



news release

Date **June 19, 1992**

No. 132

For release

WILSON AND HOCKIN LEAD EXPO '98 DELEGATION

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, and the Honourable Thomas Hockin, Minister of State, Small Businesses and Tourism, will lead the Canadian delegation in support of Toronto's bid to host the 1998 World Exposition. Both will make presentations at events surrounding the General Assembly of the Bureau international des expositions (BIE) in Paris on June 22-23, 1992.

The member countries of the BIE will make their decision on the host city for Expo '98 in a vote on Tuesday, June 23. Toronto is competing with Lisbon, Portugal, to host the exposition.

"The Canadian government is providing strong support for this bid," said Mr. Wilson. "The presentations represent the culmination of many months of hard work and perseverance, both at home and abroad, on the part of the Prime Minister and my colleagues in Cabinet. Together with the provincial and local governments and the private sector, we are marshalling all our efforts in Paris to help Toronto succeed. The people of Toronto, and indeed all Canadians, are behind this bid."

Mr. Hockin added that Toronto will offer a variety of social, cultural, technological and economic opportunities for the participating countries of Expo '98.

"Toronto is a city of diversity and personifies the theme of Expo '98 -- Celebrations: The Expression of Traditions -- which will observe the varied celebrations and festivals practised by people around the world," said Mr. Hockin. "Toronto has the know-how, the resources and the will to put on a first-class exposition."

A successful bid will produce economic benefits, create jobs, boost tourism, and provide investment opportunities for Canada.

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