

Space, the final day trip

European space company EADS Atrium plans to severely undercut the Russian space agency in the space tourism market. EADS Atrium has announced plans to develop a spacecraft, shown in this computer-generated image, that would offer travellers a 90-minute suborbital flight, including three minutes of weightlessness, for \$200,000-\$267,000 US. This compares to \$25 million for space tourists flying in the narrow capsule of the Russian rocket Soyuz to the international space station ISS.



THE VANCOUVER SUN IS NOW PUBLISHING FULL NORTH AMERICAN STOCK LISTINGS ON OUR WEBSITE:

vancouversun.com/stocks

THE VANCOUVER SUN

SECTION

C

BUSINESS BC

RIVERBEND BUYERS TO PAY MORE | C3

ALL-OFFICE TOWER FOR DOWNTOWN | C4

EDITOR HUGH DAWSON 604-605-2520

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 2007

E-mail sunbusiness@png.canwest.com

WORKING IT OUT



'So, Frank, this is your idea of a romantic date?'

THE OLD MAN AND THE TEE

Wal-Mart Canada expects to sell a lot of golf stuff as Father's Day approaches. The retail giant has compiled from an online survey a list of the expected top-selling gift items for The Old Man (sorry, the Porsche Turbo 911 didn't even register).

- Sporting goods (36%)
- Electronics (23%)
- Tools (21%)
- Apparel (14%)
- Cologne (6%)

UV RAY OF HOPE

Calgary-based tanning salon chain Fabutan, under a deal with the Canadian Competition Bureau, can promote indoor tanning as a source of vitamin D. However, it can't promote vitamin D as a cancer preventative. Now that headlines around the world are blaring that a U.S. study shows the sunshine vitamin can reduce cancer risk, Fabutan is hoping to have that little restriction removed.

BUSINESS BC SATURDAY

TECH TOYS:

BusinessBC's weekly guide to what's the latest in gadgets.

B.C. SNAPSHOT

Renovation across the nation

British Columbians spent \$5.6 billion on renovations last year and plan to spend even more in 2007, Statistics Canada data show.

Renovation spending plans, % change 2006-2007

B.C.	+9.6
Alberta	+11.2
Saskatchewan	+6.6
Manitoba	+7.4
Ontario	+6.4
Quebec	+6.1
Atlantic	+6.6
Canada	+7.2

Source: Statistics Canada

Okanagan mecca is cashing in



The town of Osoyoos will see more than \$200 million in investment over the next few years, with high-end projects such as the Spirit Ridge hotel-condo development (below) by Calgary-based Bellstar Hotels and Resorts, in partnership with the Osoyoos First Nation, taking centre stage in the resort town's building boom.

'Not your granddaddy's Osoyoos any more'

TOURISM | High-end developments draw well-heeled to sun-and-fun town

BY BRUCE CONSTANTINEAU
VANCOUVER SUN

With a quarter-billion dollars worth of new developments slated for completion by early 2010, tourism spending in Osoyoos should sizzle like a Canada Day long weekend.

Destination Osoyoos executive director Glenn Mandziuk said Thursday the south Okanagan town expects annual tourism revenues will shoot up to \$126 million by 2015 from \$65 million this year. The number of visitors is forecast to jump to about 500,000 from 350,000.

"We're going to attract higher-yield visitors with more money to spend on things that will create a premium quality experience," Mandziuk said in an interview.

Wineries, golf courses, restaurants, retailers and others will benefit from the investment boom dominating the local economy, he said.

A total of four tourism-related projects near Osoyoos Lake — either planned or underway — will transform the area into one of the most popular getaway destinations in B.C.

The four projects include:

■ The \$75-million Spirit Ridge Vineyard Resort & Spa being developed by Bellstar Hotels & Resorts. The first phase of 30 villas and 64 suites is next to the Osoyoos Indian Band's Nk'Mip Cellars, Canada's first aboriginal winery. The 124-suite second phase is due for completion by late 2009 or early 2010.

■ The \$65-million Watermark Beach Resort being developed on almost two hectares (4.3 acres) of waterfront formerly occupied by a fruit-packing plant. Osoyoos Shoreline Development Ltd. expects to complete 30 townhomes and 123 other units by March 2009.

■ The \$45-million Walnut Beach Resort, with 112 units on a 1.3-hectare (3.2-acre) site. The Lakeshore Development Corp. project is expected to be completed by the spring or summer of 2008.

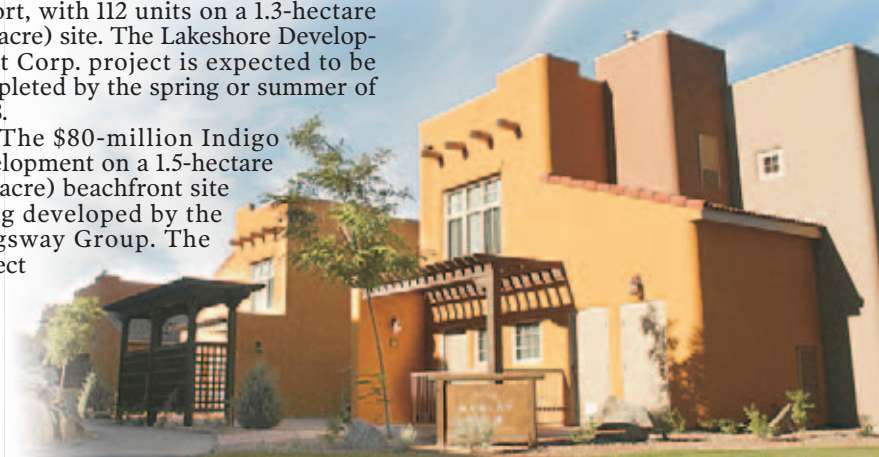
■ The \$80-million Indigo development on a 1.5-hectare (3.8-acre) beachfront site being developed by the Kingsway Group. The project still

requires final approval but developers plan a 150-unit, six-storey concrete building that could be completed by the spring of 2009.

Mandziuk said Osoyoos has long been known as a summer "sun and fun" destination, but the new facilities should spread visitation over a longer period, as wine festivals now draw a lot of visitors to the region in the spring and fall.

He noted Tourism BC recently opened a new \$2.5-million visitor information centre in the area to address "growing and emerging markets."

See **OSOYOOS** C2



See **FIR 'WON'T'** C2

LEXUS
THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION.

E IT'S NOT THE MOMENTS **S**
IN YOUR LIFE, IT'S THE LIFE
IN YOUR MOMENTS.

WELL EQUIPPED FROM
\$44,675*
INCLUDES FREIGHT/PDI*

LEASE FOR 48 MONTHS
\$499* **6.5%***
DOWN PAYMENT \$8,293*
\$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT*

FINANCE FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS
5.9%**

LOWER MAINLAND LEXUS DEALERS

*MSRP is \$44,675 for a new Lexus 2007 ES 350 Sx 'A' and includes \$1,775 freight/PDI. Taxes, license, registration and insurance are extra. **Lease and finance offers provided through Lexus Financial Services, on approved credit. Limited time offers valid on a Lexus 2007 ES 350 Sx 'A'. Lease example based on a 48 month term at 6.5% APR. Monthly payment is \$499 with \$8,293 down payment or equivalent trade in and includes freight/PDI. \$0 refundable security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is \$32,245. Taxes, license, registration and insurance are extra. 96,000 kilometre allowance; charge of \$0.20/km for excess kilometres. **Finance example based on 48 month term at 5.9% APR and MSRP of \$44,675 and includes freight/PDI. Monthly payment is \$930 with \$5,000 down payment or equivalent trade in. Cost of borrowing is \$4,963 for a total obligation of \$49,638. Taxes, license, registration and insurance are extra. Lexus Dealers are free to set their own prices. Please see your participating Lexus Dealer for complete details.

AUTOMOBILE JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
BEST NEW LUXURY CAR UNDER \$50,000

Osoyoos development going 'crazy'

From CI

Vince Taylor, who is marketing the Indigo project, said Osoyoos is changing to appeal to well-heeled visitors. Prices at Indigo are expected to range from about \$349,000 to \$1.4 million.

"Osoyoos used to be about bad motels and guys in Fortrel pants with big bellies and hibachis," he said. "But this isn't your granddaddy's Osoyoos anymore. You're looking at prices of \$1.4 million now. Heck, you could have bought the whole town for that 10 years ago."

Taylor said development around Osoyoos is going "crazy" because people have finally fig-

ured out all it has to offer — including great weather, a long golf season, the warmest lake in Canada, and the country's top wine region.

Indigo has attracted the interest of several sports personalities — like former NHL player Ray Ferraro and B.C. Lions quarterback Dave Dickenson — and Taylor said 1,400 people have already registered as potential buyers of the 150 units expected to go on sale in late August or early September.

He said the target market is people from ages 43 to 70, and about 70 per cent of buyers are expected to come from Greater Vancouver, with 20 per cent from

Alberta and the rest from elsewhere.

Osoyoos town Coun. Alan Carswell said some locals don't like all the new development.

"They moved here because it's a teeny little town [with just under 5,000 people] and they want it to stay that way," he said. "It's a pretty busy place in the middle of summer, no question about it. But people adjust after a while."

Carswell said Osoyoos is running out of developable waterfront sites and doesn't expect population growth will ever outpace the area's infrastructure capacity. The official community plan calls for the population to

eventually grow to about 6,000, a level the current infrastructure can handle.

"I love the tax revenue we get [from the developments], but we have to make sure the community gets something out of it," Carswell said. "I'm all for beautiful developments, but I don't want to see the taxpayers pay for them."

bconstantineau@png.canwest.com

THE VANCOUVER SUN DIGITAL

You can now listen to every Vancouver Sun story on our new digital edition.

Free to full-week print subscribers or sign up for a 7-day free trial.

www.vancouversun.com/digital.

Japanese firm's investment sends miner's shares up

METALS | \$37.5-million deal sends Augusta Resources price up 22%

BY SCOTT SIMPSON
VANCOUVER SUN

Shares of Augusta Resources Corp. jumped 22 per cent after news that a major Japanese investment firm paid a significant premium Thursday for a minority interest in the Vancouver junior mining company.

Sumitomo Corp., Japan's third-largest trading company, paid \$37.5 million for an 8.7-per-cent share of Augusta — which has a large copper-silver-molybdenum property in an active mining district in southeast Arizona.

The most notable aspect of the purchase was the price per share — at \$3.50 — meaning that Sumitomo bought in at 40 per cent over the Augusta's recent trading range. The news caused more than a million shares to change hands in Toronto, with Augusta closing at \$3.10, up from \$2.54 on Wednesday.

Augusta has attracted some small attention from analysts, but can't boast of much of a profile among investors — its directors and five institutional investors, including Sumitomo, own about 85 per cent of the stock.

Augusta chairman Richard Warke said the company has been selling at a substantial discount to comparable projects around the world, and hopes the deal will give the it some spark.

"I can't remember the last time I've seen someone do an equity offering 40 per cent over market with no warrant attached or anything, just a straight share," Warke said in a telephone interview. "I think that gives it a huge vote of confidence that they are comfortable buying in at a valuation of \$3.50 and think they are going to make money on that, let alone where it was trading."

"If you take a look at our peer group and compare jurisdictions — scoping study costs per

pound, size of deposit — everybody was trading in the three to 11, 12 cents per pound [range]. We were trading somewhere in the one-and-a-half cents per pound range."

The company bought the property in March 2006.

Warke said Augusta expects to receive a final feasibility study by the end of July, and he's confident it will confirm the land parcel known as Rosemont is a large and viable mining property.

Augusta and previous owners have drilled 234 holes, a few dating back to the 1950s.

A recent consultant's report filed with regulators in Canada and the United States calculates 8.4 billion pounds of copper in measured and indicated resources — and notes that the metallurgical characteristics of the Rosemont resource are "substantially similar to deposits successfully mined and processed in the area."

Warke said the mine could be in operation in as little as three years — but that will depend on Augusta's success at shepherding the project through a regulatory maze including an environmental approval process led by the U.S. forest service.

Local residents as well as the county government have already signalled their opposition to the process, although Warke notes that the U.S. federal government will serve as final arbiter.

He said the primary reason for the discounted price of Augusta stock is that "people have, in our view wrongly, perceived the permitting process in the United States. We think that has held us back on a fair market valuation."

He said the area's historic role in producing copper for the U.S. market is being underestimated. "That area has produced historically 60-70 per cent of the copper needs of the U.S. It has produced copper for over 100 years. You've got five or six huge mines producing there. You have another one that Phelps Dodge just permitted."

ssimpson@png.canwest.com

FIR 'won't return to the table'

From CI

that workers feel they have taken the brunt of the coast's pain. Government policy changes that resulted in mill closures, coupled with an arbitrated contract settlement in 2004, have created bitterness.

"The coast has been hammered, most notably our members, our communities and our families," Hunt said. "Forty-two mills have gone down since 2001, and there comes a time when you're looking over your shoulder every day thinking, 'What am I waiting for? Am I just going to wait

for my job to disappear? If that's the case I might as well go down fighting.'"

FIR, which represents 31 companies, accounting for \$1.3 billion in lumber shipments, remains adamant that it will not return to the table unless the union is willing to give ground on the crucial issue of the right to assign shifts.

"We just aren't prepared to give employees a veto when the company needs to put alternate shifts in place, but we are willing to put in place better consultation and more warning when shifts are changing," said FIR's

Ron Shewchuk.

Industry specialist Craig Campbell, of PricewaterhouseCoopers, said the two sides still appear to be far apart. The coastal industry is sick, he said, and workers need to recognize that the pain is not over.

"It's another reminder that there are no shared goals in terms of getting this industry turned around," he said.

Before the coast can attract needed capital, he said stability and an agreement among stakeholders over a common direction are needed.

ghamilton@png.canwest.com

Letters Patent of Incorporation

Notice is hereby given that Herbert James Dunton and Robert Stephen Dunton intend to file an application with the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, pursuant to section 25 of the Bank Act, to request the Minister of Finance issue letters patent incorporating a bank under the name of Equity Development Bank of Canada, in English, and Banque Equity Development du Canada, in French.

Any person who objects to the issuance of these letters patent may submit the objection in writing before July 31st 2007 to the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, 255 Albert Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0H2.

June 8th 2007
Herbert James Dunton and Robert Stephen Dunton

Lettres patentes de constitution

Avis est par les présentes donné que Herbert James Dunton et Robert Stephen Dunton ont l'intention de déposer une demande auprès du surintendant des institutions financières, conformément à l'article 25 de la Loi sur les banques, afin que le ministre des Finances délivre des lettres patentes pour la constitution d'une banque sous la dénomination sociale Equity Development Bank of Canada, en Anglais, et Banque Equity Development du Canada, en Français.

Toute personne qui s'oppose à la délivrance de ces lettres patentes peut s'adresser par écrit au Bureau du surintendant des institutions financières, 255, rue Albert, Ottawa (Ontario) K1A 0H2 avant le 31 Juillet 2007.

Le 8 Juin 2007
Herbert James Dunton et Robert Stephen Dunton

CASH & RRSP INVESTMENT

Average Yearly NET Return for the Past 12 Years

11.8%

For a booklet on this quality professionally-managed INCOME & GROWTH investment (minimum \$1,000), qualifying for all Canadian Registered Plans, and secured by valuable CANADIAN property, please call

RAEL or AGGIE
604-324-9255 or 1-866-382-9255
www.fisgard.com info@fisgard.com

Fisgard
Quality Service Since 1967

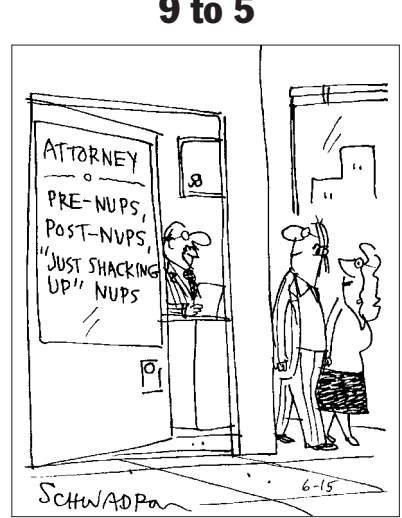
Fisgard All Canadian RRSP
The Friendly Alternative

NEWS TIP ?

Do you have a news tip? We want to know.

Call The Vancouver Sun City Desk at 604-605-2445 or email us at sunnewstips@png.canwest.com

THE VANCOUVER SUN
SERIOUSLY WESTCOAST



This Father's Day get even closer to Dad.



Experience our closest, most comfortable shave ever, Braun 360° complete. A product of world class German engineering with a powerful motor and a handling system for precision and comfort. It's the world's first electric shaver with the expertise of Gillette Blade Technology. Precisely angled edges cut hair effectively with every stroke. And the Clean & Renew system keeps it feeling like a new shaver each and every morning. It's the ultimate Father's Day gift from Braun.

BRAUN

www.braun.com