

Glenbow Presents Leading International Architecture & Design Firm

Calgary, AB (Updated March 6, 2006) – Glenbow Museum presents the exciting design works of London, England-based Foster and Partners, a leading international studio of architecture, planning and design.

Foster and Partners: Works is on exhibit at Glenbow Museum from February 18 to March 31, 2006. The exhibit includes 27 architectural design models, large-scale photographs, sketches and a DVD presentation featuring such renowned works as the new German Parliament in the Reichstag Berlin and the Commerzbank in Frankfurt, both in Germany; the Millau Viaduct in Gorge du Tarn, France; the Swiss Re Headquarters in London and the new Beijing Airport in China.

Foster and Partners is the architectural firm retained by EnCana for its new corporate headquarters complex. Calgary-based EnCana, North America's largest producer of natural gas, announced in fall 2005 plans to construct an office complex to house its 3,200 Calgary employees. Planning and design for this project will begin later in 2006 with a goal of completion by 2010.

“We’re very excited about the opportunity to present the inspired works of Foster and Partners,” says Michael P. Robinson, Glenbow’s president and chief executive officer. “Their iconic architectural designs have had a great impact on cityscapes around the globe and this exhibit will provide Calgarians an opportunity to learn more about Foster’s past work as Calgary eagerly awaits this exciting revitalization planned for the downtown core.”

Over the past four decades, Foster and Partners have created some of the most original architectural designs around the world. This award-winning design firm is a global practice with projects in fifty countries. Their work ranges in scale from the largest construction project on the planet, the Beijing International Airport to furniture. Foster and Partners practices sustainable architecture – acknowledging that industrialized world buildings consume half the energy we generate and are responsible for half the carbon dioxide emissions, the remainder divided between transport and industry. They play an important role in challenging this equation, pioneering solutions to use renewable energy sources offering dramatic reductions in pollution and building the world’s first ecological high-rise building, the Commerzbank in Frankfurt, Germany (1991-1997).

The company’s works also examine how new architecture can act as a catalyst for the revitalization of old buildings. Their design for the Great Court at the British Museum in London, England (1994-2000) has reinvigorated the historic concept of the courtyard as a public space by creating a new civic space – or cultural plaza. They have a strong interest in city planning and the infrastructure of communication.

Canadian projects by Foster and Partners to date include the Jameson Tower in Vancouver (scheduled completion date 2009) and the Leslie L. Dan Pharmacy Building at the University of Toronto (completed in 2005). Visit www.fosterandpartners.com for more information.

Nigel Dancey, Senior Partner, Foster and Partners and manager for the EnCana project will be available for media interviews at Glenbow Museum on Wednesday, March 8 at 4:00 p.m.

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