced at the induction ceremony at 3:00pm on Wednesday, August 15, 2018. **Congrats Jenn on the nomination!**

The Bay street Suit Challenge

The Meeting Encore Team successfully collected 3,436 pieces of clothing, accessories, and jewelry for this wonderful cause in addition to raising financial contributions. ***We were honoured with winning in the small business category thanks to the support of our clients, industry partners, family and friends, who helped make this possible.***



In addition to pre and post employment support programs, Dress for Success provides clients with professional attire suitable for the job interview process, and once a client has obtained employment, they are provided with additional clothing suitable for their new job.

This was their most successful challenge yet in raising a total of 24,632 items of professional clothing and \$22,840 in virtual donations, which is a 50% increase over last year.

The Meeting Encore Team looks forward to participating once again next year. More information to follow as we remind you during your spring cleaning 2019!

<https://toronto.dressforsuccess.org/>



A "Prairie Gem"Saskatoon, Saskatchewan!

I always look forward to travelling to a new destination especially when it is in my home country. There are so many beautiful cities within Canada and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan is one of them!

The New York Times released their list of "52 Places to Visit in 2018" - a highly regarded international ranking of cities, regions, and countries that travellers should explore and Saskatoon has placed #18 on the list.



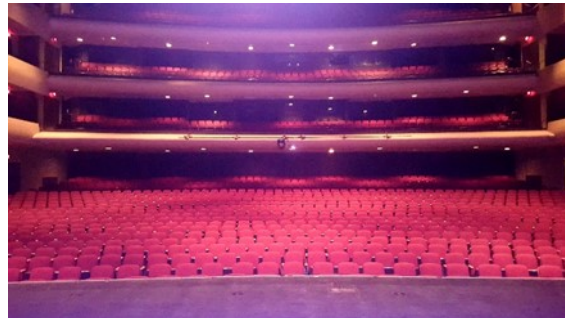
Over the course of three days Meeting Encore and our clients had the opportunity to visit various hotels, attractions, museums and the TCU Place, Saskatoon's Arts & Convention Centre. With over 4,900 guestrooms in the city (and growing) there is something for everyone be it for a meeting of 10 people or 2,000.



Each of the hotels are unique in their design. If you prefer something more historical then the Delta Bessborough is the place to be. Contemporary properties include the Sheraton Cavalier, Radisson Hotel, Saskatoon Inn Hotel & Conference Centre, Holiday Inn Downtown Saskatoon and the Hilton Garden Inn.

Not to forget the James Hotel.....host to several celebrities and dignitaries this boutique property is ideal for a high end board or executive meeting.

Complimenting all of these hotels is The TCU Place. The facility offers over 104,000 square feet of convention space and is one of the most versatile properties. There are total of 21 different rooms with configurations that allow unlimited combinations. TCU Place specializes in conferences up to 1,500 delegates, gala banquets and tradeshows of up to 120 booths. The centre also houses a 2,003 soft seat theatre that can be used for a larger plenary.



Thank-you to Tourism Saskatoon for the warm welcome and ensuring we experienced all the great things the destination has to offer. The hotel product is fantastic, there is no shortage of unique off-site venues for that special event, the countless restaurants offer something for everyone and the heart and soul of the city is truly one of a kind!



For additional information on Saskatoon please reach out to your Meeting Encore contact. We would love to share with you what we saw and experienced.

Quartier français!



Welcome to La cache du Lac Champlain

Le nouvel établissement contemporain compte 56 chambres spacieuses et lumineuses au design recherché. Ce complexe hôtelier, situé à seulement une heure au sud de Montréal, comprend un restaurant de type bistro, une salle de réunion avec des capacités maximum de 192 personnes, style banquet ou 120 style école, et un terrain de golf de 18 trous légèrement boisé, dont les larges allées sont traversées par quelques cours d'eau. L'unique Noah Spa, un centre de soins corporels et esthétiques, comprend un bassin eaunergique, un concept exclusif au Canada.

Du fait de son positionnement stratégique sur les rives du lac Champlain, vous profitez également d'une offre variée d'activités sportives et culturelles pour vos groupes. Été comme hiver, ces activités incluent : planche à voile, kayak, randonnée pédestre, kite surf, golf, tennis, paraski, pêche blanche, patinage et plus encore!

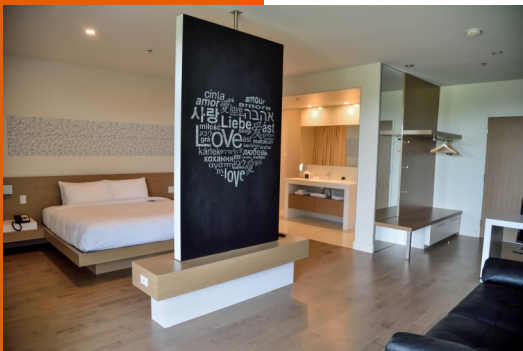
Peu importe la saison, le paysage est sublime! La cache du Lac Champlain offre une qualité d'hébergement supérieure ainsi qu'un endroit chaleureux et luxueux, où vos participants pourront se détendre en toute tranquillité.

This contemporary, nordic-style hotel has a total of 56 bright and spacious guest rooms. Just an hour South of Montreal, the hotel includes, a bistro-style restaurant, meeting/function space for up to 192 people banquet or 120 classroom, an 18-hole golf course partially wooded, running past streams and lakes. The hotel's unique Noah Spa offers water therapy baths, the only one of its kind in Canada.

Strategically placed on the shores of Lake Champlain, the hotel offers your groups a wide-range of outdoor and cultural activities to enjoy, in summer like in winter, such as: windsurfing, kayaking, hiking, kite surfing, golf, tennis, paraskiing, ice fishing, skating and more!

Regardless of the season, the scenery is always captivating! La cache du Lac Champlain offers your participants modern accommodations, in a warm and luxurious setting, conducive to restorative relaxation!

www.cachelacchamplain.com



Meeting Encore takes you to Mexico with Barcelo Resorts

Within a one-hour drive from the Cancun International Airport, Barcelo Resorts has three distinct offers perfect for a variety of different groups.

The Barcelo Maya Grand Resort is comprised of 5 hotels in 1 and is their most flexible and experienced with large groups, incentives, conventions, and indoor/outdoor private events.

2004 guestrooms across all 5 properties, stay at 1 play at 4 or 5

20,000 square feet of meeting space

13 restaurants and 15 bars

All-inclusive 24-hours

1.4 miles of beachfront

The adults-only Royal Hideaway Playacar is excellent for small to medium sized incentives, and most suitable for a luxury all-inclusive experience.

Fully renovated in 2017

200 villa suites with private concierge

6 restaurants and 6 bars



Located adjacent to the eco-archeological Xcaret Park, Occidental at Xcaret Destination has large meeting capabilities, a unique atmosphere, and priced with exceptional value.

Extensively renovated in 2017

756 guestrooms

Meeting Space capacities for up to 1,100 people

11 restaurants and 10 bars

All-inclusive 24-hours

Discounted full-stay access passes and direct access from hotel to Xcaret Park



Check with your Regional Director for more information on these destinations.

Lessons learned from my first IMEX experience

I attended my first IMEX Frankfurt Conference in May and the event planner in me was in awe of what a massive Conference it was. IMEX includes convention bureaus, hotel companies of all sizes, convention centers, DMCs, technology providers, event management specialists, education sessions and various networking opportunities. It can be overwhelming to try to figure out the best way to set your schedule as you really want to fit in everything and everyone. The days are long, the booths are massive, and the education is as diversified as it gets!

Here are some tips and lessons learned for anyone new to IMEX and planning to attend one soon!

When I planned my travel agenda, I regretted not building in more time in advance to explore Frankfurt. Once you arrive, your days will be filled with appointments and education and the evenings are packed with networking events and dinners, so you need to arrive at least one or two days in advance if you want to experience the sights and sounds of the Host City.

The focus of IMEX is learning and networking and you can easily accomplish both in the three-day agenda. There is a process that you can follow to make the experience more manageable. Do not make the mistake of booking too many appointments back to back or waiting too long to make appointments as the time-slots fill up fast. You do need time to stop and check emails and take a break. Be strategic and book appointments in close proximity to each other. The trade show is big, vendors are far, and it is easy to get side-tracked bumping into colleagues along the way. I also made appointments with suppliers that I am currently working with and saved group appointments for destinations that I knew little about or have yet to work with to be more strategic with my time.

IMEX Frankfurt is something that an event professional should experience at least once in their career. The connections you will make are invaluable and do NOT forget your comfy shoes!



Bisha Hotel Toronto

Bisha Hotel Toronto, managed by Loews Hotels and located in the heart of the city's Entertainment District, is the vision of lifestyle empresario and hospitality trendsetter Charles Khabouth. Standing at 44 stories tall, the property features 96 hotel rooms and 355 residential condominiums. Designed by Alessandro Munge, Bisha Hotel Toronto specializes in laid-back luxury with an edge.

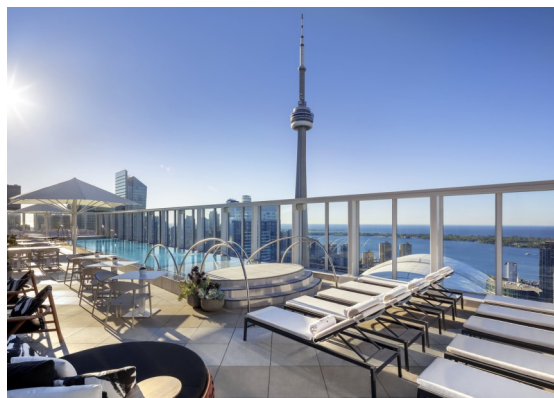
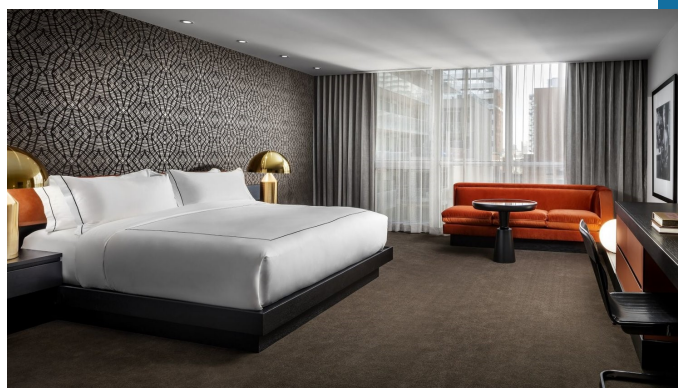
With an entire floor designed by musician Lenny Kravitz, the Bisha offers four culinary concepts, including a 2,200 square foot lobby bar with street level patio access, a 24-hour café, a destination restaurant by celebrity chef Akira Back, and a 44th floor rooftop restaurant with an infinity pool and sweeping views of Lake Ontario and the CN Tower.

From pitch meetings and product launches to one-of-a-kind events, the Bisha provides a blank canvas for the most creative events you can imagine. Their Salvador function room, offers incredible views of the lake and city skyline:

- 2,340 sq. ft. (79 x 26) divisible into 3 smaller rooms
- Ceiling height 10 feet

The hotel's stylish guest rooms are decked out from head to toe in tactile surfaces and sophisticated patterns. Think lacquered wood, crushed velvet, and a cushy geometric carpet that summons a 1970's nostalgia.

www.bishahoteltoronto.com



Attending MPI WEC in Indianapolis

I attended the MPI World Education Congress in Indianapolis from June 1 – 5 this year along with 2000 other delegates. Many Canadian chapter members arrived on the Friday to attend the Chapter board meetings where we shared best practices and participated in education sessions. It was my first WEC in over 9 years and featured a completely redesigned education and engagement program unlike anything they've ever done before.

MPI listened to the feedback from surveys and focus groups and created new ways of delivering education, business and networking opportunities at this year's conference. This included daily motivational keynote pep rallies and themed WEC villages with focuses on innovation, social, experiential and leadership which allowed for business exchanges, networking and a new way to host breakout sessions in an open concept.

The city of Indianapolis is built to accommodate conferences with downtown hotels connected to the Indiana Convention Centre, all within walking distance and the local committee did a wonderful job showcasing their city. The evening networking events included the opening night reception at White River State Park, a block party at Monumental Square including local food trucks and the closing event at the Indy Motor Speedway. The MPI Foundation also hosted their annual Rendezvous fundraiser event during the conference.

At lunch on the final day, all of the Canadian chapter members put on Toronto shirts and provided a warm (and loud!) welcome to attendees as they entered the room. Johanne Belanger, President and CEO from Tourism Toronto invited all delegates to join her in Toronto for next year's MPI WEC . Mark your calendars everyone for June 11 – 14, 2019 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.! I know Tourism Toronto and team are going to host an incredible conference next year and I look forward to seeing everyone there!



Meeting Encore takes you with them to Berlin and Amsterdam

In May, the Meeting Encore team was invited on a post-IMEX Frankfurt Educational Trip by ACCOR Hotels to experience Berlin and Amsterdam. Thanks so much to ACCOR Hotels and their partners in helping to make our visit a memorable one!

Why bring your next meeting, conference or incentive to Berlin...

Berlin is the capital of cool and is vibrant event destination to its core. Your attendees can experience a range of great historical tours and venues, as well as trendy venues, top luxury Hotels, thrilling activities castle adventure. Berlin is the ideal conference and incentive destination that balances elements of historical significance with innovative energy. It is filled with exciting and unexpected opportunities. There is no shortage of hotels and meeting space, eccentric city tours, museums, historical and political venues, trendy bars, contemporary restaurants and nightlife.

What we saw/experienced...

- Venue tour of the Hotel Pullman Berlin Schweizerhof
- Tour of the Palace Charlottenburg
- Visit of the Classic Car Museum
- Walking Tour of West Berlin
- Venue tour of the Hotel Sofitel
- Venue tour of the Hotel Swissotel
- Venue tour of Hotel Das Stue
- Bus tour of Berlin – “Experience a divided City – Berlin along the Wall”

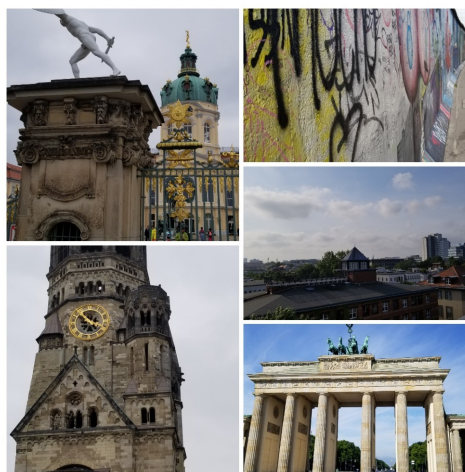
Why bring your next meeting, conference or incentive to Amsterdam...

With world-class museums, Hotels, meeting venues, quirky festivals, theatre, live music, laid-back bars and delightful restaurants, there's never a shortage of things to do in Amsterdam! Known for its eclectic atmosphere, Amsterdam is one of Europe's most popular destinations. Having undergone some ambitious renovation projects, the city now sports more to see and do than ever before. Amsterdam is the Netherlands' capital, known for its artistic heritage, elaborate canal system and narrow houses with gabled facades, legacies of the city's 17th-century Golden Age. Its Museum District houses the Van Gogh Museum, works by Rembrandt and Vermeer at the Rijksmuseum, and modern art at the Stedelijk. Best of all, with its many idyllic cobbled streets and countless canals, it's easy to explore on foot or by bicycle.

What we saw/experienced...

- Venue tour of Sofitel Legend The Grand Amsterdam
- Boat tour through the canals
- Tour of A'dam Tower
- Venue tour of INK Hotel Amsterdam
- Venue tour of Swissotel Amsterdam

If you are interested in Berlin or Amsterdam for your next convention, meeting, or incentive program, The Meeting Encore team can help make it a success!



Meeting Encore is up to some fun this summer



My baby graduated this year and is off to Waterloo University in the fall, so my summer will be busy preparing (yet again), on the 'do's and don'ts' of laundry, eating healthy on a tight budget and not exceeding our cellular shared data plan?! 😊 Have a great summer everyone! Cheers!

Carol-Ann

Summer, when all the fun starts.....campfires and s'mores, ice cream and popsicles, water fights, beaches and pools, hanging out at the park, spending time with family and friends and days with no fixed plans!

Rachael

I love spending time at the lake with family and friends and will be going to a couple of cottages this summer. Being by the water is my happy place!

Lori



Taking the time this summer to enjoy what nature and life has to offer.

Frank

Liz with Andrew & Claire... exploring the coast of Maine...family time and fresh ocean air!

Liz



After their East Coast RV adventure hiking and eating seafood across Newfoundland, Shannon & Joe plan to start renovating their new house in Stoney Creek!

Joe & Shannon



For the summer, I'll be attending my childhood friend's wedding in Bali.

Isabella

Now that the kids have summer jobs, Patrick and his wife Gayle have decided to push their summer vacation plans to September and visit friends in Munich and attend Oktoberfest. Yes, he plans to wear lederhosen. Stay tuned for pics.

Patrick



Plans for the summer will focus on spending time outdoors with friends and family enjoying every minute our teenagers are home from university!

Sandi



Lots of good reasons to celebrate Summer. Looking forward to hanging with family and friends in the backyard.

Jenn & David

Summer will be spent with family and friends enjoying graduation, birthdays, amusement parks, playgrounds and water balloon fights.

Grace



Summer - AH Summer! I will be spending this summer of HEAT with my 3 kids and husband both up at the cottage - lakeside, and here in the city - backyard poolside. Wishing you all a fantastic, relaxing summer!

Jennifer

Stay in the know with....



Intuitive
Conferences + Events

As the nicer weather is finally here we want to make sure that we are outside enjoying the most of it. Who wants to be stuck in a windowless ballroom at this time of year. However, keep in mind that outdoor events are often a lot more work than indoor as there is a lot to consider. As you look to take your events outside here are a few things for you to keep in mind to ensure that you have the best experience ever and don't go over budget.

Incorporate your surroundings - Whenever possible choose venues and locations that have an interesting vista or gardens or other items that can be used as peripheral décor elements.

Essentials- Power and Washrooms - Try to select venues that have "power drop boxes" or other types of built in power so that you do not have to have cables running throughout the space. Make sure that you have adequate lighting for evening events not just for the guest's areas but also for the food and beverage areas and back of house. Always remember to have access to adequate washrooms either in a building by the outdoor space or bring in some executive washroom trailers.

Permits and ordinances - It is essential that you have all the necessary permits to host your event and ensure that you are aware of any of the noise ordinance and any fire and safety codes.

Think beyond the event - You will need to ensure that there is ample time for load in, set up, clean up and load out. Depending on how extensive your set you may have to book the space for multiple days to host one event.

Take advantage of the outdoors - Why not have a barbeque, fire pits and fireworks. Do all the things that you cannot do while inside and fill the air with the sweet smells of summer.

Ensure the comfort of guests - If you are hosting a day event, make sure that you have plenty of water and sunscreen available. Incorporate shaded areas, cooling zones with fans or misters. If you are planning an evening event, then make sure that the area has been treated in advance for pests and have bug spray on hand. Amenity stations in the washrooms or at the entrance areas are always a nice touch.

ALWAYS HAVE A PLAN B - With any outdoor event you always need to have backup and solid plans that everyone is aware of just incase of a quick change. Monitor the weather leading up to and during the event, include tenting if possible in the event space and always have an indoor space in close proximity on hold and at the ready just in case.

Now get out there and enjoy the summer!

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creativity and innovation?
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to day tasks?

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We are ready to be your strategic partner to collaborate
with you to create exceptional event experiences!

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INSPIRING

CARING

ENGAGING

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