



**ATT: Health Care Editors / Education Editors / Lifestyle Editors**

**Visitors encouraged to ‘think on their feet’ at the *Healthy Feet Exhibit***  
**- Michener Institute chiropodists share their expertise with the public -**

**June 12, 2007, TORONTO** – Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci called the human foot “a masterpiece of engineering and a work of art” and now this *pièce de résistance* will be both celebrated and examined at the *Healthy Feet Exhibit* which steps into the Bata Shoe Museum from June 11 through to July 22, 2007.

The *Healthy Feet Exhibit* will feature educational displays to teach visitors of all ages about the anatomy of the foot and how it functions, common foot types, familiar and rare foot disorders affecting the toes, the arch of the foot and the heel, as well as side effects that can occur in the feet due to health conditions.

“Your feet mirror your general health,” says Susan Weltz, chiropodist, former president of the Ontario Society of Chiropodists and faculty member at The Michener Institute. “Many people are unaware that the first signs and symptoms of serious medical conditions such as arthritis, diabetes, nerve and circulatory disorders often appear in the feet.”

Weltz is part of the team of educators who provided the content information and artifacts for the *Healthy Feet Exhibit*. She says the purpose of the exhibit is to increase public awareness of how proper foot care can help maintain healthy feet throughout one’s lifetime, offer general tips for the prevention and treatment of foot ailments, and share with visitors the benefits of seeking professional help from a registered foot care specialist.

Sarah Beam, Assistant Curator at the Bata Shoe Museum, said the exhibit is a timely reminder to visitors about the importance of healthy footwear. “The summer season is a time when people are more inclined to experiment with new and fashionable types of shoes, and foot care doesn’t often factor into people’s assessment of foot apparel. We want to provide the public with a better understanding of why this issue should be considered and taken more seriously,” said Beam.

Visitors will leave with a better understanding of the foot structure and anatomy, an appreciation for foot-friendly shoes, an historical overview of orthotic footwear as well as an increased awareness of the benefits of proper foot care and the impact of feet on general health.

**EXHIBIT:** The Healthy Feet Exhibit

**DATE:** June 11 to July 22, 2007 – a limited 6-week engagement

**WHERE:** Bata Shoe Museum  
327 Bloor Street West (at St. George)  
Toronto, Ontario  
[www.batashoemuseum.ca](http://www.batashoemuseum.ca)

**PRESENTED BY:** The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences  
The Bata Shoe Museum



PUBLIC LECTURES: Canadian Federation of Podiatric Medicine  
Topic: *Your Shoes Only Last a Season. Your Feet Have to Last a Lifetime*  
When: June 24, 2007 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Ontario Society of Chiropodists  
Topic: *Everything You Wanted to Know About Foot Care but Were Afraid to Ask*  
When: July 22, 2007 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

COST: Exhibit and public lectures included with price of Museum admission

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#### About The Michener Institute

The Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences is Canada's only post-secondary institution devoted exclusively to applied health science education. Since 1958, Michener has educated allied health professionals who serve a vital role in the country's health care sector in such fields as medical laboratory science, medical radiation sciences, respiratory therapy, chiropody, diagnostic cytology, genetics technology, respiratory therapy, ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and Computed Tomography (CT).

Michener's academic excellence is rooted in: interprofessional education, simulation education, readiness assessment, clinical education, and theoretical education to deliver the **Best Experience, Best Education** hallmark of learning to our 800 full-time and 3,300 part-time and continuing education students. The Michener Institute's academic programs are publicly funded through the Province of Ontario and further enriched through partnerships with universities, private sector companies and leading health care organizations. More information is available at [www.michener.ca](http://www.michener.ca).

#### About the Bata Shoe Museum

The Bata Shoe Museum is a centre of knowledge about the role of footwear in the social and cultural life of humanity. The Museum's growing international collection of over 12,000 objects touches on 4,500 years of history. A varied program of events and exhibitions lets visitors discover the stories behind footwear from many lands and cultures. Current exhibitions include: *Chronicles of Riches: Treasures from the Bata Shoe Museum*; *Watched by Heaven, Tied to Earth: Summoning Animal Protection for Chinese Children*; *The Charm of Rococo: Femininity and Footwear in the 18th Century* and *All About Shoes: Footwear Through the Ages*. Online exhibitions include *All about Shoes* and *On Canadian Ground: Stories of Footwear in Early Canada*. The Bata Shoe Museum is located in downtown Toronto at the southwest corner of Bloor and St. George Streets. More information is available at [www.batashoemuseum.ca](http://www.batashoemuseum.ca).

For further information about the Healthy Feet Exhibit:

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