



Venue Saint John is wrapping up a busy 2009, promoting Saint John as the province's top meeting destination. More than a half dozen National and International Associations toured the city on familiarization visits (FAMS) this year. These meeting planner visits have resulted in at least two major conference bookings so far, including:

The Funeral Services Association of Canada in June 2011 with 400 delegates, and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators in August 2010 with 450 delegates.

Convention Officer Sally Cummings says "Seeing is believing, and when we roll out the red carpet to meeting planners it almost always translates into future business."

BIDS:

The Venue Saint John partnership has submitted at least 8 major bids for conventions this year.

In addition to site tours and fam visits, Venue Saint John is meeting face to face with meeting planners at trade shows like: the CSAE (Canadian Society of Association Executives) Conference & Trade Show in Toronto the end of this November, which brings together 500 Association leaders from across Canada who all host annual conventions.

The Canadian Comedy Awards and Festival is also being hosted in Saint John October 1,2,3, 2009. The event will have up to 2000 attendees and an estimated economic impact of \$1.3 – 3.4-Million.

Over 400 tourism industry leaders from across Canada will also attend the Tourism Industry Association of Canada Leadership Summit on November 1-4, 2009.

Next year is shaping up to be another exciting year.

2010 OUTLOOK:

- The city will be hosting the Jeux D'Acadie June 30-July 4, 2010 attracting over 2200 people.
- About 400 Red Hatters will also be descending on the city June 11-13, 2010 with the Red Hat Society.
- The Canadian Association of Police Boards will host their 2010 AGM with 200 delegates next August.
- And the Canadian Fire Chiefs Association will also bring 350 delegates in September 2010.
- While roughly 650 women's barber shop singers from the US and Canada will be attending the Harmony Inc. annual convention November 10-14, 2010.

