



## Questacon's Achievements

### Visitation and reach

- Questacon delivers over six million hours of inspiration to over three million people across all programs annually.
- Since the Questacon Centre opened in Canberra in 1988:
  - over 8.7 million people have visited the Centre
  - an additional 17.7 million people have experienced Questacon's travelling exhibitions, outreach and videoconference programs
  - a total of over 26.4 million people have experienced Questacon's exhibitions and programs.
- Questacon now averages over 440 000 visitors per year to the Centre in Canberra. Approximately 30 per cent of visitors are school children.
- Annually, Questacon's website receives over one million visitors.
- Through the *Inspiring Australia* program, Questacon coordinates national initiatives, such as *National Science Week*—which attracts over 1.4 million participants annually—and the *Prime Minister's Prizes for Science* which recognise Australia's leading scientists and science teachers.

### Tourism

- Questacon is a twelve-time winner of the Canberra and Capital Region Tourism Awards in the following categories:
  - 2007–2012 – Tourist Attraction
  - 2002–2003; 2005–2006 – Significant Tourist Attraction
  - 2001 – Significant Regional Attraction
  - 1991 and 1999 – Major Tourist Attraction
- Four-time winner of the Australian Tourism Awards in the following categories:
  - 2007 and 2009 – Tourist Attraction
  - 2002 and 2003 – Significant Tourist Attraction

- Winner of the Best Tourist Attraction in the Out In Canberra and Australian Hotels Association Hospitality Awards in 2009.

### Education and Partnerships

- In 2006, Questacon was the Winner of the Special Award – Longevity in the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Community Business Partnerships, for the *Shell Questacon Science Circus*—the most extensive and longest running touring science centre outreach program in the world.
- Winner of Australian and international awards for design, software and educational excellence for the online exhibition *Burarra Gathering* over 2003 and 2004.

### Science Centre and Museums Sector

- Winner of the 2010 IMAGInE Awards Education and Public Programs Award for the *Shell Questacon Science Circus*.
- Leader in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Science Centre Impact Project (2004–2007).
- Winner of two 2006 International Council of Museums Australia Awards for International Relations in recognition of outstanding cooperative initiatives with science centres in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Questacon is an active member of the following science centre networks, and has served in a number of executive and board roles for these networks:
  - the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC), the US-based peak body for the science centre sector
  - the Asia Pacific Network of Science and Technology Centres (ASPAC)
  - the Australasian Science and Technology Exhibitors Network (ASTEN)
  - the Council of Australasian Museum Directors (CAMD).

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The National Science and Technology Centre