

News Release

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AXWORTHY ANNOUNCES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR JAPANESE TOUR BY ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET

The Minister of Human Resources Development and Minister of Western Economic Diversification, Lloyd Axworthy, on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, today announced a \$300 000 grant to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet to support its month-long tour of Japan. Mr. Axworthy presented a cheque to representatives of the Ballet in Winnipeg.

The company will present 18 performances in 14 Japanese cities, including Tokyo, from January 18 to February 18. The Government of Manitoba, the Royal Canadian Mint and Wood Gundy are also supporting this international tour

"The fact that the Royal Winnipeg Ballet will participate in a month-long tour of Japan is testimony to the high esteem it has earned in the international dance world. Such events help to promote Canadian talent abroad and showcase our country's impressive artistic reputation," said Mr. Axworthy.

Funding for this initiative is provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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