

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

Issue 10, 2004, week 22

Governor of St. Petersburg Visited Stockholm

On 18-20 May Valentina Matvienko, the Governor of St. Petersburg, paid an official visit to Stockholm. "The main objective of the visit, - said Valentina Matvienko, is to strengthen the manifold contacts between our cities and define the prospects for further cooperation".

One of the visit's highlights was the meeting with Annika Billström, the Mayor of Stockholm. As it was noted by Valentina Matvienko, long-standing good-neighbour relations unite St. Petersburg and Stockholm. Stockholm remains one of the priority partners for St. Petersburg on the international arena. The meetings with Mats Hellström, Governor of the Stockholm County, Anders Björck, Governor of the Uppsala County, Leif Pagrotsky, Minister for Industry and Trade, Pär Nuder, Minister for Policy Coordination,



and Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria were also held within the frames of the visit.

On 19 May Valentina Matvienko participated in the seminar *St. Petersburg in XXI Century – Views on the Development, Culture, Science and Economics*.

Source: Press-center of the Governor's Office, www.gov.spb.ru

Visit of Stockholm Sports Administration to St. Petersburg

The study-visit of Stockholm Sports Administration to St. Petersburg, arranged with a support from the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg, took place on 24-27 April. The delegation was headed by Torunn Westford-Bjurå, Head of the Research and Development Department of the Stockholm Sports Administration. The participants were informed on how the development of physical culture and sports is managed in St. Petersburg and visited a number of sport centers and specialized sport schools. The programme included, in particular, meetings with the representatives of the St. Petersburg Committee on Physical Culture and Sports, the St. Petersburg Committee on Education, St. Petersburg Academy of Physical Culture and Sports, St. Petersburg Palace of Youth and St. Petersburg Sports Center for Children and Youth.

Source: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru



Photo provided by the Stockholm Sports Administration

Governor of County of Stockholm Visited Kaliningrad

The first visit of the Stockholm County Governor Mats Hellström to Kaliningrad oblast took place on 20-23 May. Mats Hellström had a series of meetings with the Governor of the Kaliningrad oblast, the Speaker of the Kaliningrad Region Duma, Vice Mayor of the City of Kaliningrad etc.

The prospects and priorities for Kaliningrad's development, the interests of Stockholm in the Baltic Sea region and Kaliningrad, as well as various possible areas for cooperation and contacts were discussed. Mats Hellström mentioned, in particular, such fields of cooperation as water purification, water systems management, energy, IT, telecom and solid waste handling. He also got acquainted with the water purification project for Kaliningrad city, managed by the Stockholm based consulting company Sweco.

Contact person: Elena Emelianova, Consulate General of Sweden in Kaliningrad, e-mail: elena.emelianova@mail.ru

Joint Information Project Successfully Developed



The press conference at the Norwecom fair.
Photo provided by Restec exhibition company

Joint information project of the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg and Restec exhibition company is being successfully developed. It is aimed at the information support of projects and events involving potential for cooperation between Stockholm-Mälars Region and the Northwest Russia. The project was presented at the Norwecom fair on 24 February. Russian participants of the trade fairs arranged by Restec are offered an opportunity to place the information in *the Northwest Russia: Facts and Events* electronic newsletter. The corresponding information is available, in particular, at the

Restec's Internet portal (restec.ru)

Similar projects with the participation of the Russian Union of Travel Industry and St. Petersburg Construction Center are to be elaborated in the nearest future.

Source: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru

Global Power Prize in St. Petersburg

The winners of the *Global Power* prize were announced in St. Petersburg on 26 April. The prize was initiated by Zhores Alferov, member of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Nobel Prize winner. The *Global Power* prize was instituted in 2002 with a support from Vladimir Putin, the President of the Russian Federation. The organizers hope that it is going to become a Russian Nobel Prize.

According to Zhores Alferov, Chairman of the Global Power Fund Organizing Committee, the Prize will occupy the leading position within the world power sector.

Source: Delovoy Petersburg, 29 April 2004

Russian Students Won the International Collegiate Programming Contest, ACM

The team of the St. Petersburg State Institute of Fine Mechanics and Optics (Technical University) became the champion of the world and Europe in programming in 2004. The team of 3 students showed the best results among 3 thousand teams from 75 countries at the 28th International Collegiate Programming Contest, ACM, in Prague. The teams of St. Petersburg universities were also the winners of this Contest in the years 2000-2001.



After the contest the students and their tutor were welcomed at Smolny, the Governor's Office, by the Governor of St. Petersburg Valentina Matvienko. She congratulated the winners, wished them successful carriers in St. Petersburg and handed over the diplomas.

Source: Press-center of the Governor's Office, www.gov.spb.ru

Interesting statistic figures

Internet Users

Russian Federation: over 16 million users

St. Petersburg: 1 million users

Source: Delovoy Petersburg, 19 April 2004

Telecommunication Market

St. Petersburg ranks second in Russia after Moscow by the number of mobile phone users.

The number of mobile phones' users in St. Petersburg constitutes 4 mln.

Source: Delovaya Panorama, N14, 19-25 April, 2004

Innovations Market

There are 40 centers of innovation technologies in Russia.

The area occupied by the centers is over 100 000 sq. m.

Source: Delovoy Petersburg, 12 April 2004

From Swedish Town To Russian Capital Exhibition



The exhibition *From Swedish Town To Russian Capital (What Maps and Plans of XVII-XVIII Centuries Tell)* was opened at the Peter and Paul Fortress in St. Petersburg on 30 April. It is dedicated to the most interesting pages of Russian-Scandinavian history of the Neva and Ladoga lands. The history unites Russia and Scandinavia

from the legendary times and creates the necessary prerequisites for the common future.

The exhibition was arranged on the initiative and with the financing from the Swedish Institute in Stockholm and prepared by the Travel and Culture Centre *Eclectica*, the Institute of Researches of St. Petersburg and Northwest region and St. Petersburg Union of Architects.

Source: Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg, www.sweden.spb.ru (here you can find the full version in English)

VIII Petersburg International Economic Forum in St. Petersburg



The VIII Petersburg International Economic Forum will take place at the Tavrichesky Palace in St. Petersburg from 14 to 18 June 2004.

The Forum is annually held under the patronage of the President of the Russian Federation. Heads of states, governments and parliaments, leaders of international

organizations, representatives of economic and political elite from different countries of the world regularly take an active part in it. The Forum is considered to be the main economic summit of Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The motto of the Forum is *Efficient Economy - Worthy Life*. It is supposed to pay special attention to the development of economic relations between the European Union, Russia and other CIS countries, implementation of economic and social reforms, development of modern information technologies, attraction of investments, accession of new countries to the World Trade Organization and other issues. *The Forum of Entrepreneurs of the CIS countries* will be also organized within the frames of the Forum.

Source: www.economforum.iacis.ru/eng/common/comm6.html (here you can find the full version in English)

Viking Age in Russia

The opening of the exhibition *Rurik and First Rurikoviches in Russia* took place at the museum *700 Years: Landskrona, Neva Mouth, Nyenskans* on 29 April.

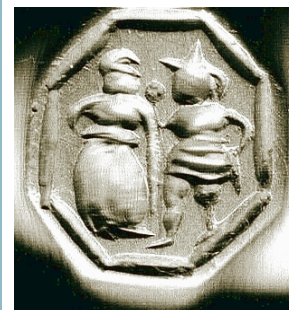


Photo provided by Museum *700 Years: Landskrona, Neva Mouth, Nyenskans*

The exhibition was timed to the first anniversary of the museum and arranged by the Institute of History of Material Culture within the Russian

Academy of Science, researchers of the Novgorod region and the *Vityaz* association.



Photo provided by Museum *700 Years: Landskrona, Neva Mouth, Nyenskans*

Scandinavian clothes, arms, trappings of the Viking Age as well as archaeological findings at the Peredol pogost mounds excavations are displayed at the exhibition.

Contact person: Sophia Kasim, Director of the *700 Years: Landskrona, Neva Mouth, Nyenskans* Museum

The archive of the newsletters can be found at <http://www.stockholmregion.org/tpl/topic.asp?ID=457>

STOCKHOLM REGION OFFICE in ST PETERSBURG
Visiting address: Nevsky 1, St. Petersburg
Postal address: BOX 1005, 190000, St. Petersburg
tel.: +7-812-314 68 18, fax: +7-812-314 68 53
e-mail: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru
www.stockholmregion.org