

Frontier outpost and cosmopolitan city. Mountain vistas and world-class architecture. Brewpubs and baseball. Denver offers a little bit of something for everyone, including those who will attend NCARB's 2007 Annual Meeting and Conference in late June.

Denver: NCARB's 2007 Annual Meeting

Representatives from NCARB's 54 Member Boards will gather in Denver, CO, in late June 2007 for the Council's 88th Annual Meeting and Conference. One of the healthiest, thinnest, and most active cities in the United States, Denver offers a stunning natural landscape augmented by equally memorable architecture, including Daniel Libeskind's new addition for the Denver Art Museum.

The Westin Tabor Center will serve as the Annual Meeting's hub of activity. Named in honor of Horace Tabor, dubbed Colorado's "Silver King" during the late 19th century, the Westin underwent a \$8 million renovation in spring 2004. The hotel is conveniently located next to the 16th Street Mall, a 16-block area encompassing prime shopping, eating, and people-watching opportunities.

A number of additional attractions are within walking distance of the Westin, including the

Denver Center for the Performing Arts; Coors Field and Mile High Stadium; Colorado's Ocean Journey, an aquarium; and the Children's Museum of Denver.

The always popular Icebreaker will be held at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, which was founded in 1900. Icebreaker guests can enjoy a wide array of museum attractions such as exhibits on Australia/South Pacific, Native American Indian cultures, and Space Odyssey. The Phipps IMAX Theater round out the offerings.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF A VIBRANT CITY

Named in honor of James W. Denver, the then-governor of the Kansas Territory, the city was established in November 1858. In its early days, beaver pelts, gold prospecting, and high plains agriculture characterized Denver's burgeoning economic prosperity. The U.S. Mint, built in 1906, established Denver as a banking and financial center.

Today, the city's economic engine is powered by the communications, utilities, and transportation industries.

RE(DEFINING AN ARCHITECTURAL IDENTITY

Intimately framed against one another, three of Denver's most notable buildings are located in the city's downtown cultural district, which is enjoying a renaissance of late. Designed in the late 1960s by Gio Ponti, the original Denver Art Museum is a striking fortress-like structure clad in gray glass tiles that blends modern and classical forms.

In October 2006, the museum welcomed visitors to its world-class addition, the Frederic C. Hamilton Building designed by Daniel Libeskind. With its shimmering titanium skin, the Hamilton Building "is composed as a series of interlocking rectangles evoking a pile of boxes tumbling across the site," as described by *New York Times* critic Nicolai Ouroussoff.



Fun Facts About Denver

(from www.denvergov.org and www.denver.org)

- The greater Denver metropolitan region is home to 2.6 million people.
- Denver has 200 parks that cover more than 20,000 acres and 650 miles of urban bike trails.
- Denver has one of the highest per-capita motor vehicle ownership rates in the country—with an average of one licensed vehicle for every man, woman, and child.
- Visitors are precisely 5,280 feet above sea level when they reach the 18th step of the Colorado State Capitol building.
- The 53-square-mile Denver International Airport, which opened in 1995, is the nation's largest in terms of area and capacity for growth.
- Denver boasts more federal employees than any city besides Washington, DC.
- On average, the sun shines 300 days per year in Denver.

Ponti's original building is connected to Libeskind's addition both literally and metaphorically. A walkway bridges the two structures while, overhead, a triangular form housing upper-level galleries reaches out toward the older building. This sense of connection is echoed on a grander scale by ongoing development that increasingly links Denver's Civic Center with its Golden Triangle district.

Representing another facet of the city's architectural identity is the Denver Central Library expansion, which was designed by Michael Graves in the early 1990s. With its cylinders, squares, and decorative roofs, the library creates a unique and contemplative presence amidst the neighboring Denver Art Museum and its well-regarded Hamilton Building.

The newest addition to Denver's growing architectural oeuvre will be the Museum of Contemporary Art | Denver (MCA), designed

by David Adjaye, a leading British architect born in Tanzania to Ghanaian parents. The MCA is Adjaye's first museum commission as well as his first public building in the United States. It is scheduled to open in early 2007.

Meeting and Conference, visit the Members' Only section of the Council web site (www.ncarb.org). **DC**

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A DENVER DIALOGUE

Those attending NCARB's 2007 Annual Meeting—Member Board Members and Executives, collateral representatives, and international guests—will have the opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Mile High City. They also will consider, discuss, and learn about numerous issues that define the Council's mission and responsibilities.

For more information about the 2007 Annual

