

# Canada Goes "Down Under"

**E**xpo 88 — dedicated to Leisure in the Age of Technology — begins April 30 in Brisbane, Australia. Coinciding with the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia, Expo 88 will be a highlight of the many special festivities taking place "down under" throughout the year.

Noting that "Canada has enjoyed close and historic links with Australia," the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of state for External Affairs, announced that Canada will be "an active participant in the bicentennial celebrations."

The centrepiece of Canadian participation will be the Canada Pavilion at the Expo 88 site. As one of 34 participating countries, Canada, a front-runner in both leisure and technology, will show the world how Canadians enjoy their recreation and how their high-tech skills help them do it.

"Our involvement will be unique and progressive," promises Canadian Commissioner-General Rick Hansen. Last year Hansen became an international hero who heightened public awareness of the disabled as he wheeled through 34 countries on four continents. His Man In Motion tour raised more than \$20 million for spinal cord research, rehabilitation and wheelchair sports.

Hansen was a natural choice to represent Canada at Expo 88. "It's a theme that comes close to my heart," said Hansen, who has

won dozens of medals in international marathons and wheelchair games.

Canada's spectacular scenery will be prominently featured at the Canada Pavilion where highly sophisticated multi-projector films will offer visitors the exhilarating vicarious experience of the Canadian outdoors. And three-dimensional exhibits will capture the delightful beauty of the country's changing seasons.

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First-rate Canadian entertainers like the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Band will be on hand for those interested in cultural activities. During Canada

Week, which begins June 30, celebrations will culminate in three gala performances at the Thunderbird Stage outside the Canada Pavilion. Country phenomenon K. D. Lang, folk singer Rita MacNeil, and "techno-pop" star Michel Lemieux are expected to perform before audiences of 10 000 or more.

Highlighting Canadian technology in leisure activities will be an underwater sound and light show, as well as a "hands and feet on" fitness arcade. Visitors will "participact" Canadian style — a now popular term coined for a unique Canadian program which encourages people to "participate" in fitness through physical "activity." Snowmobiles, ice skates, hockey sticks, canoes, curling brooms and a Laser sailboat adapted for the disabled will also be in Brisbane for the curious to experience.

Canada's most westerly province and host of Expo 86, British Columbia, will encourage visitors to discover their dramatic talents through "interactive" theatre. And a video-style adventure game offers a variety of adventures from a bronco ride at the Cloverdale Rodeo, to whale-watching off Long Beach, Vancouver Island, to daredevil skiing in the Rockies — all aided by a room-sized computer and an animated robot.

An unusual world exposition, Expo 88 promises to be an experience of sheer enjoyment. And Canada will use its participation to join with Australia in wishing the world "G'day."

The Canadian Pavilion at Expo 88: an underwater sound and light show and multi-projector recreations of spectacular Canadian scenery.

