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Canadian Participation in the <u>Commonwealth Arts Festival</u>

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that the Canadian Government had accepted an invitation from the Commonwealth Festival Society to participate in the Commonwealth Arts Festival which will take place in Britain from September 16 to October 2, 1965.

His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh is the Chairman of the Advisory Council of the 1965 Festival. The aim of the Commonwealth Arts Festival is to forge cultural links between countries of the Commonwealth to supplement the already existing links in politics, economics, education, science, and other fields. The Festival will seek to reveal the diversity of the cultural traditions which exist in the various countries and will cover music, theatre, dancing, visual arts, folk arts and crafts, film and television film, architecture, and industrial design. It is hoped that the Festival in Britain in 1965 will be followed by Festivals every few years in other countries of the Commonwealth.

The selection of Canadian artists and artistic groups to participate in the Festival will be made on the basis of advice from sources consulted by the Canada Council.

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