



communiqué

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MARCH 13 - COMMONWEALTH DAY

Commonwealth day will be observed in Canada and throughout the Commonwealth on Monday, March 13. In accordance with a proposal made by Prime Minister Trudeau at the 1975 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, held in Kingston, Jamaica, this will be the second year Commonwealth Day will be observed.

Commonwealth Day is not a statutory holiday; rather, it is intended as an educational event with the aim of informing people in Canada and around the world of the importance of Commonwealth affairs and of the value which Canada attaches to this unique association of 36 countries of all sizes, races, and cultures.

Across Canada, schools, public libraries and Royal Commonwealth Society Branches have been provided with Commonwealth Day posters and information material to assist in planning special events to mark Commonwealth Day.

In Ottawa, a varied programme of events has been planned including flying the flags of the 36 Commonwealth countries on Confederation Square, a day-long showing of films at the National Gallery of Canada on the art of the Commonwealth, a multi-faith service at Christ Church Cathedral at 4:30 p.m. on March 12 (public is invited), and a Commonwealth family dinner sponsored by the Ottawa Branch of the Royal Commonwealth Society on the evening of March 13.

