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MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO LEAD CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE IN PARIS

The Office of the Honourable Monique Landry announced today that the Minister for External Relations and International Development will travel to Paris on October 23 and 24, where she will lead the Canadian Delegation to the 25th session of the UNESCO General Conference.

"As leader of the delegation, I will address the representatives of the 159 Member States in plenary in order to emphasize the importance ascribed by Canada to the whole sector of culture and communications in UNESCO," said Mrs. Landry. "While the international community is becoming aware of the scope and the potential of the World Decade for Cultural Development, in terms of development that respects the culture of others, Canada will tell the delegates to the General Conference that it is particularly well placed to understand and, eventually, to promote cooperation in the field of communications", added the Minister.

During her brief stay in Paris, Mrs. Landry will have private talks with Dr. Federico Mayor, the Director-General of UNESCO. She will discuss the urgency and the importance, to Canada, and to all the Member States, of the other major activity sectors in UNESCO, namely education and science.

"Canada's interests in UNESCO are numerous and significant. In order to defend and promote them, it is important for Canada to sit on the Executive Board", stated the External Relations and International development Minister. "We have a candidate qualified for this position, and we wish to see her elected", concluded Mrs. Landry.

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Minister for External Relations and

Ministre des Relations extérieures et du International Development développement international

