

# Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

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## Russian - Finnish Agreement on the Development of Medical Tourism



On 12 February the Medical Association of St. Petersburg and the League of Private Medicine on the one side and seven Finnish clinics on the other signed an agreement on the development of medical tourism. The agreement will give the medical centers of Eastern Finland an opportunity to serve clients from St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region. At the same time the clinics of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region will be able to treat patients from Finland and other EU countries. The agreement launched a pilot project, planned for two years, being a part of the EU-Russia Neighborhood Programme

On the Russian part the project is coordinated by the Medical Association of St. Petersburg, comprising over 1000 doctors and the League of Private Medicine, comprising 15 health centers. The coordinator on the Finnish part is the Chamber of Commerce of the South Savo Region.

Representatives of the East Finnish clinics explain that the number of elderly people in the country is constantly growing and there is not a sufficient number of doctors to treat them. Therefore the Finns are interested in St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region, being closely located and having a number of medical centers providing high-quality services. As yet the incoming medical tourism of St. Petersburg is less developed than the outbound one. The clinics of St. Petersburg mainly provide services to their foreign clients in the following medical fields: orthopedics, posttraumatic rehabilitation, and dentistry.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, February 2007, [www.dp.ru](http://www.dp.ru)

## UBC IS Com Meeting

On 6 March 2007 the Commission on Information Society of the Union of Baltic Cities (UBC IS Com) will hold a seminar – New programming period 2007–2013 – *New information society cooperation opportunities for Baltic cities* - in Brussels.

UBC IS Com is inviting the representatives (politics, business and research) from the UBC member-cities and key actors in the ICT field in the Baltic Sea region, EU and other organizations and structures.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the UBC IS COM activities and to emphasize the new information society cooperation opportunities for Baltic cities for the period 2007–2013. The main speakers at the seminar are representatives of the EU Commission, Regional Policy DG, the St. Petersburg Committee on IT and Communications and the St. Petersburg Committee on External Relations.

On 7-8 March - right after the seminar - there will also be the Regions for Economic Change conference in Brussels, which makes the participation in the meeting even more attractive to the member cities.

Please find further information, programme and registration form at:

[http://www.baltic.org/events/current\\_events/](http://www.baltic.org/events/current_events/)

Contact person: Vladislav Balsky, St. Petersburg Committee on External Relations, [balsky@kvs.gov.spb.ru](mailto:balsky@kvs.gov.spb.ru)

UBC web-site: [www.ubc.net](http://www.ubc.net)

## Real Estate Market of St. Petersburg: Facts and Figures

### Stabilization of the Dwelling Market



The construction market, as well as secondary dwelling market of St. Petersburg has stopped shooting up. According to the estimations of construction companies, the price level for unaccomplished objects is no longer rising. The purchasing capacity and the demand are still in decline, while the supply is rising as awaited.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, February 2007, [www.dp.ru](http://www.dp.ru), Photo: [www.interpress.ru](http://www.interpress.ru)

### Complex Experiment on the Development of Mass Low House-Building in St. Petersburg

According to the decision of the *Council on implementation of national priority projects* under the President of the Russian Federation, a complex experiment on development of mass low house-building will be implemented in the Northwest Federal District. The project implies building a plant of pre-fabricated house constructions in St. Petersburg, and providing a complex construction of a new residential area *New Izhora* on the territory of about 285 hectares. The first block of approximately 300 buildings is planned to be accomplished by the end of 2007.

Source: City of St. Petersburg, [www.gov.spb.ru](http://www.gov.spb.ru)

### Five-Star Hotel with a View over the Hermitage

The construction corporation *Vozrozhdenie Sankt-Peterburga* intends to convert the house 1 on the Nevsky prospect, built in the XVIII century, into a five-star hotel. Now the building of approximately 7 thousand square with a view over the Hermitage functions as a business center meters comprising 20 companies and organizations. Among the largest lessees are the Leningrad Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the St. Petersburg office of the *National Bank Trust*.



Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, February 2007, [www.dp.ru](http://www.dp.ru), Photo: [www.interpress.ru](http://www.interpress.ru)

### Appearance of St. Petersburg Changing Rapidly

Since the general development plan of St. Petersburg was adopted in the end of 2005 (see Issue 67, 2007, week 4) the city has witnessed grand changes. For instance, it is planned to construct the largest business ward of 248 thousand square meters in the industrial zone of Admiralteysky city district. Apart from business centers, it will comprise hotels, shopping malls and restaurants.

Furthermore it is planned to construct 8 new metro stations (2 in the downtown), which are designed as parts of multifunctional shopping centers.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, February 2007, [www.dp.ru](http://www.dp.ru)

### Skanska Leaving Russian Construction Market

The Swedish construction company *Skanska* is leaving the Russian market having sold its last St. Petersburg subsidiaries to the Moscow management company *AT-Allians*. According to the Stockholm office of *Skanska*, they decided to sell the Russian subsidiaries as their business in Russia was small-scale and therefore they will to focus on other countries. Previously the subsidiaries of *Skanska* were actively working in the construction markets of Moscow, St. Petersburg and other Russian regions.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, February 2007, [www.dp.ru](http://www.dp.ru)

### Rosstroy

The Federal Agency on Construction, Housing and Communal Services, Rosstroy, is going to invest 36 billion RUR in the dam construction that will last till 2012, and 100 million RUR in the reconstruction of the historic centre of St. Petersburg in 2007. All the funds will be redistributed via tenders.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, February 2007, [www.dp.ru](http://www.dp.ru)



Photo: [www.interpress.ru](http://www.interpress.ru)



## Photo-exhibition Devoted to Swedish Princess from the Romanov Dynasty

On 13 February 2007 a photo-exhibition The Russian-Swedish Fate devoted to the grand princess Maria Pavlovna was inaugurated at the K. Anderson and F. Lidval museum in St. Petersburg. Maria Pavlovna (1890 – 1958) was a cousin to the last Russian emperor Nicolay II and in 1908 became a Swedish princess by marrying Swedish prince Wilhelm. The photos from the Royal Palace collection (Stockholm) granted by the Bernadotte Library show both official and private life of the princess and the royal family.

The exhibition has been already demonstrated in the city of Kazan, and it is the second time the exhibition is held in St. Petersburg. It was organized by the householder's society at Malaya Konjushennaja, 1-3 B, with the support of the Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg. The exhibition is open to the public from 13 February to 9 March 2007.

Source: Stockholm Region Office in St-Petersburg, [Stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru](mailto:Stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru)

The archive of the newsletters can be found at [http://www.stockholmregion.org/websites/stockholm/sd\\_page/274/3/index.php?](http://www.stockholmregion.org/websites/stockholm/sd_page/274/3/index.php?)

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](mailto:stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru)

[www.stockholmregion.org](http://www.stockholmregion.org)