



CANADA

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### WORLD'S FAIR SITE INAUGURATION

Prime Minister Pearson, Premier Jean Lesage of Quebec and Mayor Jean Drapeau of the City of Montreal, were the three leading figures in the colourful inauguration ceremony at the chosen site of the Canadian Universal and International Exhibition on St. Helen's Island, August 12.

The Canadian Prime Minister urged an immediate summit conference to ensure the success of the 1967 World's Fair. A Federal Government contribution of some \$50 million towards the cost of the exhibition was also indicated.

The ceremony, which took place beneath sunny skies, on the tiny island in the St. Lawrence River near the Port of Montreal, was attended by some 2,000 people, many of who, represented foreign countries, federal and provincial governments, business and industry and organizations particularly interested in the forthcoming exhibition.

In his address, the Canadian Prime Minister said: "We must realize that the prestige of Canada is closely tied to this great enterprise. So we must make this Exhibition a success in every way. But, in order to do so, we will have to call upon the support and the creative energies of the whole country; not merely Montreal, not merely Quebec, but the whole of Canada.

"We will be celebrating in 1967 the Centennial Anniversary of the Confederation. This Exhibition will be one of the central features, perhaps the greatest single feature, of that Centennial, when we will praise the wisdom and genius of our fore-

fathers in uniting widely separated colonies into a great self-governing Confederation based on the partnership of two founding races; a partnership which must be a full and genuine one if Canada is to flourish or even survive.

"It is right that this great Exhibition should be held in a city which is at the very heart of our history; a city which combines pride in the past with faith in the future.

"The Exhibition will draw the attention of the world to Montreal, to Quebec and to Canada, as hardly anything else in our history has done. We will all be on show before the world. The event must be one of which we can be proud - in every part of Canada.

"I am convinced that it can be such an event. But it will not be, unless there is careful planning and concerted action. I would be less than frank if I did not add that I feel we all have cause for concern over the magnitude of the tasks that must be accomplished if the Fair is to be the success that it must be.

"Internationally it is the Government of Canada that is the sponsor of the Fair. In 1962 the Federal Government took the necessary action to establish the World Fair Corporation and to extend invitations to countries through our diplomatic channels abroad. It approved a contribution of up to \$20 million to meet the direct costs of the exhibition.

"The Federal Government is also prepared to provide an exhibit that will be worthy of this country.

(Over)