

## Federal activities in support of the 1976 Olympic Games

*Treasury Board issued the following background paper on May 10:*

In February 1973, Prime Minister Trudeau enunciated the Federal Government's policy on the 1976 Olympics in Montreal.

"More than four years ago, this Government has clearly defined its position, namely that we would not make any special financial contribution to these Games. In letters dating as far back as 1968 and since then, on the occasion of numerous public statements, Mayor Jean Drapeau has indicated that besides certain current federal-provincial programs, no financing was required on the part of the Federal Government.

"While the organization of the Games is the responsibility of the City of Montreal, the Federal Government has taken an interest in them by reason, on the one hand, of the international character of the undertaking and, on the other hand, of financing methods considered by the City of Montreal and the Olympic Games Organization Committee (COJO)."

The Prime Minister made it clear there would be additional federal costs incurred because of requirements on government services generated by the Games.

The Government committed itself to major involvement in the areas of security and customs and immigration. Personnel from the RCMP, Canadian Armed Forces and Customs and Immigration were advised by the Prime Minister that they would be involved in the protection of participants and spectators.

Further costs were anticipated by the Prime Minister should the CBC assume the role (as it has) of "host broadcaster".

### Legislation — Bill C-196

On June 28, 1973, C.M. Drury, then President of the Treasury Board, introduced the Olympic (1976) Act concerning special issues of Olympic stamps and coins, and the creation of the Olympic lottery.

Parliament was asked to approve the issuance of \$5- and \$10-silver coins to commemorate the Games. "The coins are intended for sale to collec-

tors and not for general circulation," Mr. Drury said. "Production costs, as well as distribution and promotion costs, will be charged against gross proceeds from coin sales with the net proceeds going to COJO."

The Government also proposed to issue special postage stamps and postal-related products beginning late in 1973, with additional issues in 1974, 1975 and 1976. Again net proceeds from their sale would be turned over to COJO.

Mr. Drury assured Parliament that "the production and marketing of Olympic coins, stamps and postal-related products are intended to generate revenue for the financing of the 1976 Summer Olympic Games, at no expense to the Federal Government, since all costs will be recovered".

Regarding COJO's request to operate a lottery, Mr. Drury said the proposal under consideration stipulated that the lottery could operate only in provinces which would give their approval and over periods of time determined by those provinces.

Bill C-196, adopted by the House of Commons and promulgated in July 1973, also proposed that donations to COJO by individuals and corporations be tax deductible.

### Bill C-63

On June 20, 1975, amendments to the Olympic (1976) Act proposing the issuance of \$100-gold coins commemorating the Olympic Games were put before Parliament. The bill, passed by the House of Commons and promulgated in July 1975, also sought to give COJO proprietary rights in trademarks and copyrights.

The production and marketing of the gold coins are basically subject to the same conditions as the stamps and silver coins.

As a result of financing programs made possible by federal legislation, COJO expects to net \$360 million in revenues — \$225 million from Olympic lotteries, \$125 million from gold and silver coins and \$10 million from stamps.

Expenditures for the involvement of some 35 Federal Government departments and agencies necessary to meet

requirements generated by the Olympics are estimated at \$155 million. About \$28 million of this amount had been spent by the end of February 1976. The main areas are: security, influx of visitors, manpower, protocol, host broadcaster, staging of Games, officials, facilities, mail, promotion, cultural program, co-ordination.

In a speech to Parliament, June 20, 1975, Mr. Drury, speaking on behalf of the President of the Treasury Board, also announced a program to assist Canadian athletes.

"The Federal Government, through the Department of Health and Welfare, has increased the amount of assistance that has been available to Canadian athletes either through grants to national sports-governing bodies or *via* the student-scholarship program," he said. "The level of this support now stands at close to \$2 million for this year."

The Minister also confirmed an \$800,000-project to provide a breakwater and deepen the harbour at Kingston, Ontario for the Olympic sailing events, which has now been completed at a total cost of \$628,000.

## Winnipeg Mint inaugurated

The Winnipeg Mint, a branch of the Royal Canadian Mint, was officially inaugurated on April 30, when Jean-Pierre Goyer, Minister of Supply and Services unveiled a commemorative plaque before representatives of the public and local, national and international guests. Canada now has three mints, the other two in Ottawa and in Hull, Quebec.

Yvon Gariépy Master of the Royal Canadian Mint, who welcomed guests to the inauguration ceremony, said that, with the additional manufacturing capacity of the Winnipeg Mint, new foreign markets were being sought. Canada is one of several countries with mints that compete on the export market.

Visitors to the Winnipeg Mint enter at the base of a 110-foot high glass tower. The reception area on the main floor of the tower, designed as an interior courtyard, houses hundreds of plants, a fountain, and ponds containing gold fish. An interpretive area on the same level has displays of coins and information on the minting process.