VICTORIA AIRPORT AUTHORITY

**"Installation of New Stained Glass Public Art At
Victoria International Airport Underway"**

Tuesday August 29th, 2006 10:00 am

For Immediate Release:

Today and over the next several days, glass artists *Thomas Mercer and Edward Schaefer of Mercer and Schaefer Glasstudios* are installing the latest piece of publicly commissioned art in the Departures Area at Victoria International Airport.

The methods used in this architectural glass artwork installation will be a first in Victoria using this installation technique and members of the media are invited to stop by on **Wednesday August 30th between 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm** to take photographs of the installation and speak with the artists.

 "The vibrant colors and shapes of this beautiful glass artwork will entertain viewers with an ever changing dance of reflected light and colour" commented Victoria Kuhl, VAA Art in the Airport Chair. The glass artwork is a colorful and lyrical stained glass design that extends the entire length of the Departures Area windows.

Thomas Mercer and Edward Schaefer are becoming increasingly internationally renowned for their exquisite stained glass artwork. Their most recent commission in Victoria was for 36 windows in the BC Government House Ballroom. Other works include a gift to the Queen of the Queen's Golden Jubilee stained glass window in the Legislature which was unveiled during the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh's visit to Victoria, B.C. in 2002

The commission of this public art piece was announced in October of 2005 at the same time as Illarion Gallant's piece "Bouquet of Memories" was announced. Commissioning and displaying public art are part of the Victoria Airport Authority Board's commitment to their continuing Art in the Airport Program.

For more information contact:

Thomas Mercer or Edward Schaefer
Phone: (250) 385-0901

Victoria Kuhl
Victoria Airport Authority
Chair, Art at the Airport Committee
Phone: (250) 380-8149

Anita Kardos
Victoria Airport Authority
Terminal Operations Officer
Phone: (250) 888-6499