

Meeting Encore Moment

Summer 2019

Upcoming Holidays

August 5th — Civic Holiday

September 2nd — Labour Day

This issue features ...

- ◆ Client Referral Winners
- Culinary Event with Accor
- Meeting Encore visits
- ~ Kelowna
- ~ C2
- ~ Niagara-on-the-Lake
- ~ Calgary
- Quartier français!
- Dress for Success
 Winner
- Stay in the know with IntuitiveCE

"Some of the best memories are made in flip flops." — Unknown

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Meeting Encore Moment. I think we can all agree that this winter seemed extra long and definitely extra cold so we hope you enjoy the backyard, cottage or wherever you may go for summer vacation this year. You all deserve it!

The M.E. Referral contest was a huge success. Thank you to those that participated by introducing a new client to Meeting Encore and a huge shout out to our partners that helped support this initiative through your sponsorship of prizes. Please see page 2 for a list of winners and sponsors and it goes without saying, we love your referrals so THANK YOU, they are a gift.

It has been an amazing first half of 2019 as your M.E. team has been busy attending site inspections, industry conferences and hosting events. We see the demand for certain regions continuing to outpace supply, thus it is definitely a good idea to get your space held and contracted as soon as possible. The second half of 2019 is expected to continue at this pace and will lead us into 2020 which will be a truly special year for M.E. If you can guess what is so special about the year 2020, we will enter you in a draw for a special prize! Email pcluett@meetingencore.com with your answer. The winner will be announced in the next newsletter.





Thank you for your Client Referrals...

THANK YOU to everyone who referred new clients to Meeting Encore during our winter contest. We truly value your trust and support.

New client referrals are always welcome, just let your Meeting Encore contact know of someone that could benefit from our services.

We are grateful to our partners who provided generous prizes.

20°N 87°W



Sandals



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JASPER PARK LODGE

20°N 87°W

UNICO

Riviera Maya

Meetings at UNICO 20°87°

Located on the white sand beaches of Riviera Maya, UNICO 20°87° sets a stunning stage for a meeting of any occasion. Our dedicated team is here to ensure no detail is overlooked. From specially designed food menus to a curated cocktail menu, included spa, golf and custom entertainment, each and every moment of your event will be a handcrafted, one-of-a-kind experience.

DESTINATION: Riviera Maya, Mexico

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE: With locally-inspired drinks and cuisine, tours diving into Riviera Maya's natural wonders, and spa treatments featuring regional beauty rituals, UNICO 20°87° is both the world's first truly all-inclusive and a local's perspective of Mexico's unique colorful culture.

MEETING SPACE: We have over 30,000 sq. ft. of indoor breakouts and outdoor lawns able to accommodate meetings of any size. Beautifully designed and featuring state-of-the-art multi touch screen technology, our spaces offer the perfect environment for inspired thinking.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Directly inspired by the region, our adults-only accommodations mix locally-made artisanal touches with modern luxury. Each room features a personalized local host, available 24 hours a day to provide an added level of personalized service.

RECREATION: The ultimate in all-inclusive luxury, each stay includes holistic spa treatments, rounds of golf, and our signature tours, which seek out the beauty of Riviera Maya's refreshing cenotes and ancient ruins.

DINING: Guests can enjoy banquet menus skillfully prepared by our in-house celebrity chefs, along with a curated cocktail list inspired by the local flavors of the region. Four unique restaurants, three bars and an accompanying mixology program, along with a Cuban lounge featuring nightly live entertainment ensures a healthy balance of business and pleasure.

https://www.unicohotelrivieramaya.com/







WestJet's Convention program offers the lowest fare at the time of booking. The Convention code provides a discount off the published fare at the time of booking. Discounts vary based on geography such as Domestic Canada or International. In addition to the discount for attendees you can also earn complimentary passes. For every 50 round trip seats booked using the code you will receive one complimentary round trip pass. There is no cap. The more that gets booked using your code, the more comp passes you earn. To request your code please click on the following link.

https://www.westjet.com/en-ca/book-trip/groups-charters/index

Any questions regarding groups at WestJet, please reach out to Reggie.Lang@westjet.com



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https://www.sandals.com/

Meeting Encore takes you to Kelowna

Tourism Kelowna along with their partners showcased three days of all Kelowna has to offer our clients for group programs. We arrived at Hotel Eldorado, a boutique hotel with 52 rooms situated on beautiful Okanagan Lake. This property has incredible views with a warm yet modern style. A quick trip across Okanagan Lake brought us to Mission Hill Family Estate renowned for its award winning wines, cuisine, stunning setting and architecture. The winery's vineyards are located in five distinct growing regions of British Columbia's Okanagan Valley. Prior to dinner, we visited Manteo Resort Waterfront Hotel & Villas which offers waterfront accommodations and amenities including fireside library, private theatre, indoor/ outdoor pools and hot tub. The resort features spacious guestrooms, suites and villas. Our first evening was a Taste of Kelowna at Hotel Eldorado which gave us the opportunity to meet with members of the team from Argus Properties.

For those early risers, a bike tour along Mission Creek Greenway was an active way to start the day on a crisp morning, thanks to G.O. Cycling Experiences. Breakfast at Coast Capri Hotel brought us close to downtown as the hotel is easily accessible to some of the best shopping, restaurants and activities in Kelowna.

Next stop was the Harvest Golf Club located above Okanagan Lake among an extensive fruit orchard. The Harvest boasts 18 holes of championship golf. We enjoyed the scenery as we transferred to the Gray Monk Estate Winery which has stunning panoramic views of mountains, vineyards and the lake. The winery's name, Gray Monk, is the English translation of the Austrian name for Pinot Gris, which is now the number one planted white grape varietal in British Columbia.

Wine tasting and lunch was enjoyed at 50th Parallel Estate Winery on a majestic 61 acre site near the shores of Lake Okanagan, only 15 minutes from the airport. This is the most event focused winery we have ever been to. The evening was then finished off at Start Fresh Collaborative Kitchen, allowing the group to discover an innovative cooking school, 'family style' and learn about their give back program to the community.

Our last day in Kelowna brought us to the Delta Hotels by Marriott Grand Okanagan Resort which offers 36,000 sq ft of versatile function space, with a capacity for up to 1750 seated guests. Their downtown location is moments from everything. A walking tour with Cantrav included seeing some off site venue options in downtown Kelowna such as the Okanagan Spirts, Western Canada's Craft Distillery, Sandhill Winery, and CRAFT Beer Market.

Last but not least, we visited the Cove Lakeside Resort which has luxury suite accommodation situated among a green expanse of lush gardens and pools. The Cove is a haven of private beach and moorage, outdoor pools, movie theatre, hot tubs and more.

Kelowna is ideal for groups of any size with multiple meeting and event venues, wineries and championship golf courses while offering delicious locally inspired food and beverage. Talk to your Meeting Encore Representative for additional information about this great destination.







Quartier français! Bienvenue à Montréal!



Au mois de mai, en compagnie de mes collègues Jennifer et Patrick, j'ai eu la chance de faire une visite du nouvel Hôtel Four Seasons Montréal, situé au cœur du Golden Square Mile au centreville de Montréal. Avec ses 169 chambres, l'hôtel le plus attendu en ville offre également 10636 pieds carrés d'espace de réunion, localisé au 5^e étage afin d'en assurer l'intimité et l'exclusivité. On y retrouve la salle de bal Palais des Possibles munie d'une fenestration impressionnante ainsi qu'une terrasse attenante. Au Four Seasons l'ambiance est d'une élégance moderne jumelé à un service chaleureux et amical. Les invités peuvent aussi profiter du Social Square du 3ème étage, mettant en vedette le restaurant Marcus, une terrasse et un bar. Le spa inclut huit salles de soins et offre des produits de luxe et le centre sportif est doté d'équipements ultramodernes et d'une piscine éclairée par un puit de lumière. Plusieurs œuvres d'art peuvent aussi être admirées à travers l'hôtel.

www.fourseasons.com/montreal/

Back in May, joined by my colleagues Jenn and Patrick, we sited, the city's most anticipated new hotel for meetings and events, the Four Seasons Montreal, located in the heart of the Golden Square Mile, downtown Montreal. Offering 169 guestrooms and 10,636 square feet of function space. The space being grouped on the 5th floor, ensures privacy and exclusivity, from the spacious pre-function area, to Palais des Possibles Ballroom; featuring floor to ceiling windows and a private terrace. The hotel's ambience is cool, modern elegance intertwined with warm, friendly service. Guests can also enjoy the Hotel's Social Square on the 3rd floor featuring Marcus Restaurant, Terrace and night bar. The Spa has eight treatment rooms and luxurious amenities, the fitness center state of the art equipment, and a sky lit swimming pool with an upstream current generator. Unique art pieces can also be enjoyed throughout the Hotel.



Elizabeth Raoult / Regional Director/Directrice Régionale

Meeting Encore attends C2 Conference

This year Meeting Encore attended the C2 Conference which drew 7,500 delegates from around the world.

Billed as the "the most forward-thinking business event in the world.", C2 has been named best conference four years running.

Conceived by Montreal-based creative agency Sid Lee in partnership with Cirque du Soleil, the annual 3-day conference has been held in Montreal since 2012 and has featured speakers throughout the years such as Guy Laiberté (2019), Francis Ford Coppola (2012), Sir Richard Branson (2013), Philippe Starck (2013), James Cameron (2014) and countless others.

The goal of the conference is to create conversations on current issues, to provide inspiring content in a creative, festival like atmosphere.

We attended sessions and brain dates, discussed artificial intelligence, debated ethics, engaged in "meaningful play", ... and that was all before lunch! Indeed, C2 is an assault on the senses but it is ultimately a reminder that face to face meetings matter and inspire us.

Cette année, Meeting Encore a assisté à la conférence C2 qui a rassemblé 7 500 délégués du monde entier.

Considéré comme « l'événement professionnel le plus avant-gardiste au monde », C2 a été nommé meilleure conférence quatre années de suite.

Conçue par l'agence de création montréalaise Sid **Lee**, en partenariat avec le Cirque du Soleil, la conférence annuelle de trois jours se tient à Montréal depuis 2012 et a, **au fil des ans**, accueilli des conférenciers **tels que** Guy **Laliberté** (2019), Francis Ford Coppola (2012), Sir Richard Branson (2013), Philippe Starck (2013), James Cameron (2014) **pour ne nommer que ceux-là**.

L'objectif de la conférence est de **susciter** des conversations sur des questions d'actualité **et** de fournir un contenu inspirant, dans une atmosphère créative et festive.

Nous avons assisté à des séances et à des « brain dates », discuté de l'intelligence artificielle, débattu de l'éthique, engagé dans des «jeux significatifs»,... et **tout ça**, avant le déjeuner! En effet, C2 est un assaut contre les sens, mais c'est finalement un rappel que les rencontres en personne **sont importantes et inspirantes.**



Patrick Guidote / Regional Director/Directeur Régionale





It is well known that the best conversations take place in the kitchen.

On Thursday, May 30th Meeting Encore and some of our valued clients joined Accor hotels to *Eat*, *Drink & Cook* at the Market Kitchen located within St. Lawrence Market.

The unique menu was a perfect reflection of the diverse and growing hotel portfolio that Accor has worldwide. With over 5,000 hotels, from luxury properties to economy hotels, there are no shortage of options for meetings, conferences and incentive programs.

Thank-you to our hotel partners and clients for being part of such a fun evening!





Rachael Streek-Buma / Regional Director

Meeting Encore Kick-Off to Summer

In early June, the Meeting Encore team was happy to partner with White Oaks to kick-off Summer. It was two days filled with sites and activities that showcased parts of Niagara-on-the-Lake, a well-preserved 19th-century village and the heart of Ontario Wine Country.

Why bring your next meeting or event there...

White Oaks

Nestled on 13 acres in the very heart of Niagara area attractions and Niagara-on-the Lake wineries, modern and stylish, White Oaks delivers luxury hotel service and a host of outstanding amenities. A world class conference centre with over 67,000 square feet of state-of-the-art meeting space, Four Diamond accommodations, award winning dining options with LIV Restaurant and Play Bar + Grill, the serene world of The Spa and the amazing fitness and racquet phenomenon The Club at White Oaks.

Ravine Winery

From 12 to 250 guests, Ravine Vineyard is perfectly suited to hosts events of all kinds. With 150 years of farming activity, the Lowrey Farm and Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery encompass a historic streetscape of restored and recreated buildings highlighting a significant architectural period. They have a variety of structured venues and spaces to accommodate your group in an intimate and extraordinary setting as well as offer a more customized and spontaneous venue to suit your creativity. In Fall of 2019, their new event facility will be open and gives guests elevated, panoramic views of the 34-acre farm. Complete with a 2,000-square-foot covered terrace, guests can enjoy the beauty of the property without worrying about the elements. The Ravine Event Centre can accommodate up to 250 guests for a seated dinner.

Inniskillin Winery

As Canada's original estate winery, they are an industry pioneer committed to the production of premium wines made from quality grapes grown in Canada for over 35 years. Set among lush vineyards adjacent to the Niagara River, Inniskillin offers a great 'sense of place' in wine country with an idyllic view of the Niagara Escarpment. They have private tasting and tours, private lunches and private dinners that can accommodate your smaller group needs.

Jackson Triggs Winery

When you visit Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate winery, you'll get a rare glimpse behind the scenes at how they craft their finest wines. Jackson-Triggs is committed to crafting the perfect wine for any occasion, and their attention to detail shows. Smaller groups can enjoy their private tasting and tours, private lunches and private dinners. In the summer, they host fantastic outdoor concerts at its open-air amphitheatre and you often have the option of pairing a concert with dinner and wine in the stunning on-site cellar.



If you are interested in Niagara on the Lake for your next convention, meeting, or incentive program, The Meeting Encore team can help make it a success

Meeting Encore Experiences Calgary

Calgary Meetings + Conventions spent three action packed days showing us everything Calgary has to offer. As the gateway to Canada's Rockies, Calgary is the 3rd largest city in Canada and is consistently recognized as one of the most liveable cities in the world. It has a youthful population (at 35.7 years, it is the youngest demographic in Canada) and is one of the sunniest cities in Canada and a great place for cyclists with over 900 km of bike paths.

"The face of Calgary is changing. Walk through any neighbourhood and you'll meet people who have moved here from all over the world." - Life in Calgary Magazine

We began our experience with a welcome reception, hosted by Teatro, a fine-dining venue that used to be the old Dominion Bank Building built in 1911. This restaurant is centrally located and can host private events up to 250 people. Just before dinner, we were officially welcomed with their famous White Hat Ceremony. As the Calgarians describes it, "it is a long-standing tradition in Calgary, a symbol of the Western Hospitality and good cheer we like to share with visiting guests. The white Smithbilt that has been bestowed on numerous celebrities and dignitaries on their visits to our city since the 1950's."

Great properties with amazing Western hospitality!

Calgary has excellent hotel options with many that are either new or recently renovated. With familiar Marriott brands like Sheraton, Westin, Marriott and Delta to many cool, upscale properties like Le Germain and ALT, Calgary can accommodate any size of meeting with lots of options to choose from. The Fairmont Palliser has been renovated and the lobby has been transformed. The public space is open and warm with a historic upscale feel. The bedrooms



hallways are bright and the main floor restaurant is stunning. During their recent renovation in 2018, the Hyatt Regency's focus on sustainability was clearly evident. They implemented a water filtration system in every guestroom, no more plastic bottles of water! Marriott Calgary also renovated their guestrooms and public space with an open concept lobby and spacious guestrooms with modern twist. These three hotels are connected to the Calgary Telus Convention Centre which features two levels and 122,000 sq. ft. of meeting space and a exhibit hall that is 47,000 sq. ft.. Additionally, they have some unique rooms for brain storming, pods for private meetings and locally curated art pieces throughout the building. Within a ten-minute walk is the beautiful Delta Hotels by Marriott Calgary. This hotel features a soft color palette with a large inviting lobby with a great lobby lounge/restaurant. The guestrooms look great and the hotel is connected to the +15 walkway. Most of the downtown is connected through the +15, thus ensuring that when the weather is poor, you never need a jacket. If you happen to lose your way, they have an app to help guide you through the city.

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We also had the opportunity to visit the Calgary Zoo. They offer excellent meeting and social space however getting up close to the Pandas was truly a memorable experience. One of the more unique places we visited on this trip was the BMO Centre, located on the Calgary Stampede grounds. The BMO Centre is the largest Convention space in Calgary, with a total of 285,000 sq. ft. featuring an exhibit hall of 240,457 sq. ft. and a ballroom of 12,000 sq. ft.. Their exhibit space features a built in stage, high ceiling, and string lights available for no additional cost. Calgary is looking to expand this site with an exciting \$500 million project which is scheduled to be completed in 2024 and anticipated to have nearly one million sq ft of rentable space making it the secondlargest facility in Canada.

The Sheraton Suites Calgary Eau Claire is a more boutique property. An all suite hotel situated downtown, close the Bow River and the Eau Claire Market Mall. Their restaurant and patio in the summer is the place to be! Right around the corner the Westin Calgary is home to our beloved Canadian cocktail, The Bloody Caesar. In 1969, bartender, Walter Chell created this cocktail to commemorate the opening of Marco's, the hotel's Italian restaurant. The rest is history. The Westin features a ballroom that is about 9,000 sq. ft. and is currently renovating their guestrooms. When it comes to independent hotels, the Hotel Arts is definitely unique. Boasting art pieces and pops of color throughout the property, the hotel's modern design lends itself to a more creative and unconventional meetings experience.

"The only time to eat diet food is while you're waiting for the steak to cook." — Julia Child

There is no doubt beef is still king in Alberta but there is so much more and we were impressed with the culinary expertise overall. From the first night of Italian with a French twist at Teatro to an amazingly intimate meal featuring Applewood Smoked Pork Belly and Wagyu Beef Tartare at Pigeon Hole to our truly memorable final night with the Hyatt Regency Calgary team sharing a family style Mexican dinner. Your groups will love the service and F&B in



this city. Let's face it, meals are a huge part of the experience.

No doubt, Calgary is a great place for meetings and conferences. With so many different options for hotels, shops, and restaurants it is a city worth considering. A big Thank You to the Calgary Meetings + Conventions team and all the Calgary partners for a jammed packed agenda with tons of educational experiences that we will be sure to bring back to our clients.





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We were proud to once again participate in the 2019 Bay Street Suit Challenge. This event supports Dress for Success Toronto and Dress your Best Toronto with clothing and financial donations. The mission of these organizations is to empower women and men to achieve economic independence by providing a network of support, professional attire, and the development tools necessary to thrive in work and in life.

We partnered with two Intercontinental Hotels in Toronto who allowed us to place donation bins in their sales offices. Clients, team members, suppliers, and industry colleagues supported us with donations and we were able to collect over 1,000 items. Hearing how these donations help men and women in our community find employment, gain confidence, and experience financial independence is truly humbling.

Thank you to everyone who made a contribution or virtual donation allowing us to bring in the most donations in the Small Category for the second year in a row.

Great work T.E.A.M. - Together Everyone Achieves More

See all the results at <u>https://toronto.dressforsuccess.org/news/the-2019-bay-street-suit-challenge-thank-you/</u>







www.intuitivece.com

Did you know ICE is a full service meeting, conference and incentive travel planning company whose focus is bringing innovation and creativity to your event management needs all while exceeding your expectations.



Think Customize.

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Think Freedom.

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We put your vision, purpose and goals at the centre of our planning – from concept to completion we are here to plan the event that you have envisioned.



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Innovative solutions, new approaches, the latest technology – we stay educated on what is the latest and greatest...we are here to make you look good.



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Our team eats, sleeps and breathes event management – and after 30+ years in the industry, we still love what we do.

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From local meetings to overseas events, our logistical masters ensure your event goes off without a hitch.



Think on the Fly.

It is our job handle to all the last-minute details and changes – not yours. We can see around corners and adapt quickly to change – saving you stress, time, and money.



Think Results.

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The *Meeting Encore Moment* is a quarterly publication. For more information on any of the articles featured in this issue, please email your request to <u>gmccullough@meetingencore.com</u>. To learn more about Meeting Encore, visit our website at <u>www.meetingencore.com</u> and follow us on Twitter at @Meeting_Encore.