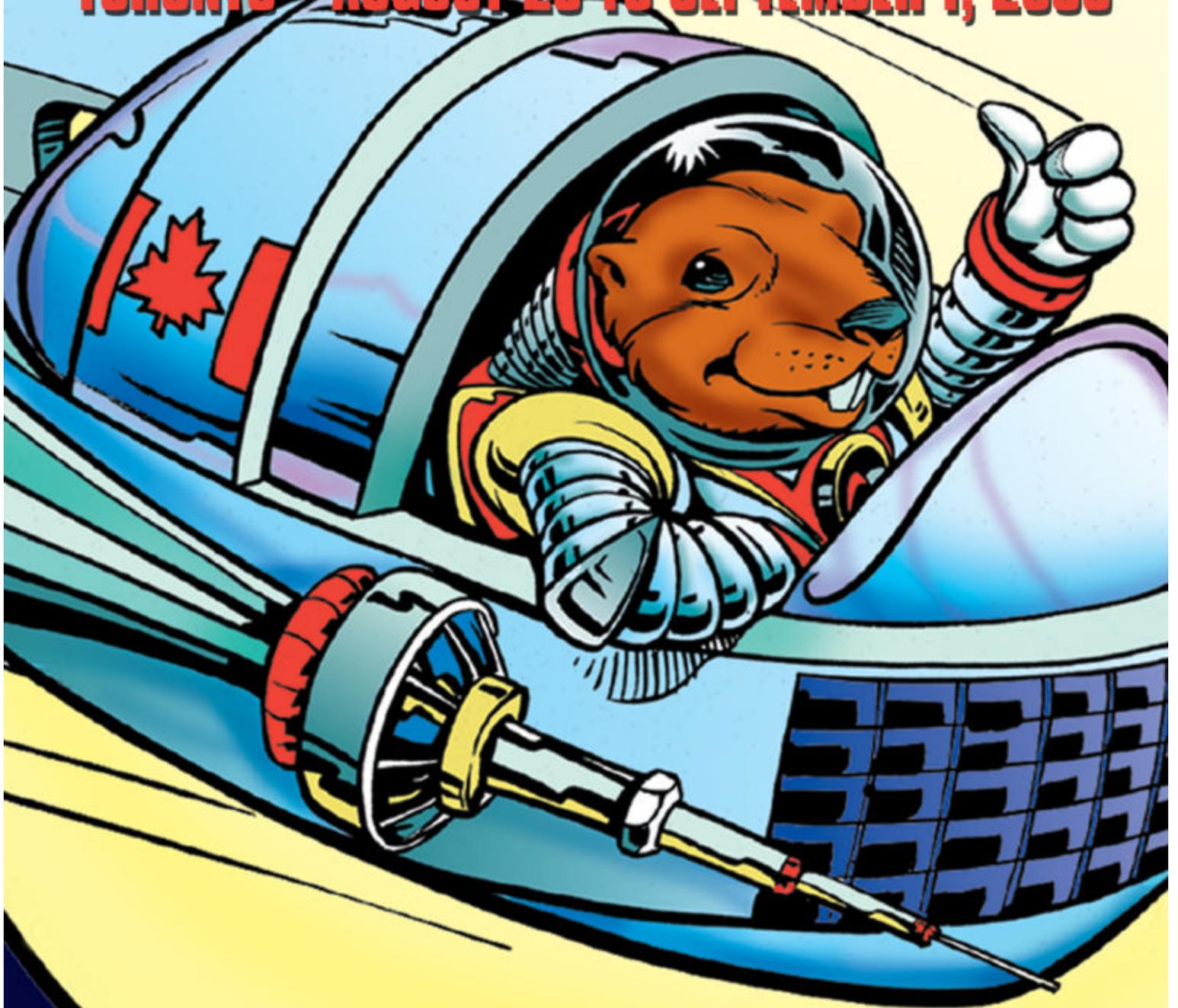


THE BEST WORLD SCIENCE FICTION CONVENTION

TORCON

TORONTO • AUGUST 28 TO SEPTEMBER 1, 2003



PROGRESS REPORT 5

JUNE 2003



TORCON3



TORCON3 - PR5

TORONTO WORLDCON PROGRESS REPORT #5

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DEADLINE FOR PROGRESS REPORT #6

To prevent editorial madness, please make sure you have your submissions in by the following dates:

- All requests for ad space by **July 15, 2003**.
For more info:ads@torcon3.on.ca
- Final text and graphics by **July 15, 2003**.
For more info:publications@torcon3.on.ca

ADVERTISING RATES

Ad rates for PR6 are as follows:

Fannish Rates	\$CDN	\$USD
Full Page	\$165	\$110
Half Page	\$100	\$65
Quarter Page	\$65	\$45
Professional Rates	\$CDN	\$USD
Full Page	\$370	\$250
Half Page	\$225	\$150
Quarter Page	\$150	\$100

IN THIS PROGRESS REPORT

Quoth the Con Chair:	4
SARS in Toronto?	5
Summer in the City	7
Weapons Policy.....	6
Division Reports	10
Facilities Report.....	10
Programming Report.....	11
Events Report	20
Masquerade.....	21
Costume Party and Dance Information	23
Writing Workshops	22
Worldcon Site Selection Ballot.....	12
NASFiC Site Selection Ballot.....	16

SERVICE MARK NOTICE

“World Science Fiction Society”, “WSFS”, “World Science Fiction Convention”, “Worldcon”, “NASFiC”, and “Hugo Award” are service marks of the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.

Quoth the Con Chair:

I was standing in front of the mirror. It was 5 am, the Monday after a con weekend.

I was shaving with a new blade in my razor and no matter how hard I scraped with the new blade, I still could not make any headway with the weekend stubble. It took several minutes for my caffeine-deprived mind to realize that I had put the blade in backwards. Sometimes running a con has the same feeling at times.

Torcon has received all its pass-along funds from the previous 3 Worldcons, in reverse order. Many thanks to Con Jose, MilPhil, and Chicon. In total we received \$40,000USD which will equate to about \$60,000CDN. The money will be put to good use. I believe I have found ways to spend it 10 times over.

Further experiences crossing the border. Up-to-date information about border crossing times is available online: <http://www.ccr-aadrc.gc.ca/customs/general/times/menu-e.html>. My border of choice from crossing to/from the States is the Queenston/Lewiston bridge (You do have to travel across Beaver Island, NY).

For the first time there was a check point by Canadian Customs where I was asked some strange questions (how

much Canadian Cash are you carrying, how much US Cash, are these your kids, etc.). At the US point, after answering several questions, I actually had to enter US Customs/Immigration. Interesting experience. As the official banged away at the computer entered unknown information, he queried me about Science Fiction in general. I tried to explain Lunacon, why I was going, etc.. We eventually ended the conversation with him deciding he liked SF Movies and my entering the US. Total crossing time 15 minutes.

Returning, no waiting line and 3 questions asked: Where do you live, When did you leave, and approximately how much did you spend? Now move along...

Our website (www.torcon3.on.ca) is growing at an ever increasing pace. One area is a weekly paragraph from yours truly, highlighting important announcements within the site, among other items of note. The information is updated every Tuesday/Wednesday and each week is archived and available on line. I strongly suggest you visit the website frequently, or at least once a week.

I am pleased to mention that our Facilities Division has been able to secure more party suites for the convention at the Royal York. Woo-hoo!

Torcon is close to securing child care with an outside provider. However, in order to better meet child care needs, we need to know how many people plan to use Child Care. Note that Child Care is not Day Care. If you have children and plan to use child care, keep an eye on the website. Please email us at child-care@torcon3.on.ca. We would like to hear a lot of input from parents on this. My wife Athena and I have been testing child based programming at other cons with our two "Jarvi Larvae", Edmund and Lillian. We know how important it is not only to the parents but also to the kids. Our two (ages 4 and 2) were never keen on conventions until we exposed them to the Kids room at cons. Now they can't wait to go back to conventions.

My continuing thanks to my Division heads and their department heads and staff for working so hard in bringing this convention together. If you have questions, feel free to contact them or myself and by all means, never hesitate to follow up with us.

As many of you are fond of telling me at cons I have been going to, "Looking forward to seeing you at Torcon!"

Revision to Torcon 3 Children Membership Policies

Child members:

For purposes of Torcon 3 a child membership is required for a child aged 6 to 12 at the time the convention begins (born after August 28, 1990 but before August 29, 1997) and may be purchased for a child who is younger, if desired.

A child member has the right to attend Torcon 3 for all five days of the convention but must at all times be in the company of an attending member who has full authority and responsibility for the actions and safety of the child member. A child member has no nominating or voting rights. A child member of Torcon 3 does not receive the general publications but will receive a special child's souvenir book.

Torcon 3 plans to provide Child Care. A child member may be placed in child care (subject to space availability) for an additional fee and subject to the rules of the Torcon 3 Child Care department.

Kid-in-tow:

Children under the age of 6 (born after August 28, 1997) do not require membership status and will be admitted free of charge. A Kid-in-Tow badge will be issued for identification purposes and must be worn at all times.

A Kid-in-Tow who is old enough to be out of diapers may be placed in child care (subject to space availability) for an additional fee and subject to the rules of the Torcon 3 Child Care department. Note that the Child Care fee for a child with Kid-in-Tow status may be greater than the fee for a child who is a Child member.

Please note the following:

- 1) The additional fee and rules of the Torcon 3 Child Care department have not yet been determined.
- 2) Anyone who has purchased a Child membership for their Child who now falls under the Kid-in-Tow status is entitled to a refund. We urge you to apply for that refund prior to the convention in order to make your registration at the convention as smooth as possible.

SARS in Toronto?

By Sabrina Fried

[This article was written in April, at the height of media interest in SARS. -ed.]

I live just ten minutes away from one of the hospitals in the Toronto area that has been closed due to a feared SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) contamination. The public library nearby where I do a great deal of my research work has posted notices requesting that patrons exhibiting SARS symptoms not enter the building. Just last week, over a hundred workers at the nearby offices of Hewlett-Packard of Canada were quarantined with the fear that they might have been exposed to SARS after a quarantined worker returned to work a day too early. With all this happening literally on my doorstep, you might think I'm scared witless about contracting SARS. I'm not. I do not walk around wearing a mask and latex gloves, I have not been ordered to quarantine, and I am not running to the nearby SARS clinic with every single sniffle or cough. I am still shopping in the local malls, and yes, I still eat at Chinese food restaurants, how could I not with an abundance of excellent restaurants nearby?

As someone who lives full time in the Toronto area, let me say this as clearly as I can: Toronto is safe now and Toronto will still be safe in August when Worldcon arrives.

You wouldn't know it from watching the national and international media coverage of the city. Coverage of the Toronto outbreak has been lumped in with other hot zones such as Hong Kong, and China, where, depending on whose numbers you trust, hundreds have died and thousands are ill with SARS. The uncritical eye watching the media would think that the Black Death has returned, and body-collectors are running around Toronto with wheelbarrows like something out of a Monty Python sketch, minus the humour.

The truth is this: As of the day I finished this article, the entire province of Ontario, home to well over eleven million people, had logged slightly over 300 suspected or probable cases of SARS. According to the definition being

For more information on SARS...

For more information on SARS in Toronto visit the websites below. Most are updated daily or as often as new information becomes available:

Health Canada's SARS Information Page:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/protection/warnings/sars/index.html>

Government of Ontario Ministry of Health SARS Update:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/public/updates/archives/hu_03/hu_sars.html

Toronto Public Health SARS Information Page:

<http://www.toronto.ca/health/sars/index.htm>

(Information included in 7 languages)

World Health Organization Information on SARS:

<http://www.who.int/csr/sars/en/>

used by Health Canada, a Suspected SARS case is one where the patient has developed a fever and other symptoms of SARS after returning from a SARS hot zone or being in close contact with a Probable SARS patient. Suspected SARS patients might have SARS, or they might have one of the other related illnesses that has similar symptoms. Suspected SARS cases comprise nearly half of the cases being treated in Ontario today. A Probable SARS case is one where the patient has developed SARS symptoms, and has become severely ill with symptoms that do not fit the criteria of any of the other related illnesses. Already, fully a third of the suspected and/or probable SARS patients in Ontario have been treated, given a clean bill of health (for SARS anyway), and released from hospital. Most of the remaining patients are responding well to medical care. The travel advisories, health emergencies, hospital closures, and quarantines that have occurred are the result of a plan by the Toronto and Ontario departments of health to prevent SARS from spreading any farther. They are as much preventative measures as they are reactions to the outbreak. As with the outbreak in many other parts of the world, the fear of SARS has proven much, much more contagious than the illness itself. It is true that thirteen people - all of them traced back one way or another to Toronto's original SARS case - have succumbed to SARS, but all but one of these patients was already in poor health, with chronic or terminal illnesses that resulted in their

bodies having a weakened immune system, when they contracted SARS.

So what does SARS mean to Worldcon? Nothing, really. The convention is still a go, and everything is business as usual. The number of new SARS cases is not increasing as quickly as it was earlier in March and April. Only a handful of the people quarantined will actually develop SARS. In fact, the only reason there has been a quarantine scare in Toronto at all is because irresponsible people who are at a genuine risk of SARS exposure have been sneaking out of isolation too early, thus forcing health officials to quarantine others just to be on the safe side.

People living in or travelling through Toronto are being reminded to maintain good health and good hygiene practices. Maintaining good health allows your body's immune system to fight off SARS and other viruses naturally. If SARS cases in Toronto continue to decline the way they have until now since the original outbreak, then SARS will effectively be a non-issue by the time the summer rolls around. As it stands right now, you have a better chance of catching the common cold, or being hit by a car during your five days in Toronto than you do getting SARS.

Travel advisories and passenger screening for SARS symptoms at the Customs stations in Toronto's Pearson International Airport will likely add an extra hour or so to the amount of time it takes you to arrive in Toronto, but you can leave the containment suit at home.

Canada's Oldest
Science Fiction & Fantasy Bookstore
has been reborn as...

BAKKA-PHOENIX BOOKS

Same Location: 598 Yonge Street,
(½ block north of Wellesley)
Toronto

Open Sat: 11 am - 6 pm; Sun: 12 - 5 pm
M - Th: 11 am - 7 pm; F: 11 am - 8 pm

New Owner: Ben Freiman
Same Knowledgeable & Helpful Staff
Same Phone: 416-963-9993
New Fax: 416-963-9994

New E-mail: inquiries@bakkaphoenixbooks.com
New URL: www.bakkaphoenixbooks.com



Weapons Policy

It is the policy of Torcon that no real or realistic edged or projectile weapons may be carried anywhere within the convention. Exceptions will be made at the Masquerade when approved by the Masquerade Director or for special events when approved by Programming or Events. In any case where an exception is made, the head of Rangers must be notified. No weapon of any kind may be drawn or wielded in any area of the hotels or convention space.

Torcon defines a weapon as any object designed to cause damage, or any replica of such an object, or any object that the Committee determines to pose a risk or perceived risk to the safety of others or to personal or hotel or Convention Centre property. The Committee reserves the right to alter or amend this definition without notice and the right to impound weapons or objects designated as weapons for the duration of Torcon. Failure to put an object that violates this policy away in your hotel room or vehicle, or to leave it with Rangers for the duration of your stay at Torcon, is grounds for immediate revocation of membership without refund and expulsion from the convention.

Dealers who sell weapons or weapon replicas must securely wrap each item at the point of sale and provide each customer with a printed copy of these rules (available from the convention office).

Torcon is well aware that most people who would like to carry weapons are generally sensible and careful individuals. However, we must bear in mind legal liability, our relationship with the hotels and Convention Centre, and the general peace of mind of the ordinary public whom the convention members will be passing amongst as they go back and forth between events.

Summer in the City

A Quick Look at Events in Toronto

By Sabrina Fried

Toronto is a wonderful city, especially in the summer. In the months between June and September hundreds of events take place in and around the city. If you find while planning your trip that you are going to have a few extra days to spend in Toronto, I recommend arriving in the city a few days early to capitalize on the peak of the summer event season. September 1, the end of Worldcon, is also Labour Day, the traditional end of the summer event season, so most events that do not run year-round will be closed after that date. Below you will find a listing some of the summer events in the city that take place during the months of August and September. It's by no means an extensive list. Prices quoted here are in Canadian dollars and might change as the summer progresses. The first group of events is those that take place within the city of Toronto itself, and can be reached easily and quickly by public transit or car.

The Canadian National Exhibition ("The Ex")

Runs daily from August 15 to September 1

The Ex is a 125-year-old tradition located on the Toronto waterfront. With hundreds of rides, games and exhibits on its midway, the Ex is among the largest annual fairs in North America. It's the kind of fair where planners can put "babes-in-arms" on their ticket pricing signs. (Babes-in-Arms are admitted free with purchase of an adult pass, by the way.) The Ex is one of the largest events in Toronto, and attracts well over a million visitors each year. Easily accessible via public transit from the downtown core, the Ex will provide visitors with days worth of fun and excitement. In addition to its midway, the Exhibition grounds house an agricultural fair, an international bazaar and hundreds of shows by local performers ranging from demonstrations of Tai Chi to Skateboarding. Budget at least one or two days to see The Ex. Most of the events take place outdoors, although the international bazaar, food pavilion and some other events do take place in the permanent buildings on site.

<http://www.theex.com>

Cirque du Soleil at the Ex

Selected Dates in August

If you have never seen the Cirque du Soleil perform, then I doubt I could accurately describe to you the sheer pleasure that is having the opportunity to take in one of their shows. Cirque du Soleil is a troupe of artists from Montreal who have single-handedly redefined the definition of a circus. Their shows feature everything from interpretive dance and song, to gravity defying acrobatics, and stunts. The troupe has established permanent shows in Las Vegas and Orlando. Its travelling shows are active on three continents. As part of an annual tradition, the Cirque du Soleil's distinctive yellow tent will be set up on the Exhibition grounds during the Canadian National Exhibition. This is a must-see show for anyone who manages to secure tickets. Information on dates, times and ticket prices will be posted on the troupe's official website in the next few months.

<http://www.cirquedusoleil.com/>

The Skydome

Something interesting going on daily, year-round

The Skydome is Toronto's event stadium. Throughout the year it is home to various concerts and events. Playing in the Skydome, which is located just a walk down the street from the site of Torcon 3, the Toronto Blue Jays have been a fixture of summers in Toronto since 1976. The Jays will have 10 home games during the month of August. Ticket prices range from \$7-60, excluding taxes. Tickets are available online through the Toronto Blue Jays' official website, or at the stadium's box office. Tickets are also available for the August and September home games of the Toronto Argonauts, our Canadian Football League team. Ticket prices for the Argonauts' 2003 season were not finalized before this issue went to print. Tours of the Skydome itself are available daily. The tours cost \$12.50 per person and require approximately one hour. The tour itinerary varies based on what Skydome events are scheduled for the day, but can include tours of the stadium's media room, skyboxes, dressing rooms, and the playing field itself.

<http://www.skydome.com>

The 10th Annual Taste of the Danforth Festival

August 8-10

The Danforth is a part of the city that has the reputation of being one of Toronto's most cosmopolitan neighborhoods. It's the community where My Big Fat Greek Wedding was filmed. It is also considered the largest Greek neighborhood in North America. For one weekend in August, the Danforth is closed to road traffic for one of the best food fests in the city. Featuring showcases of Greek music, dancing, theatre and, of course, cuisine, the Taste of the Danforth Festival has something for everyone. Vendors representing the local community sell Greek crafts, clothing, and, you guessed it, food. Admission to the site of the festival is free.

<http://www.tasteofthedanforth.com>

The 28th Annual Toronto International Film Festival

September 4-13

In its 28 years of operation, The Toronto International Film Festival has gained a reputation for being the Canadian Cannes. With a special focus on Canadian films, the festival also features groundbreaking new work from directors around the world. Last year's event featured the theatrical debut of such films as 8 Mile, Bowling for Columbine, and Spirited Away. Most participating theatres are located in the downtown core. The films themselves are often only part of the evening's entertainment. The festival tends to attract celebrities from around the world; you just never know who you might end up sitting next to. Show and ticket information should go live on the festival's website in the summer. The festival recommends buying tickets as far in advance as possible.

<http://www.e.bell.ca/filmfest/2002/2003information/default.asp>

LOS ANGELES IN 2006

**A Bid for the 64th World Science Fiction Convention
to be held August 24-28, 2006 in Anaheim (L.A. Area), California**

- The **Anaheim Convention Center**, and the **Hilton Anaheim** and **Anaheim Marriott** hotels - site of the 1984 and 1996 Worldcons. Locus described them as "An ideal facility for a Worldcon ... The best space I've ever seen."
- The proven track record of the **Southern California Institute for Fan Interests (SCIFI)**, Inc., sponsoring organization of L.A.Con II (1984 Worldcon) and L.A.Con III (1996 Worldcon), ConuCopia (1999 NASFiC), Conosaurus (1989 Westercon), ConoZoic (1994 Westercon), and Conagerie (2002 Westercon)
- **A fabulous location**, right across the street from Disneyland and close to beaches, restaurants and many other popular vacation destinations
- **A convention near the heart of Los Angeles...** the world's largest entertainment industry, home of countless authors, filmmakers, scientists, and other potential guests!

JOIN US FOR THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

MEMBERSHIP RATES

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Pre-Support \$20.00 • Pre-Oppose \$40.00
Pre-Dither \$60.00 • Friends Of The Bid \$75.00
Checks payable to "SCIFI Inc" in US Funds Only*

CANADA

*Pre-Support \$30.00 • Pre-Oppose \$61.00
Pre-Dither \$91.00 • Friends Of The Bid \$115.00
Checks payable to "Lloyd Penney" in Canadian Funds Only*

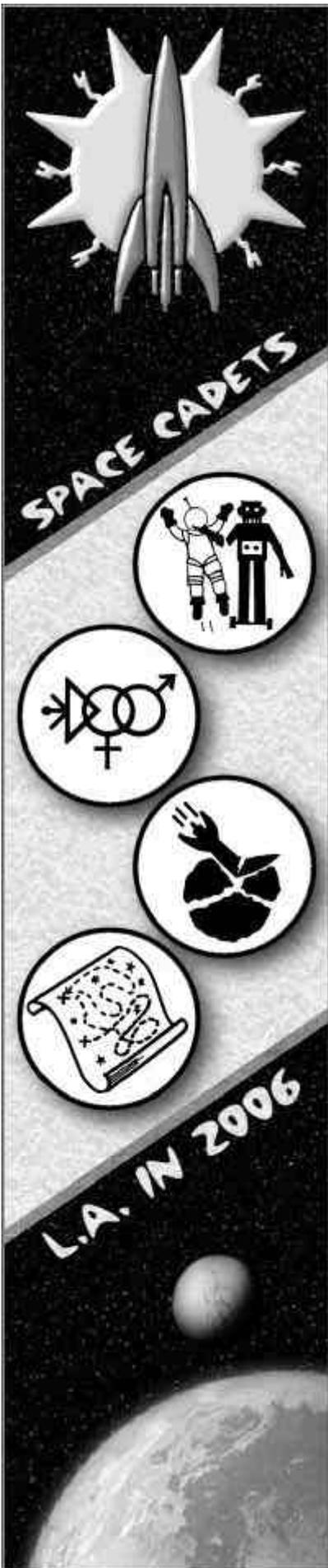
UNITED KINGDOM

*Pre-Support £14.00 • Pre-Oppose £28.00
Pre-Dither £41.00 • Friends Of The Bid £52.00
Checks payable to "John Harold" in UK Funds Only
(Additional Currency Rates are available at our table, our party, or
on the Los Angeles in 2006 Bid Website!)*

**JOIN THE
SPACE CADETS
LOS ANGELES IN 2006**

c/o The Southern California Institute for Fan Interests (SCIFI) Inc.
Post Office Box 8442, Van Nuys, California 91409 USA
Website: www.scifiinc.org • Email: info@scifiinc.org

"World Science Fiction Convention" and "Worldcon" are service marks of
the World Science Fiction Society, an unincorporated literary society.



Wanted: Submissions for the Children's Souvenir Book

Athena Jarvis, ed. *Children's Souvenir Book*, writes...

I am looking for submissions of artwork and puzzles to be included in the planned Children's Souvenir Book. This book will be the kids' equivalent of the Souvenir Book, but available to child members (12 years of age and younger at the time of the convention). If there is any interest in making this publication available to other members, we will certainly consider it, perhaps at a nominal cost.

Mainly, I am looking for black and white artwork on any Science Fiction or Fantasy theme appropriate to children. Artwork may be full page, partial page (fillos) or decorative borders. Please note that submissions should be able to be reproduced easily, and, if possible, colourable, as well.

I am also looking for pencil puzzles and instructions for simple craft projects, also on Science Fiction or Fantasy themes. Examples of suitable pencil puzzles are: crosswords, word searches, mazes, cryptograms, magic squares, etc. Submissions of this nature should also include puzzle solutions.

I would be very happy to provide further information to interested artists, puzzle composers, and crafters. I can be reached at any of the following:

Athena Jarvis
122 Markland St.
Hamilton, Ontario Canada

chair@torcon3.on.ca or (905) 525 2769 before 7:30 pm EST

Summer in the City...

Events Just Outside Toronto

The small towns and cities around the city are also very active during the summer. If you have the time, check out these wonderful events just minutes from Toronto:

The Ontario Renaissance Festival (Milton, Ontario) Operates on weekends from July 19 - September 1

The Ontario Renaissance Festival is located about a 45 minute drive away from Toronto in the city of Milton, Ontario, or rather the city known as Milton on Monday through Friday. On summer weekends, the normal hustle and bustle of the city gives way to the excitement of Trillingham, a sixteenth century Tudor village. The village is located on 250 acres of wooded grove, with buildings and attractions in the renaissance style (and carefully concealed 21st century portable toilets). Trillingham is home to dozens of craft merchants, selling everything from tea to chainmail. You'll also find strange and wonderful performances by such celebrities as Zoltan the Adequate and the Theatre in the Ground acting troupe. You will need a car to get to the festival, and you'll need at least one day to take everything in. Special themed weekends occur during the summer months, including the Regional Jousting Championships. Check the faire's website frequently for listings of all special events as they become available.

<http://www.rennfest.com/orf/index.html>

Paramount Canada's Wonderland (Maple, Ontario) Operating Daily from May 23 - September 1

Canada's Wonderland features over 200 attractions sure to keep you and the little ones busy all day. The park boasts more than 60 roller coasters and all sorts of other devices designed to separate you from your lunch. You can also enjoy countless midway-style games, and entertaining shows ranging from stunts and Chinese acrobatics to dancing cartoon characters (I kid you not). The park also has a 16-slide waterpark that operates daily in the summer, weather permitting.

Ticket prices for a full day of entertainment are \$47.99 for adults and \$23.99 for children and seniors. Taxes and parking fees are not included. Special pricing for guests with disabilities, guests who will not be riding the roller coasters, or guests in large groups, are also available. If you plan on visiting the park more than two or three times during you stay, a Season's Pass, priced at \$92.99 may be a worthwhile investment. The park is conveniently located not far from the highway. Many hotels in the greater Toronto area also have shuttle services to the park. You can travel to the park by public transit, but it's quite time consuming.

<http://www.canadaswonderland.com>

The Stratford Festival (Stratford, Ontario) Runs from April to November

Each year, the Stratford features new productions of some of the most famous plays in the history of theatre. The festival has been host to some of the greatest actors of the theatre, including the late Sir Alec Guinness. This year's list of plays include a wide range of plays, from the Shakespearean classic, the Taming of the Shrew to Roger and Hammerstein's The King and I. The festival recommends that tickets are purchased as far in advance as possible, since they tend to sell out quickly. Ticket prices vary depending on the show, venue and seating, but start at about \$40. For those who do not wish to drive up to Stratford, the festival operates a coach servicing selected matinee performances between June and September that can transport patrons directly from Toronto's Yorkdale Mall to Stratford and back again. Round trip tickets on the coach cost \$35 per person in addition to your performance tickets. A trip to Stratford will require an entire day.

<http://www.stratfordfestival.ca/index.cfm>

By Sabrina Fried

Division Reports

Facilities Report

Murray Moore, Facilities Division Head writes...

If you have not reserved your room, the sooner you reserve, the more choice you will have. The rooms reserved exclusively for Torcon 3 members are assigned only until July 26. You will not be able to reserve a room through the Torcon 3 Housing Bureau after July 26.

TORCON 3'S HOTELS

Of Torcon 3's four hotels, the Fairmont Royal York is Torcon 3's largest hotel. The Royal York is the party hotel. Twenty-four hour programming will happen in the Royal York. Daytime programming will occur in the one-block-distant Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

The Royal York is:

- A classic Canadian Pacific Railway hotel
- Equipped with 13 elevators
- Haunted by two ghosts (not including Torcon 3 GoHst of Honour Robert Bloch)
- Famous for its martini bar
- A stop on the route of the Pearson Airport express bus
- Opposite Union Station (for Amtrak passengers)
- Fondly remembered by attendees of Torcon 2

The Renaissance Toronto Hotel at Skydome is:

- A Toronto landmark

You can sleep in a Toronto landmark: no, not the CN Tower, the other Toronto landmark: the Skydome. Renaissance Toronto Hotel at Skydome is built into the curve of the Skydome, the home of the Toronto Blue Jays.

The Jays are on the road during all of Torcon 3 except Labour Day. On Labour Day the Jays begin a home stand against the New York Yankees. So you won't be disturbed by the roar of the baseball crowd. None of the Torcon 3 rooms have a view of the interior of the Skydome.

Presentation of a Torcon 3 membership gets you a 10 per cent discount in the Skydome hotel's restaurant. You don't need to be staying in the hotel.

The Skydome is around the corner from the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, 300 steps apart, and closer than both the Fairmont Royal York and the Holiday Inn on King. Mere steps if you have a load of loot from the Dealer's Room and Art Show. The Dealer's Room and the Art Show are in the part of the convention centre closest to the Skydome.

While the Skydome is at a higher elevation, pedestrians have a choice of wide steps and ramps. And be sure to look up to see the baseball figure sculptures in the side of the 'Dome.

The Holiday Inn on King is:

- A three-star hotel
- The lowest-priced of our hotels

The Crowne Plaza Toronto Centre is:

- Popular. All of the rooms are reserved.

SUITE BLOCKER ROOMS

Are you going to the parties every night? Are you helping to host a party? Are you a heavy sleeper? Torcon 3 needs people to volunteer to stay in rooms adjacent to the rooms in which parties are happening. Having people in rooms near parties who will not complain about noise is very desirable for everyone.

If you are staying in the Fairmont Royal York, to volunteer to stay in a room near a party suite, if you are mailing or faxing the Housing Reservation for Torcon 3 form, draw an X in the box named Room closer to party suites; if you are reserving your room online, type Party in the Comment field. If you already have your room, you can volunteer to stay in a room near a party suite by sending an email to suites@torcon3.on.ca.

OTHER STUFF YOU SHOULD READ

When you reserve a room through the Torcon 3 Housing Bureau, you receive an acknowledgement from the Housing Bureau. This acknowledgement is the equivalent of a confirmation. Keeping it and having it with you when you arrive at your hotel is recommended.

To change, or to cancel, your reservation, you have three choices:

- Filling in the Hotel Reservation Change form on the Torcon 3 web site
- Sending an email to housing@torcvb.com
- Faxing your message to (416) 203-8477.

When you reserve a room online, you should get your acknowledgment emailed to you immediately. Reservation forms mailed to the Torcon 3 Housing Bureau at 207 Queen's Quay W., P.O. Box 126, Suite 590, Toronto, Ontario M5J 1A7 Canada, or faxed to (416) 203-8477, are processed within 24 hours.

Foreign currencies' value when converted to Canadian dollars is subject to change. As of December 2002 a \$CDN199 room was \$US125. At the end of March 2003 a \$CDN199 room was \$US135.

For even more information on hotels, see <http://www.torcon3.on.ca/hotels/>

Facilities Division email addresses:

- Request party information: partymaven@torcon3.on.ca
- General facilities questions: hotel@torcon3.on.ca

Division Reports...

Programming Report

Alex von Thorn, Deputy Programming Division Head writes...

The first phase of developing a Worldcon program, arguably the most important aspect, is building a team to get the job done. The second phase is collecting the ideas for items on the program. The third phase is putting the schedule together, and the final phase is preparing for the at-con delivery of the program.

As you can see from the programming division staff list, the first phase is almost complete. There are a few key positions (green room manager, among others) that still need to be filled as this goes to press, and many staff positions where we need people to do the important work at the convention, but many of the key roles have been filled. The second phase is well underway. We have hundreds of ideas from many sources, and the programming team has begun to refine, combine, and select ideas to put in the actual schedule. The third phase of the programming plan is scheduled for April and May, so that a preliminary program schedule can go on the Torcon web site sometime in June.

We are very pleased to announce additions to our team who have come forward in the past few weeks. Tammy Coxen, recent chair of Confusion in Detroit, has agreed to take on the task of Program Operations, running the actual program at-con; Tammy has worked Program Ops at the past two Worldcons. David Gardner, a veteran Worldcon panelist and new president of the Science Fiction Oral History Association, will help us organize Academic Programming. Richard Chwedyk has stepped forward to take on the task of running Writer's Workshops at Torcon, a role he played at Chicon 2000. Piet Van Hiel, recent head of programming at Primedia in Toronto, will be running the gaming rooms at Torcon, with the assistance of Justin Mohareb, another Primedia hand who is also a gaming commenta-

Online Resources for Programming

- Panelist Volunteers and Program Items: <http://www.torcon3.on.ca/programming>
- Filk: filk@torcon3.on.ca
- Gaming: gaming@torcon3.on.ca
- Writers Workshops: writersworkshops@torcon3.on.ca
- Programming Ideas: programming-ideas@torcon3.on.ca
- Contact the Programming Team: programming@torcon3.on.ca

tor for Parsec and other publications. Charles Mohapel, known for years of costume photography, will be helping to organize Costume Programming, with the enthusiastic assistance of the local and international costuming community. These are just the newest members of the programming team.

New people are stepping forward every week, so we have a very good mix of local conrunners, experienced Worldcon volunteers, and others from around the world who are bringing their established expertise into the Worldcon community.

There are some items where we need help from the fan community.

First, we need ideas, both for program items and for program participants. Make sure we know who your favorite authors are. Some authors don't step forward to be on panels unless they are invited, and yet we expect to have more people wanting to be on programming than the schedule can accommodate, so we aren't going to look hard for people who haven't come to us to volunteer unless members remind us

about who they want to see. In some cases where authors haven't made plans to attend, if we get a dozen requests for them, we can do more than just send an invitation; we can work through publishers' publicity staff or persona contacts to make an extra effort to invite the most popular possible panelists. Now is the time to get in touch with us with what you'd like to see; this is how you can help us make this your Worldcon

The other thing we need are volunteers. We need a good crew of people for green room, program operations, program tech, and gaming; we will get people volunteering at the door, but the more people let us know ahead of time, the more we get people up to speed ahead of time so that we can be more organized at-con. Many tasks in the list have only a single name, where we will need a team of people, most departments need more people to contribute ideas pre-con and/or time at-con to get the jobs done. We look forward to hearing your ideas, and seeing you all at Torcon!

Events Survey

Participate in our Events survey and you could win a special Torcon 3 prize!

To help us fine tune our planning for the upcoming Worldcon, we are asking members to participate in an on-line survey. Questions will focus primarily on which events and/or programming items you are most likely to attend.

Because we value both your input and your co-operation, members who participate in the survey will become eligible for a special draw.

Please proceed to our web site at www.torcon3.on.ca today!

2006 Worldcon Site Selection Ballot

Everyone who votes will become a supporting member of the selected 64th Worldcon

Rules (Please read carefully):

1. To be eligible to vote, you must be a living, natural person and either an attending or supporting member of Torcon 3. Ballots cast for memberships held by non-natural persons, such as "Guest of" memberships, clubs, toys, et cetera, may only be voted as No Preference.
2. If you are not a member of Torcon 3 and wish to vote by mail, you may become a supporting or attending member by filling out the form on the reverse side of this ballot and sending a separate check for the appropriate fee made out to "Torcon 3." You may, if you prefer, charge your Torcon 3 membership to one of the major credit cards listed overleaf. Do not mail cash.
3. You must include the Site Selection Advance Supporting Membership (Voting) fee of \$40 US / \$60 CN. This payment automatically makes you a supporting member of the 2006 Worldcon. Make checks payable to "64th World Science Fiction Convention." You may, if you wish, charge your Site Selection fee to one of the major credit cards listed overleaf. Do not mail cash.
4. You may cast your ballot by mail or in person at Torcon 3. Mail your ballot to the Site Selection Administrator at the address listed opposite. **The deadline for receipt of mail-in ballots is August 15th, 2003.** Voting at the convention will end at 7 PM EDT on Saturday, August 30, 2003.
5. Voting: Site Selection ballots are tallied by preferential balloting procedures. The winner is the first bid to receive a majority of those ballots expressing a preference. This means that you should indicate your favorite selection with a "1," your next favorite with a "2," and so on. If you mark an "X" with no other marks, that will count as a "1" for that bid and no other preferences.
6. After filling out both sides of the ballot, fold the ballot along the dashed line below, then tape the fold shut at the solid line, in order to conceal your vote from casual viewing prior to the ballot count.
7. Include your name and address on your ballot. **You must sign your ballot.** In addition to being used to validate the ballot, we will provide the voter's name and address to the winning bid, so that they know who their members are.

For the full details of the rules, see Article 4 of the WSFS Constitution. If you have any questions regarding this ballot or the application of Article 4 to the selection of the 64th Worldcon, please contact the Site Selection Administrator, Robert J. MacIntosh, at the address below.

Address: **Torcon 3
2006 Worldcon Site Selection
PO Box 3252
Merrifield, VA 22116-3252**

Email: siteselection@Torcon3.on.ca

FOLD BOTTOM SECTION BELOW ON DOTTED LINE, THEN TAPE CLOSED AT THIS SOLID LINE

KC in 2006

Thursday, August 31st – Monday, September 4th

Chairman: Margene Bahm (Chairman)

Facilities: Overland Park Convention Center, Sheraton Overland Park Hotel, Overland Park Chase Suite Hotel, Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Drury Inn & Suites Overland Park

Web Site: <http://www.midamericon.org>

LA in 2006

Thursday, August 24th -Monday, August 28th

Chairman: Christian McGuire (Chairman)

Facilities: The Anaheim/ Orange County Convention Center, Anaheim Marriott Hotel, Anaheim Hilton

Web Site: www.scifiinc.org

Write-in

In order to win, a Write-in bid must file the required paperwork with Torcon 3 before the close of voting.

None of the Above

A vote for None of the Above indicates that you are opposed to all of the bids. If None of the Above wins, the WSFS Business Meeting at Torcon 3 will select the site.

No Preference

Equivalent to an abstention or blank ballot, a vote for No Preference means that, when it becomes your highest remaining choice, you don't care which bid wins. We will not count any of your choices numbered after this choice.

FOLD HERE

64th World Science Fiction Convention — 2006 Site Selection Ballot

Voter Identification (please print or type clearly)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address 2nd line: _____

City, State/Province: _____

Country, ZIP/Postal Code: _____

e-mail (optional): _____

Signature: _____
unsigned ballots will be considered "No Preference" if otherwise valid

Credit Card Details (please print or type):

___ Visa ___ MC ___ Discover

Name as it appears on the card

Card Number

Expiration Date

Cardholder's Billing Zip/Postal Code

Cardholder Signature and Date

Credit card charges will be in US dollars and will appear
as "56th World Science Fiction Convention"

Advance Supporting Membership/Voting Fee (select only one)

- I enclose a check, money order, or traveler's check for US \$40 made out to "64th World Science Fiction Convention" as my Site Selection Advance Supporting Membership (Voting Fee) for the 64th Worldcon.
- I authorize the 56th World Science Fiction Convention to charge US \$40 to my credit card (details in the next column) as my Site Selection Advance Supporting Membership (Voting Fee) for the 64th Worldcon.

Eligibility to Vote (select only one)

You must be a Torcon 3 attending or supporting member to be eligible to vote.

- I am a member of Torcon 3. My membership number (if known) is _____
(Your membership number may be found on the mailing labels of our pre-convention publications. Do not use your Hugo Voting PIN. You may still vote even if you do not know your membership number.)
- I am not a member of Torcon 3. In order to be eligible to vote, I am purchasing a supporting or attending membership in Torcon 3 (see details in the opposite column).

Torcon 3 Membership (if required)

Select type of membership desired:

- I wish to purchase a supporting membership in Torcon 3 for \$40 US / \$60 CN.
- I wish to purchase an attending membership in Torcon 3 for \$185 US / \$275 CN.
(This choice available until July 1, 2003 only. After that date, please join at the door and vote at the convention.)

Select payment method:

- I enclose a check, money order, or traveler's check payable to "Torcon 3."
- I authorize Torcon 3 to charge my credit card for the amount indicated above.

Polling will close at 7:00 PM EDT on Saturday, August 30th 2003. We must receive mail-in ballots by August 15th, 2003. You may authorize someone else to deliver your ballot to the convention for you.

Mailing Instructions:

1. Mark your vote on the other side of this sheet. Fill in this side.
2. Fold the bottom edge of the ballot up to the line with this side out and tape closed.
3. Mail the ballot, and any payment, if necessary, to the Site Selection Administrator at the address listed on the reverse side of this sheet.

THIS SECTION FOR OFFICAL USE ONLY

Date Received: _____
Date Processed: _____
Date Forwarded to Treasury: _____

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2006 Worldcon Site Selection Ballot
Version 1.2 (Revised 20030315)

2005 NASFiC Site Selection Ballot

Everyone who votes will become a supporting member of the selected 2005 NASFiC

Rules (Please read carefully):

1. To be eligible to vote, you must be a living, natural person and either an attending or supporting member of Torcon 3. Ballots cast for memberships held by non-natural persons, such as "Guest of" memberships, clubs, toys, et cetera, may only be voted as No Preference.
2. If you are not a member of Torcon 3 and wish to vote by mail, you may become a supporting or attending member by filling out the form on the reverse side of this ballot and sending a separate check for the appropriate fee made out to "Torcon 3." You may, if you prefer, charge your Torcon 3 membership to one of the major credit cards listed overleaf. Do not mail cash.
3. You must include the Site Selection Advance Supporting Membership (Voting) fee of \$20 US / \$30 CN. This payment automatically makes you a supporting member of the 2005 NASFiC. Make checks payable to "2005 NASFiC." You may, if you wish, charge your Site Selection fee to one of the major credit cards listed overleaf. Do not mail cash.
4. You may cast your ballot by mail or in person at Torcon 3. Mail your ballot to the Site Selection Administrator at the address listed opposite. **The deadline for receipt of mail-in ballots is August 15th, 2003.** Voting at the convention will end at 7 PM EDT on Saturday, August 30, 2003.
5. Voting: Site Selection ballots are tallied by preferential balloting procedures. The winner is the first bid to receive a majority of those ballots expressing a preference. This means that you should indicate your favorite selection with a "1," your next favorite with a "2," and so on. If you mark an "X" with no other marks, that will count as a "1" for that bid and no other preferences.
6. After filling out both sides of the ballot, fold the ballot along the dashed line below, then tape the fold shut at the solid line, in order to conceal your vote from casual viewing prior to the ballot count.
7. Include your name and address on your ballot. **You must sign your ballot.** In addition to being used to validate the ballot, we will provide the voter's name and address to the winning bid, so that they know who their members are.

For the full details of the rules, see Article 4 of the WSFS Constitution. If you have any questions regarding this ballot or the application of Article 4 to the selection of the 2005 NASFiC, please contact the Site Selection Administrator, Robert J. MacIntosh, at the address below.

Address: **Torcon 3
2005 NASFiC Site Selection
PO Box 3252
Merrifield, VA 22116-3252**

Email: siteselection@Torcon3.on.ca

FOLD BOTTOM SECTION BELOW ON DOTTED LINE, THEN TAPE CLOSED AT THIS SOLID LINE

Charlotte in 2005

Thursday, August 25th – Sunday, August 28th
Chairman: Kathleen Meyer (Chairman), Judy Bemis, Mark Blackman, Brian Burley, Catherine Fitzsimmons, Tara Fulbright, Bruce Gray, and others
Facilities: Adams Mark Charlotte Hotel
Web Site: www.secfi.org/nasfic

Seattle in 2005

Thursday, August 31st – Monday, September 5th
Chairman: Bobbie DuFault (Chairman), Alex Von Thorne, Linda Deneroff, Pat Porter, Jerry Gieseke, Dave Schaber, Melanie Schaber, and others.
Facilities: Hilton Seattle Airport & Convention Center
Web Site: www.seattle2005.org

Write-in

In order to win, a Write-in bid must file the required paperwork with Torcon 3 before the close of voting.

No NASFiC

A vote for No NASFiC indicates that you are opposed to all of the bids. If No NASFiC wins, Torcon 3 will refund all voting fees.

No Preference

Equivalent to an abstention or blank ballot, a vote for No Preference means that, when it becomes your highest remaining choice, you don't care which bid wins. We will not count any of your choices numbered after this choice.

FOLD HERE

2005 NASFiC Site Selection Ballot

Voter Identification (please print or type clearly)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address 2nd line: _____

City, State/Province: _____

Country, ZIP/Postal Code: _____

e-mail (optional): _____

Signature: _____
unsigned ballots will be considered "No Preference" if otherwise valid

Credit Card Details (please print or type):

___ Visa ___ MC ___ Discover

Name as it appears on the card

Card Number

Expiration Date

Cardholder's Billing Zip/Postal Code

Cardholder Signature and Date

Credit card charges will be in US dollars and will appear
as "56th World Science Fiction Convention"

Advance Supporting Membership/Voting Fee (select only one)

___ I enclose a check, money order, or traveler's check for US \$20 made out to "2005 NASFiC" as my Site Selection Advance Supporting Membership (Voting Fee) for the 2005 NASFiC.

___ I authorize the 56th World Science Fiction Convention to charge US \$20 to my credit card (details in the next column) as my Site Selection Advance Supporting Membership (Voting Fee) for the 2005 NASFiC.

Eligibility to Vote (select only one)

You must be a Torcon 3 attending or supporting member to be eligible to vote.

___ I am a member of Torcon 3. My membership number (if known) is _____
(Your membership number may be found on the mailing labels of our pre-convention publications. Do not use your Hugo Voting PIN. You may still vote even if you do not know your membership number.)

___ I am not a member of Torcon 3. In order to be eligible to vote, I am purchasing a supporting or attending membership in Torcon 3 (see details in the opposite column).

Torcon 3 Membership (if required)

Select type of membership desired:

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(This choice available until July 1, 2003 only. After that date, please join at the door and vote at the convention.)

Select payment method:

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___ I authorize Torcon 3 to charge my credit card for the amount indicated above.

Polling will close at 7:00 PM EDT on Saturday, August 30th 2003. We must receive mail-in ballots by August 15th, 2003. You may authorize someone else to deliver your ballot to the convention for you.

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Torcon 3



2005 NASFiC Site Selection Ballot
Version 1.2 (Revised 20030315)

In May of 1991, members of the executive ("Command Crew") of the USS Hudson Bay gathered in Toronto, Canada around a table to engage in a principled discussion of our ideas of what the club would stand for, to reach a consensus, and to commit our thoughts to paper. The following is the result of those several hours of fellowship.

USS Hudson Bay Mission Statement

The USS *Hudson Bay* is a social organization of *Star Trek* enthusiasts whose primary goal is the realization of the optimism expressed in the *Star Trek* philosophy.

We believe that we, as individuals and as a group, have the ability to ensure the survival and advancement of humanity through the twenty-fourth century and beyond. We believe that this will be achieved through improvements in human relationships, knowledge, technology and environmental care. We believe in the philosophy of Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations, that not only should we tolerate our differences but rejoice in them, learn from them and recognize that this learning is fundamental to our advancement. We believe in sharing fun and fellowship and that by sharing we can effect

change. We believe that change is always possible. We can achieve anything we can imagine.

We believe that these goals can be realized by contributions to charitable works through donations of money, goods, and services; by participation in activities which reflect our increasing concern for our environment; by promotion of healthy lifestyles; by promotion of tolerance, respect, and the just treatment of all individuals; by education about and promotion of space exploration and other technologies; by the organization of social activities which nourish imagination, relationships and the enjoyment of life; and by mutual support leading to the advancement of the individual.

We believe that in a sometimes bleak and hostile world, there is hope.

Copyright © 1991, USS *Hudson Bay*

“...mutual support leading to the advancement of the individual.”

Members proudly list USS *Hudson Bay* activities on their résumés. Several respected members have themselves been honoured to serve as employment references for active members they know only through the club. One member even credits his experience as a convention volunteer with the club for giving him the confidence to pursue a paying job for the first time.

“Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations”

When the USS *Hudson Bay* became a Canadian non-profit corporation, we took as our official name **Infinite Diversity International Corporation**, and the same abbreviation, “IDIC”, as the Vulcan concept above.

Although we began as club of *Star Trek* fans, one member or another has brought to our general attention new forms of fandom—other TV series, other science fiction, fantasy, horror, novels, short stories, poetry, fan fiction, fanzines, comic books, animé, propmaking, costuming, make-up, photography, and others.

We thank everyone who took the time to consider for Hugo award nomination the work of USS *Hudson Bay* members Karen Bennett and Alex von Thorn. We requested your support without their knowledge or consent, simply on the grounds that their work was worthy of consideration.

We invite you to join us for a room party on the Thursday evening of Torcon 3. It will be held in the Costumers’ Suite, co-sponsored by the costumers and IDIC/USS *Hudson Bay*.

The Voyager Newsletter

The quickest way to see our newsletter is to download issues in zipped, Adobe Acrobat format at the website <http://voyageur.idic.ca>. Alternatively, you may obtain a sample issue by mail if you contact Lynda L. Ciaschini either by e-mail at Lynda.Ciaschini@rogers.com, or by phone at home (416-221-6291) or at the office (905-850-6080) or by writing to:



Infinite Diversity International Corporation

c/o Lynda L. Ciaschini
7050 Weston Road, Suite 301
Woodbridge, Ontario L4L 8G7
CANADA

Events Report

Planning in the Events Division, so far, has focussed on some of the big "signature" events of Torcon III: the Hugos, Auroras and other awards presentations; the masquerade competition; opening and closing ceremonies; and a costume dance. However, we have also been working on some of the other events as well. Here's a recap of what we have to tell you so far -- please check the Torcon III web site frequently for further updates:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

4:00 p.m. Torcon III Opening Ceremony — Where we welcome all our worldly and other-worldly guests to the great city of Toronto! Still in the planning stages, we hope to have a fun and entertaining kick-off to set the tone for the rest of the con.

8:00 p.m.*Guest of Honour Reception—Here's your opportunity to meet, greet and mingle with our guests of honour as well as your fellow attendees. And don't forget to keep your eyes open for our GoHst of Honour, Robert Bloch!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

9:00 p.m.Show Us Your Dream Costume Party and Dance (brought to you by the Keith & Gary Show)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

Afternoon*Presentation of Canada's own Aurora Awards—Look for details in upcoming issues of the Progress Report and on the Torcon III web-site. We especially wish to extend an invitation to all our non-Canadian friends to come to this event and allow us to share with you sf and f, Canadian-style, eh!

2:00 p.m.Regency Ball B Fandom's expert on the Regency area, the inimitable John Hertz, will once again host the Regency Ball, to be held in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. This is a drop-in affair, to which everyone is invited. Join John as he shows you how to gracefully execute and enjoy the dances of this period.

8:00 p.m. 50th Anniversary Presentation of the Hugo Awards—Certainly one of the "must-attend" events of any Worldcon, this year's presentation promises to be extra special. Torcon III has the honour of hosting the 50th anniversary of these prestigious awards, and, we are working to put together a 50th anniversary retrospective video.

time/location tbaTorcon III Blood Drive—Fans have a well-earned reputation for volunteerism. Please consider donating this most precious gift to those in need.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

8:00 p.m. Masquerade Competition (location is Metro Toronto Convention Centre) with MC Gordon Rose including A Salute to Canadian Costuming Fashion Show

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

4:00 p.m. Closing Ceremony (details to be advised)

Con Chair's Challenge to Costumers

The con chair works in the corporate world. He has issued a challenge to any costumer interested to design the corporate attire of the future. Use your imagination of what business attire in the SF or Fantasy future might look like and the chair wear the entries during the con. For further information: chair@torcon3.on.ca.

Oh, The Glorious Life of a Department Head!

The Events Committee is in need of the following two department heads:

- Events Tech
- Theatrical Productions (concerts and plays)

Anyone interested in volunteering for these positions, please contact Kathryn Grimby at events@torcon3.on.ca

Party Enabler?

Party Maven Richard Ney is looking for an assistant for a couple of hours a day. Contact Richard at partymaven@torcon3.on.ca.

Phone & Electric Guru Need Apply

Are you an expert in the area of telephones and electrical systems? Email hotel@torcon3.on.ca.

*(times are still tentative - please check the web site)

** (dates are still tentative - please check the web site)

Along with events listed here, the Events Division is working with the Programming Division to bring you some exciting and provocative debates and other special Torcon III features which should draw larger audiences than the primary programming tracks. Other items in the works are city tours, theatrical presentations, auctions, and a few more surprises. So, continue to read your Progress Reports and check out the web site for further updates.

A final note—we are still looking for volunteers (especially from the Toronto area) and ideas. Feel free to contact the Events Division with your questions or comments.

Masquerade

All Masquerade entries must preregister, either by mail post-marked by July 20, 2003, or at the convention by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 30th, 2003. Contestants attending on Sunday day passes please see the detailed masquerade information and rules available on our web sites or by mail.

The standard Division system of Junior, Novice, Journeyman and Master will be used. There will not be an Artisan Division as it is not used at the Worldcon level. Workmanship judging will be done in all divisions. Costumes that have won awards at Costume Con are welcome to compete in the regular divisions for prizes. There will also be an Out-Of-Competition Division for fans who wish to enter previous winners or purchased or rented costumes.

We are finalizing our stage and technical information, and we hope to have it available soon on our web sites. The Masquerade Rules and other information are available on the Torcon 3 web site at www.torcon3.on.ca.

Information on Masquerade Rules and information, including The Costumers Hospitality Suite, local costume fan activities, tours of interest to costumers planned for Torcon 3, are at <http://members.rogers.com/pxlbarrel/torcon3costume/>.

If you do not have access to the Internet, contact us and we will get the detailed masquerade information to you.

Phone: (416) 699-0479. FAX: (705) 448-1750

If you get the answering machine, leave your name, number and a message that you are calling for Torcon 3 masquerade information. We will call you back.

Mail: Barb Schofield, Box 784, Adelaide St. PO, Toronto, ON Canada, M5C 2K1.

Masquerade Director: Martin Miller

Assistant Masquerade Directors: Carl Mami, Barb Schofield

Photography and Video Taping

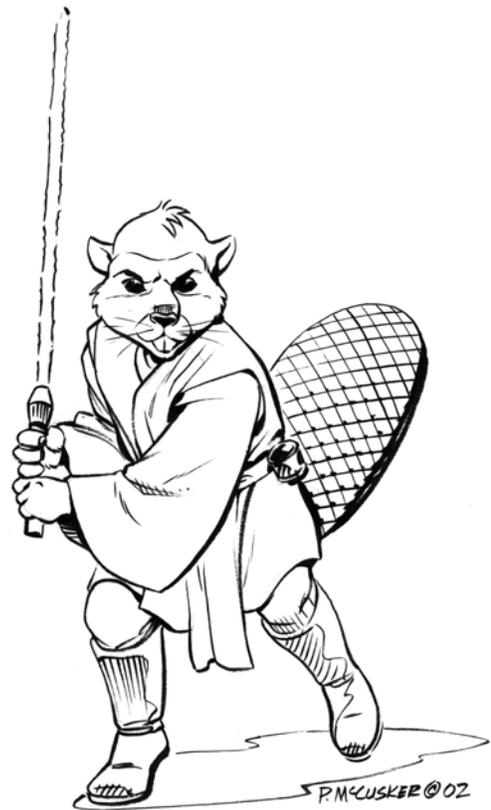
Christine Mak will be in charge of our fan photo area. There will be three areas: available light, video taping and flash photos. You must contact Christine in advance to reserve space. There may be a limited number of spaces available at the con, but only if they are not all booked in advance. Contact Christine at pxlbarrel@rogers.com, or write to her c/o Barb Schofield at the address above.

Announcing A Special Costume Prize

Bantam Dell Publishing Group, in recognition of Guest of Honour George R.R. Martin, will be awarding a special prize of \$500.00 U.S. for the Best Costume inspired by his outstanding body of work. The costume can be based on any of his works, including short fiction and full length novels.

Costumers who wish to be judged for this award are encouraged to bring documentation. This could include a photocopy of a book cover and/or a photocopy of a descriptive paragraph from one of Mr. Martin's books. Do not submit originals as we will not be responsible for their safety.

Please indicate on your entry form, in the space provided, if you wish to be considered for this award.



Fashion Show

A Salute to Canadian Costuming

At Torcon this year we will be bringing you a wonderful addition to the masquerade program -- A Salute to Canadian Costuming in a fashion show format. By fashion show format, we mean done in a runway presentation.

We will see new costumes not offered for competition in the masquerade, as well as favourite costumes from past masquerades brought out of retirement for another glimpse.

If any Canadian costumers have costumes you would like to place in the fashion show, or if you would like more information about our show, please contact Laurie Browne at mistresskasarr@yahoo.ca

If you are competing in the masquerade, or are afraid that beloved costume doesn't fit anymore, have no worries. We will do our utmost to find models for you. Just give us the sizes and proportions of the costume that needs to be modelled and we'll do our best.

Advert for Models

Have you ever wanted to be on stage in a beautiful, maybe even horrifically gruesome costume, but never had the time, money or skill to make it yourself??

This could be your lucky year. We are seeking models of every size and shape imaginable. If you would like to wear a costume in the masquerade or in the Fashion Show, please contact us. We will need all your measurements, including height, as well as eye and hair colour.

Please contact Laurie Browne at mistresskasarr@yahoo.ca

Writing Workshops

TorCon 3 is planning a variety of activities for aspiring writers this year. We'll keep you posted on what's being planned and how it's developing on the TorCon website. Just click to <http://www.torcon3.on.ca/programming/> to find out how things are going.

"Critique circle" workshops

One thing we need to tell you about right away are the "critique circle" workshops we're offering. Here's your chance to get first-hand feedback from your peers and from a number of professionals in the field.

This workshop style requires that manuscripts be submitted in advance by mail or e-mail. The manuscripts will be assigned to a critique circle session where three manuscripts will be considered. Each member of the circle will receive copies of all three manuscripts.

You'll have ample time to read the other entries in your circle, as the other members of your circle will have ample time to read your entry. The members of each circle will include the manuscript entrants, two professionals in the field and a moderator.

In the session, each member offers his or her comments on what they liked, what they didn't like and – most important – what they think will improve the manuscript in question and make it more saleable to editors. The critiques are offered verbally, but also may include written notes and/or notations on their copies of the manuscript (all your manuscript copies will be returned to you at the end of the session). The moderators will offer their critiques as well and they'll make sure no one's critique is interrupted or goes into overtime. Each critique is given without interruption, then the author of the manuscript gets a chance at the end to ask questions and receive clarifications.

The spirit of the critique circles is to provide positive, constructive criticism – but that doesn't exclude being tough at times. This workshop style is probably not recommended for anyone who's only interested in hearing praise or is sensitive to criticism, but remember that we're here to help.

Because of the amount of time, care and forethought taken in putting these circles together, you may as well make the best use of this opportunity and submit your best work – something you really desire to get published.

The critique circles will be held in quiet, private rooms on the con site, but away from the hustle and bustle, and will last about three hours, so that everyone has a chance to get their comments in. Visitors will not be allowed to sit in (excepting assistants to entrants with physical disabilities). Please make sure to show up on time for your section. Late arrivals cause headaches for everyone.

Middle Earth Tour

A QUEST TO THE LORD OF THE RINGS MOVIE SITES

January 7 - January 25, 2004

Join **Michael Stanton**, author of

"HOBBITS, ELVES, AND WIZARDS"

and local Kiwi guides who were involved in the filming of The Lord of the Rings movie for this exploration of the fantasy world of Middle Earth and the real wonders of

NEW ZEALAND

Pacific Pathways (650) 595-2090
nzaustours@pacificpathways.com
www.pacificpathways.com



Fees

There's a \$48.15 (\$32.10 USD) fee, including taxes – to cover the cost of photocopying, mailing and routing of manuscripts to other members of your circle. Make checks payable to TorCon3. If mailing your fee (which should be included in your manuscript submission if you're mailing your submission) you can also use your credit card by including your credit card information (Visa, Mastercard, American Express). All credit card payments will be processed in Canadian Funds.

Registering for the workshop

The critique circles are open to all attending members of TorCon 3. Please pre-register so we can confirm your membership. Please make sure your manuscript is as close to a professional format as possible. Double-spacing, one inch margins, a readable font (preferably Courier) on white paper, printed on one side only. Please paper clip it and ensure that your name, manuscript name, and page number is in the header of each page. You need only submit one copy of each entry.

The length of the manuscript is limited to 7,500 words, or roughly thirty printed or typewritten pages. They should be works of prose fiction – science fiction, fantasy or dark fantasy/horror or at least contain some fantastic element – either short stories or sections of longer works, though the longer works should include a brief synopsis that will be considered part of the 7,500 word limit.

All submissions should include a cover letter with your name, address, phone number, an e-mail address if you have one and your TorCon registration/badge number. Entrants who wish to have more than one work critiqued should submit separate checks for each entry. If a work is a collaboration, it will be counted as one entry.

Costume Party and Dance Information

Keith, for The Keith & Gary Show writes... If you could be anyone at all in the Sci-Fi universe, who would you be? That's the theme for our dance this year, which will be a costume affair. It's called "Show Us Your Dream." We won't be having a formal competition like the masquerade, but we will be watching you and at some time in the evening we will be giving out prizes for the best costumes, along with prizes for contests such as the "sexiest dance." Our goal is to give our fellow fen the best convention dance they've ever had—the kind you'll never forget because you've had so much fun!

For those of you not familiar with the sci-fi convention scene in Canada, here's a little of our background: We've been involved in fandom and various conventions in Ontario, Canada and the Niagara-New York area since 1979. In 1997, we started doing the dances for cons only, providing the music for dances at such conventions as Toronto Trek, Ad Astra, Pri-

media and Anime North. The music you'll hear is Retro-80's and sci-fi song/theme remixes—our specialty—with lots of Canadian content.

We're fen, and we put on a dance for our fellow fen: the kind of dance you'd only get at a convention. But we're more than that. There's Johnny Z, our Master d'Dance. He'll be out on the dance floor leading everyone in various dances and showing off his amazing style. There's our Midnight Madness set. And there are always surprises!

And now, a word about requests: We take requests (and questions or comments) via e-mail at thekeithandgaryshow@cogeco.ca, and we guarantee an answer. When sending requests, please keep it to one or two and include what part of the world you're from, and title it **Torcon dance request**. The advantage to sending requests ahead of time is we can do our best to make sure we

have them at the dance. And please, keep your requests danceable!

Planning on bringing us a CD to play? E-mail us instead. Here's why: Back in our early days, we used to take them, but what happened was a person would hand us a CD and say, "play track 4! It's great! People will go nuts!" And we would. Suddenly a packed dance floor empties. We end up with lost momentum and upset partygoers—so we don't do that anymore. So PLEASE don't bring your CDs. E-mail us instead.

The Keith & Gary Show's goal is to put on the best convention dance you've ever attended, or ever will attend (until you attend another one by us, that is); something you'll be talking about for years to come. That's it for now. Six months and counting! Looking forward to seeing everyone at Torcon 3!



September 2-5, 2005

WWW.SEATTLE2005.ORG

The race is on, be one of the first to support Team Seattle in our bid for the 2005 NASFiC.

We have signed with the **Seattle Airport Hilton and Conference Center** (contingent upon winning the bid) for their extensive function space, and have letters of intend from several of the surrounding hotels for additional rooms with competitive room rates.

We are currently offering 3 levels of support,

Pre-support	\$15 US \$22.75 Can
Pre-oppose	\$30 US \$45.50 Can
Friend of Bid	\$70 US \$106.25 Can

Please send the appropriate amount (listed above) payable to SWOC to

Northwest NASFiC
PO Box 1066
Seattle WA 98111

Information Desk

The Info Desk at Torcon3 ought to have answers for any reasonable question, if it would help you enjoy both Torcon3 and Toronto as much as possible. Send in suggestions about the kind of information YOU think the Info Desk should have available over and above Programming data, e.g. where is the nearest barber, is there an ATM nearby, what's the best route for a wheelchair to take to reach the X hotel, what restaurants are open Sunday, etc. etc. A really cheap but impressive prize will be given for the most unusual but reasonable [I get to decide] suggestion.

Ken Smookler
Information Desk

Wanted: Clever Bookish Types

Academic Programming Wants Academics!

Academic Programming is planning the Academic Track for Torcon 3, and needs your help. If you're an educator, or you have experience with academic issues as they relate to science fiction (e.g. teaching sf as lit, teach sf writing, science issues of interest to the sf community), then please contact Track Coordinator David Gardner at RdWaryer@aol.com. If you can't participate, but you have a great idea for an academic panel, send it along. If you're not academically inclined, please forward this information to all your pipe-smoking, leather-patches-on-the-elbows type friends, and encourage them to volunteer.

Editorial Matters

Dick Eney has informed us that the Roscoe the Beaver illustration published in progress report 4 was originally produced by him 40 years ago.

Torcon 3 apologizes for the error.

WSFS Notes

The World Science Fiction Society (WSFS) consists of every member of the current Worldcon. WSFS is governed by a constitution that includes the rules for selecting Worldcon sites and awarding the Hugo Awards. The WSFS Business Meeting is where the members of WSFS -- that includes every attending member of Torcon III -- can propose, debate, and vote on changes to the WSFS Constitution and related rules. If you've ever said, "There ought to be a Hugo Award for that!" then you should attend the Business Meeting. Meetings are tentatively scheduled for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday mornings from 10 AM to Noon.

Timekeeper Wanted

The Business Meeting is looking for a Timekeeper. This person keeps track of the debate time limits and assists the other head-table officers. We would prefer someone who has attended at least one WSFS Business Meeting, but not necessarily someone with head-table experience. If you're interested, e-mail wsfsbusiness@torcon3.on.ca. The other WSFS officers this year are Kevin Standlee (Chair), Donald Eastlake III (Deputy Chair/Parliamentarian) and Pat McMurray (Secretary).

Submitting New Business

In PR 4 we published the WSFS Constitution, and in this PR you'll find the Business Meeting Standing Rules and Business Passed On from ConJose to Torcon 3. If you would like to submit new business to this year's Business Meeting, e-mail us at wsfsbusiness@torcon3.on.ca. While the absolute deadline for submitting new business is two hours after Torcon opening ceremonies, if you work with us in advance, we can get your proposal published in the agenda in advance, which saves you having to get the required 200 copies made and allows people to see your business with some time to consider it before the meeting. Improve your chances of your proposal being heard: contact us early.