

Canada's 1st e-Tourism Conference, **pg. 24**

northwest meetings + events

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Planning the 2010 Olympics

» B.C. ROLLS UP ITS SLEEVES

True Tales of Nimble Networkers

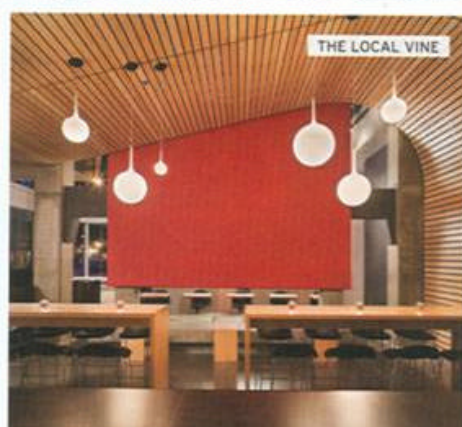
» PROS SHARE SOME OF
THEIR BEST SECRETS FOR
CONNECTING WITH OTHERS



FAM-tastic

Portland's
Ultimate
Fam Tour

Profile:
PCMA's
Opening
Night Event
+ Meeting
Coverage
(pgs. 26 + 50)



GET CONNECTED:
FOUNTAIN ROOM
 Bremerton, Wash.
www.kitsapconferencecenter.com
 360.377.3785

HOTEL 43
 Boise, Idaho
www.hotel43.com
 208.342.4622

THE LOCAL VINE
 Seattle
www.thelocalvine.com
 206.441.6000

NITA LAKE LODGE
 Whistler, B.C.
www.nitalakelodge.com
 888.755.6482

OSWEGO HOTEL
 Victoria, B.C.
www.oswegovictoria.com
 604.602.1447

VOLTERRA DRAWING ROOM
 Seattle
www.volterrarestaurant.com
 206.789.5100

» OSWEGO HOTEL

Opened last summer, the Oswego Hotel in Victoria, B.C., is a boutique property with something extra—each of the 80 suites includes a fully stocked kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite countertops. When guests tire of doing their own cooking, the hotel's O Bistro fills the bill. Other amenities include Internet access, ocean and city views (located downtown, near Inner Harbour), fitness facilities and a 20-seat boardroom.

» HOTEL 43

A new luxury boutique hotel in an old location opened in downtown Boise, Idaho. Hotel 43, named for the city's position on the 43rd parallel and because Idaho is the 43rd state, opened in the historic building formerly housing the Statehouse Inn. The neighborhood, near the state Capital Building, was developed in the 1890s. The multi-million-dollar renovation features a 60-foot lobby ceiling, Chandlers steakhouse and Metro Café, Wi-Fi, fitness room, business center, 105 rooms and seven suites. Two meeting rooms, each around 900 square feet with Internet access and audio-visual capabilities, provide meeting and event space. Chandlers offers two private dining rooms.

» NITA LAKE LODGE

It's not too soon to start planning for the 2010 Winter Olympics, and a new luxury boutique hotel has just opened next to Whistler Creekside, the location of the alpine events. The 77-suite Nita Lake Lodge, on the shores of Nita Lake, combines the best of high-end chalet and exclusive hotel. The lodge includes Jordon's Crossing, a restaurant reminiscent of historic first-class railway cars, plus a fitness, spa and wellness center. Two function rooms with audio-visual capacities are offered with a total of 4,000 square feet of meeting and event space.

NEW UNIQUE VENUES

» FOUNTAIN ROOM

Guests enjoy a splashy view from the Fountain Room, a stand-alone event venue operated by the Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton, Wash. Located at the edge of the city's new Harborside Fountain Park, next to the ferry terminal and a short walk from the conference center, the Fountain Room includes 1,650 square

PHOTO COURTESY OF: NITA LAKE LODGE; HOTEL 43; THE LOCAL VINE.



FOUNTAIN PARK



OSWEGO HOTEL



VOLTERRA

feet of event space that accommodates up to 100 people in a banquet setting. The park features five large copper-ringed fountains, made to resemble the conning tower of a submarine, that spout water in theatric arrangements. Both the venue and the park, which can be used for breakout meetings, feature complimentary Wi-Fi. The Fountain Room shares a building with the new home of the Harborside Heritage Naval Museum, open to visitors.

» THE LOCAL VINE

For a place to learn about and enjoy wine in a casual, non-intimidating environment, try The Local Vine in Seattle's Belltown. The 2,500-square-foot wine bar features nearly 100 wines served by the glass varying in

price from \$3 to \$350, paired with small-plate selections such as mushroom and goat cheese on grilled walnut bread, cheeses and desserts. The bar and dining area seat 94, and there's plenty of room for mingling, lingering near the fireplace, or using the complimentary Wi-Fi. An outdoor patio seats an additional 42 guests.

» VOLTERRA DRAWING ROOM

Brought to you by the same people who brought you the Volterra Italian restaurant in Seattle, and located right next door, is the new Volterra Drawing Room. The 1,508-square-foot special-event space accommodates between 12 and 85 guests and features 14 drawings by famed glass artist Dale Chihuly. Catering is provided by the restaurant.

DRAWING ROOM: VYAN HUNTER PHOTOGRAPHY



MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY CRAFT



SUN MOUNTAIN LODGE

VENUE SPOTLIGHT

» SUN MOUNTAIN LODGE

The new Pasayten Room at Sun Mountain Lodge near Winthrop, Wash., doubles the size of the property's meeting and event space to 3,900 square feet. The capacity for meetings, weddings and banquets is now 300 guests. Large picture windows showcase the Methow River Valley and the 8,000-foot peaks of the Okanogan National Forest. The latest audio-visual equipment is available, including two drop-down LCD projectors and four large LCD video monitors. Wi-Fi is available throughout the resort.

» LA CASA DEL HABANO CIGAR LOUNGE

With a very efficient air extraction system, smoke won't bother your eyes at this downtown cigar lounge. Vancouver, B.C., recently passed an anti-smoking law, and La Casa del Habano is one of only two commercial establishments in the city where smoking is allowed.

The rustic décor, antiques and leather sofas give off a gentlemanly appeal, and with capacity for 12, this is a unique place to take clients or VIPs. Cuban cigars, ranging in price from \$2 for a mini to \$58 for a Cohiba, are the smoke of choice. No cigarettes. Guests can also rent a climate-controlled locker to store their cigars in.

Cuban coffee is complimentary, and alcohol is allowed but must be provided by the client and served by lounge staff. The special permit needed to serve alcohol runs about \$30. Food can also be brought in. Private meetings must be held before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m. and pre-booked so staff can be on site. —Heather Larson

» BIG AL'S ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX

Stay and play after your meeting or event at this 60,000-square-foot bowling center and video arcade in Vancouver, Wash. Just minutes from downtown

Portland, Big Al's, with state-of-the-art technology, was designed with meetings in mind. Whether you require projection screens, plasma screens, Wi-Fi or a sound system, Big Al's has it.

Three of the five private party rooms are connected to their own bowling lanes. Each of these rooms holds 50 people, or they can be opened up to comfortably seat 150. Thick insulation keeps your noise in and outside noise out. For more intimate occasions, the Sky Box has recliners, tables and two plasma screens, which make it ideal for

FUTURE HOTEL OPENINGS

- Arctic Club; Seattle; spring
- Suncadia Lodge; Roslyn, Wash.; late spring
- Four Seasons; Seattle; summer
- Hyatt Place; Seattle; summer
- Woodinville Village; Woodinville, Wash.; summer
- aloft; Portland; late summer
- Shangri-la; Vancouver, B.C.; fall
- Hyatt at Olive 8; Seattle; fall
- The Nines; Portland; late 2008
- 1 Hotel; Seattle; late 2008
- Marriott; Boise, Idaho; late summer 2009
- Oregon Garden Resort; Silverton, Ore.; fall 2009
- Coast Coal Harbour Hotel; Vancouver, B.C.; fall 2009
- Fairmont Pacific Rim; Vancouver, B.C.; late 2009
- Tetherow; Bend, Ore.; late 2009 or 2010
- Ritz-Carlton; Vancouver, B.C.; 2011

GET CONNECTED:

BIG AL'S
Vancouver, Wash.
360.944.6118
www.ilovebigals.com

LA CASA DEL HABANO
Vancouver, B.C.
604.609.0511
www.lacasadelhabano.ca

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY CRAFT
503.223.2654
www.MuseumofContemporaryCraft.org

SUN MOUNTAIN LODGE
Winthrop, Wash.
www.sunmountainlodge.com
509.996.2211