



## **Jade Buddha for Universal Peace World Tour - Perth, WA, Australia.**

### **Opening Speech by Ian Green On the Occasion of the Unveiling of the Jade Buddha, At Museum of Western Australia - Perth, 31st October 2009**

In the year 2000 an 18 tonne boulder of jade was discovered in Canada. Its massive size and gem-quality sparked intense interest in what was described as “the find of the millennium”. I was introduced to that boulder in 2003, when it had been given the name “Polar Pride”.

Today marks the culmination of over six years of dreaming, planning and hard work for my wife Judy and myself, as well as for the thousands of people around the world who have donated their money and their time to this project; to create the world’s largest gem-quality Jade Buddha.

The Jade Buddha for Universal Peace is being taken on a tour of the world in the wish that it will inspire everyone who sees it to reflect upon peace; peace for the world; peace in their relationships; peace at home; peace at work; and peace in their mind.

So far, our tour has exceeded our greatest dreams.

- In just three months earlier this year 4 million people paid homage to the Jade Buddha in Vietnam.
- So far in Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide close to 250,000 people have seen the Jade Buddha.

And here in the magnificent Museum of Western Australia we have our first ever interior showing of the Jade Buddha.

After touring the capital cities of our country the Buddha then heads back overseas again in 2010 to USA and Canada and in 2011 to Europe.

I thank the Museum of Western Australia - Perth for their vision in seeing the possibility of this display, I also thank Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia, WA Indo China Chinese Benevolent Association, City Of Perth, East Perth Redevelopment Authority and the Northbridge Business Group.

I also thank our small band of dedicated volunteers under the coordination of Victor Ngu. Thank you all and may peace break out around our world.