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# Canada Weekly

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Ottawa, Canada

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## Canada's birthday celebrated at home and abroad

While Canada's birthday was in full swing at home, Canadians around the world were marking the occasion with gusto.

In Australia, a packed program of events — balls, receptions, flag raisings, film showings, exhibits, dinners, dances, pageants — were held in honour of Canada's one-hundred-and-twelfth anniversary as a nation. Elsewhere, Canadian embassies, consuls, cultural associations, trade and high commissions were celebrating. There were receptions in New York City and Mexico City; a pool party in Peking.

"Canada's Birthday is not a celebration bounded by the walls of the country. It is for Canadians everywhere; an expression of pride that certainly must be the envy of many countries," said Muriel Sherrin, a birthday program director for Festival Canada, which funded and coordinated Canada Day events. "A lot of Canadians around the world said that, if they couldn't be at home for the party, they would bring the party to them."

In Canada, hundreds of concerts, carnivals, clambakes, fairs, festivals, flag raisings, plays, pageants, parades, presentations, races, rallies and rodeos, culminated in Ottawa, on July 1, with the annual Canada Day parade and variety show on Parliament Hill.

During Canada Week, beginning June 25 under the theme "Canada, its you and me/Le Canada c'est toi et moi" hundreds of activities took place in communities across the country to celebrate the one-hundred-and-twelfth anniversary of Canada's Confederation.

Muriel Sherrin, estimated that 50,000 spectators lined the streets of the city during the day to view the colourful annual parade as it wound its way through the streets of Hull and downtown Ottawa. The theme of the parade was "The Children of Canada are Canada's Future". About 2,000 people including 60 exchange students from the Magdalen Islands and 35 youngsters from around the world, who are attending the International Children's Village, participated in the parade.

In the evening, about 60,000 people ignored the drizzle and attended a two-hour variety show on Parliament Hill. The pageant, featuring 400 performers, was broadcast on national television in both official languages and attracted some six million viewers. National Unity and the International Year of the Child were themes for the extravaganza, which included disco dancers, country singers, Ukrainian dancers, opera singers and gymnasts, who paraded across the enormous red maple leaf painted on the stage at the foot of the Peace Tower.

"Canada is us," said actor Donald Sutherland, host for the show. "It's not the maple leaf or the Rocky Mountains or the government. It's not the beaver or the prairies. It's us."

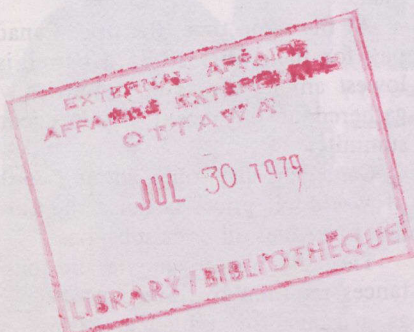
The show included such artists as John Allan Cameron, Patsy Gallant,

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Gilles Benoit, Le Droit

One of the many children who enjoyed Canada's birthday festivities.



One hundred-and-sixty-two years ago today... The first treaty with western Indians was signed by the Earl of Selkirk for King George III.