

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

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Elections in the St. Petersburg Legislative Assembly

In about two months the Legislative Assembly of St. Petersburg will stop its work to be newly elected. Assessing the results of its four-year work, Vadim Tulpanov, Speaker of the present Legislative Assembly, noted that the most important law, adopted during this period was the city's general development plan. The latter was passed in the end of 2005 and is supposed to regulate the city development up to 2025. Earlier the city had to follow the previous master plan, which was actually invalid since 1987.

For the last four years the present Legislative Assembly has considered 970 legislative drafts, 642 of which were adopted. 437 bills were signed by the Governor, 30 overrode the governmental veto.

Source: *Metro newspaper*, January 2007

Programme for Environment, Agriculture and Ecosystem Health in Leningrad Oblast



A kick-off conference of the *Programme for Environment, Agriculture and Ecosystem Health in Leningrad Oblast* was held on 24 January in St. Petersburg. This initiative is a part of international cooperation within the Baltic Sea Regional Project (BSRP) implemented under the HELCOM umbrella.

The Programme, coordinated by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, the Leningrad Oblast Administrative Board and the Northwest Academy of Management and Agribusiness, is financed jointly by Sida and the respective input from the Russian partners. It comprises 5 different projects aimed, in particular, at monitoring and assessment of diffuse pollution, enhancing sustainable agricultural practices, supporting environmental investments at farms and introducing ecosystem management

in higher education.

Over 60 participants representing Programme stakeholders, international environmental organizations and academic circles, took part in the kick-off, which was arranged with a support from the Consulate General of Sweden and Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg.

The kick-off was followed by a reception held by the Consul General of Sweden Gunnar Klinga in connection to the Programme's launching. A framework agreement between the Programme parties was signed during the reception.



Source: Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg,
generalkonsulat.st-petersburg@foreign.ministry.se

Grigory Perelman Acknowledged the Greatest Scientist of 2006



The prominent St. Petersburg mathematician Grigory Perelman, who proved the Poincare theorem, was acknowledged the greatest scientist of the year 2006. The Poincare theorem refers to the seven most important mathematical problems of the millennium. For the solution of each Clay Mathematics Institute promised a prize of 1 million USD. Perelman refused to accept the prize.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* Newspaper, December 2006, www.dp.ru; *Lenta.ru* information agency, www.lenta.ru

Conference on Development of the Leningrad Region's Construction Complex in 2007



Conference on Development of the Leningrad Region's Construction Complex in 2007 – Investment Potential of the Region will take place in St. Petersburg on 26 February. Among the participants of the conference are

heads of construction and investment companies; representatives of banking structures, mass media and the government of the Leningrad Region. The conference is jointly organized by the government of the Leningrad Region and *Kommersant Newspaper*.

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Photo: www.interpress.ru

VI International Conference Modern Power Industry 2007



The VI International Conference *Modern Power Industry 2007* will be held in *RESTEC* exhibition complex on 11-12 April within the frames of the VII International Forum *RUSSIAN FUEL & ENERGY COMPLEX – 2007*. Among the participants of the conference are heads of federal and regional executive and legislative bodies, management of the leading power companies, industrial and utility enterprises, representatives of state and regional legislative bodies

and executives, leading scientists and experts, representatives of financial and investment organizations.

The participants plan to discuss the following topics: Russian power sector reform as a key factor of economic development of Russia; power supply security, fuel balance, development of generation and network infrastructure, role of energy efficiency under the growing demand for electricity; technical upgrade of the power industry sector: innovations, modern technologies and equipment; advanced IT solutions.

The programme of the conference includes the international specialized workshop *Investments Program in the Power Sector. Main Aspects and Instruments of its Implementation*.



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Photo: www.interpress.ru

Dwelling Standards in St. Petersburg



In autumn 2006 the list of dwelling standards in St. Petersburg was worked out and approved by the city government within the frames of the *Programme of social-economic development of St. Petersburg 2005-2008*. The main goal of the Programme is the

growth citizens' welfare provided by maintenance of resources in accordance with the dwelling standards.

Source: City of St. Petersburg, www.gov.spb.ru

Photo: www.interpress.ru

Apartments Statistics in St. Petersburg and Moscow

- During the summer period the prices for apartments grew by 60% in Moscow, 11% in St. Petersburg and 2% in the Leningrad Region. Now the average price in St. Petersburg constitutes 2544 USD per square meter.

Source: Metro newspaper, October 2006

- In 2006 St. Petersburg house-constructors commissioned 34 227 apartments with the total area of about 2,4 million square meters.

Source: Metro newspaper, January 2007

Incomes in St. Petersburg: Facts and Figures

In 2006 the incomes of St. Petersburgers grew by approximately 15%, and constituted the average of:

Type of personnel	Income (in RUR)	Income (in SEK)
Accountant	14 000 - 45 000	Apr. 3 800 – 12 000
Secretary	10 000 – 15 000	Apr. 2 700 – 4 000
Sales manager	12 000 – 40 000	Apr. 3 200 – 10 800
Service-engineers, other technological personnel	15 000 – 28 000	Apr. 4 000 – 7 600
Storekeepers	10 000 – 20 000	Apr. 2 700 – 5 400
Structural and design engineers	18 000 – 40 000	Apr. 4 900 – 10 800

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, December 2006, www.dp.ru

Income of Officials in Moscow and St. Petersburg: Facts and Figures

According to the information provided by the Federal State Statistics Service in 2006, the administrative officials of St. Petersburg have higher income (an average salary of 28 577 RUR, appr. 7 700 SEK) than their colleagues in Moscow (an average salary of 23 610 RUR, appr. 6 400 SEK). The average salary of the Leningrad Region's officials is about 30 000 RUR a month, appr. 8100 SEK. The officials of Taimyrsky autonomous district have the highest salary of 59 000 RUR per month, appr. 16 000 SEK.



According to Alexey Kudrin, the Minister of Finance, in the beginning of 2007 the incomes of officials will grow by 10% and from 1 December 2007 by another 15%.

Source: Metro newspaper, September 2006; *Vzglyad* Newspaper, September 2006, www.vzglyad.ru

Photo: www.interpress.ru

The archive of the newsletters can be found at http://www.stockholmregion.org/websites/stockholm/sd_page/274/3/index.php?

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