

We must not forget that, at the triumph of the Revolution when attempts were made to isolate Cuba in an unusual and reprehensible form of punishment, Canada did not break its ties with Cuba and diplomatic relations prevailed between the two countries. This antecedent sustains and nurtures what we are celebrating today.

For our part, we offer thanks to all those who have believed in the principle that peoples, like human beings, can be united only by love and fraternity, and by maintaining just economic and commercial relations and by mutual respect for each other's legal and social traditions.

It is in this spirit that two peoples come together, whether living under the generous shade of royal palms or golden maple forests.

As a pure manifestation of this amity, this exhibition presents the most intimate feelings of solidarity, illustrated by the same attraction, mutual affection and desire for justice that cemented the friendship between Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and President Fidel Castro.

Eusebio Spengler Leal
Historian of the City of Havana



Statue of Admiral Pierre Le Moyne d'Iberville, donated by Government of Quebec to Old Havana, 1999