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Editorial

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This year Canadians are celebrating a number of special anniversaries, many of which are of particular significance to me as they not only represent milestones in Canadian history but they also reflect the close association between Canada and the United Kingdom.

The 40th anniversary of D-Day and the 60th anniversary of the RCAF are featured in two articles in this issue of *Canada Today*. Canadians are being honoured for their heroic contributions to the Allied effort in June 1944 in ceremonies on the Normandy beaches in France and on the beaches in England from where they embarked. Canadians are also being honoured in Britain to mark the association between the RCAF and its British counterpart. I am looking forward to welcoming the many veterans who will be returning for these ceremonies.

Another feature in this issue is an article on Québec 84, the largest maritime festival ever. Québec 84 was organized as a tribute to the 450th anniversary of the arrival of Jacques Cartier in Gaspé and his long journey across the Atlantic Ocean. Included among the 63 days of historic sailing events and other festivities will be the inaugural race for the Ports Canada World Cup

from Nova Scotia to Liverpool, where I will have the great pleasure of participating in the presentation of trophies to the winning categories of ships.

Our culture article also reveals the close connection between Canada and Britain. The Canadian music tradition has derived a great deal from the music of its settler cultures and with its maturation and the increasing number of talented musicians, Canadians are making important contributions to the growth of music worldwide.

Two Canadian provinces, Ontario and New Brunswick, are celebrating their bicentennials this year and many Canadian cities are marking special anniversaries. In this, Canada's official Year of Tourism, it is an exciting time to visit Canada and the article in this issue on touring Canada offers holiday planning advice. I hope you will be able to join Canadians in their special celebrations this year

Our theme issue on Ontario is now available and the one of New Brunswick will appear this summer.

Canadian High Commissioner