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Glacier Skywalk Awarded Two Honours by Consulting Engineers of Alberta

Iconic new Canadian Rockies attraction recognized with two awards at Consulting Engineers of Alberta Showcase Gala 2014

BANFF - Although it won’t be open to the public for three more months, the new Glacier Skywalk is already creating a buzz. On the heels of triple Top Project Awards in November 2013, the Brewster Travel Canada attraction has been honored with two awards by the Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA). The CEA Awards bring together awe-inspiring projects from across the province in an incredible showcase of engineering prowess. This year’s event awarded the Glacier Skywalk the Award of Excellence in Building Engineering as well as the Environmental Award of Merit for Environmental Assessment and Monitoring.

The Glacier Skywalk is a new Canadian Rockies attraction that offers visitors a unique way to connect with the surrounding environment, through a 400 metre interactive walkway and a thrilling glass-floored observation platform 280 metres above the breathtaking Sunwapta Valley. The project, which was previously recognized on an international scale with a World Architecture Festival award, was conceived by Brewster, designed by Canadian firms Sturgess Architecture and RJC Engineering and constructed by PCL Construction Management. After several years of environmental consultation, design and construction, the Glacier Skywalk was substantially completed in October 2013 and will open to the world on May 1, 2014.

“We are delighted that the voice of the Alberta engineering industry has honored the Glacier Skywalk’s design and environmentally sound construction with these esteemed awards” said David McKenna, Interim President, Brewster Travel Canada. “Along with our wonderful partners, we hope that all Albertans will share our pride in this project.”

Calgary firms Golder & Associates and Read Jones Christoffersen were honored at the CEA Awards for their roles in the Glacier Skywalk’s environmental assessment and monitoring, and exceptional design. Dr. Kyle Knopff, Wildlife Biologist, Golder & Associates, stated that “the Glacier Skywalk has been a remarkable project. One of Brewster’s key goals was to develop the project with minimal environmental impact. By applying sustainable development principles and practices, the Golder team helped achieve this goal by identifying ways, through careful monitoring, to maintain mountain goat use of the site during construction.”

“This is a once in a lifetime project and the most rewarding of my career” echoed Dr. Simon Brown of RJC, Prime Consultant and Structural Engineer for the Glacier Skywalk. “From the first time we visited the project site we knew the design would be anything but typical. By choosing to cantilever the structure, rather than using an overhead suspension system, we were able to blend the Glacier Skywalk in with the environment. The natural landscape and the dramatic falls below are the experience, the Glacier Skywalk allows guests to be suspended in the air providing a better view of the natural beauty around them.”
About the Glacier Skywalk

Go beyond nature’s edge and immerse yourself in an awe-inspiring interpretive experience in one of the most unique ecosystems in the world. Explore the immense powers of glaciology from a fully-accessible, cliff-edge walkway that leads to a glass-floored observation platform 280 metres (918 feet) above the Sunwapta Valley. From ice-capped mountain peaks to vast glacier-formed valleys, the Glacier Skywalk is your front row seat to nature’s most grand performance. For more information, please visit www.glacierskywalk.ca.

About Brewster Travel Canada

For more than a century, Brewster Travel Canada has been delivering premium Canadian travel experiences to the global market by connecting travelers to one of the world’s most spectacular natural locations. Brewster’s guiding principles are based on integrity through ethical practices, environmental stewardship, excellence in customer service and product delivery, and strength through growth and sustainable development. With expertise in travel planning, transportation, hospitality and attractions, Brewster Travel Canada has set the standard of excellence for authentic travel experiences in Canada. Brewster is part of the Viad Corp (NYSE: VVI) Travel & Recreation Group, which also includes Glacier Park, Inc. and Alaska Denali Travel. For more information about Brewster, please visit www.brewster.ca.