



People in all the right places

THE TOURISM SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE
16-18TH MAY 2007

GETTING THERE: FUTURE ACCESS TO SPECIAL PLACES

BIOGRAPHIES OF KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Peter Lederer

Peter Lederer has been Chairman of VisitScotland since April 2001, having been reappointed in 2004 and 2007. He was first appointed a board member of the then Scottish Tourist Board (which became VisitScotland in 2001) in 1995. He is Managing Director of the Gleneagles Hotel.

Peter Lederer joined Gleneagles in 1984 as General Manager and was appointed Managing Director in 1987. Previously he held operational, administrative and senior management positions in multi-million enterprises in Canada for ten years with the Four Seasons hotel group in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal, and with Plaza Hotels in Toronto. He was also for two years a partner in a design, construction and consulting firm providing services to the hospitality industry.

Peter is committed to improving quality educational standards and training opportunities within the hospitality and tourism industries. He is Chairman of the Hospitality Industry Trust Scotland, a Trustee of the Springboard Charitable Trust and a Patron of The Queen Margaret University College Foundation. Peter has been appointed an Honorary Professor by the University of Dundee and was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Business Administration by Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh. He is a board member of Connoisseurs Scotland and is a member of the Council of CBI Scotland. He has also served on the board of Scottish Enterprise Tayside.

Dr Nancy Arsenault

Dr Nancy Arsenault is one of Canada's leading experts in the areas of learning, enrichment and experiential travel. A passionate believer in the contribution of heritage sites to the success of the tourism sector and their ability to be catalysts in their community, she is committed to synthesizing and sharing knowledge that enables others to create dynamic and diverse visitor experiences that create long-lasting memories for travellers.





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As Dean of a new Faculty of Tourism and Hotel Management at Royal Roads University, Dr Arsenault is in the unique position of establishing the capacity for the university to succeed as a tourism educator and tourism operator. An applied university, Royal Roads is quite literally 'in the tourism business' with the stewardship responsibility for Hatley Park National Historic Sites, one of Canada's larger properties. This 565 site, replete with an old growth forest, 10 federally designated heritage buildings, a 1908 castle, a rare eco-system, bird sanctuary, a lagoon and 15 kms of hiking trails was converted into an Edwardian Estate by James Dunsmuir, son of Robert Dunsmuir a Scottish coal miner from Kilmarnock, Ayrshire who moved to Canada in 1850 with his wife Joanna Oliver White, also from Ayrshire.

An active member of various tourism board and economic development committees, and a long affiliation with Parks Canada's national parks and historic sites, Dr Arsenault's background in recreation, education and tourism have allowed her to develop a unique skill set, based on a wide range of projects in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors in Canada, the USA, Germany and England. She enjoys sharing her knowledge with tourism professionals, students, and community development representatives interested in destination development, product development and responding to emerging trends so that responsible tourism contributes to the social, cultural and financial health of communities.

Dr. Arsenault obtained her Bachelor of Recreation Studies degree from the University of Manitoba, and graduated with honours from her Master of Arts in Adult Education and her doctoral degree in Educational-Travel from McGill University. Since 1999, she has been an invited speaker and workshop leader to more than 50 venues in Canada and the USA on the topics of learning and enrichment travel, heritage and cruise tourism, product and niche market development, and performance measurement in tourism.

David Green

David Green is the Convenor of the Cairngorms National Park Authority, which covers an area of 1,467 miles across the North East of Scotland. Prior to this he held the role of chairman of the Crofters Commission from 2002 to 2007. He has also served as Convenor of the Highland Council, as Chairman of the Highland Wellbeing Alliance and as Chairman of the Non-Aligned Group in the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities. In addition to serving as an elected member of the local authority, he owned and ran a hotel in Strathpeffer.





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He holds a MA Hons in History and Politics and was a trainee Chartered Accountant in Deloitte, Haskins & Sells, London. He is interested in learning Gaelic, and music. He also enjoys hill walking, particularly around his croft in the Highlands of Scotland.

William Roe

Willy Roe has been the Chair of Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) since 2004 and was recently appointed for a second term in the post. Born in the Highlands (in Kinlochleven) but now based in Edinburgh, he is also Director of Rocket Science UK Ltd, a company providing consultancy services and solutions in economic development, lifelong learning and multimedia technology.

Willy Roe serves as Chair of the Board of the UK Disability and Carers Service of the Department for Work and Pensions; Chair of the Board of the Centre for Confidence and Wellbeing; Chair of the Board of the Highland Employer Coalition of the National Employment Panel; and as a Member of the UK Innovation Programmes Board of the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA).

Professor Stephen Tinsley

Steve Tinsley is the founder and Chief Executive of the Sustainable Development Research Centre (SDRC). SDRC was established at Forres in Moray some three years ago. It is now an Associate Institution of the UHI Millennium Institute, undertaking a wide range of regional, national and international research programmes related to sustainable development, with a special focus on practical applications within business and social enterprise.

Steve, who was born in Forres, has a doctorate in environmental and business management. Within SDRC he is responsible for the establishment of research and training partnerships aimed at developing skills and transfer knowledge in environmental management and sustainable development. He has extensive experience in collecting and analysing qualitative and quantitative data in environmental, management and social research projects.





Professor Sandy Pentland

Prof. Alex (Sandy) Pentland is a pioneer in wearable computers, health systems, smart environments, and technology for developing countries. He is one of the most-cited computer scientists in the world. He is a co-founder of the Wearable Computing research community, the Autonomous Mental Development research community and the Center for Future Health, and was the founding director of the Media Lab Asia.

He was formerly the Academic Head of the MIT Media Laboratory, and is MIT's Toshiba Professor of Media Arts and Sciences and Director of Human Dynamics Research.

He has won numerous international awards in the Arts, Sciences and Engineering. He was chosen by Newsweek as one of the 100 Americans most likely to shape the next century.

