

“There is nothing like a good spectacle to cleanse the soul and purify the mind and “Spectacle canadien”, which began a four-day run Wednesday night in the Coliseum is exactly that type of show.

“From the opening fanfare to the closing rendition of *Scotland The Brave*, by a massed bagpipe band of more than 120 members, it was something to behold. It brought tears to the eyes, chills to the spine and forced even Expo’s impressario of the extravaganza, Tommy Walker, to take notes.

“Two-and-a-half hours of pomp and pageantry – troops passing in review, drum majors tossing 6-foot batons in the air as if they were toothpicks and even a cannon or two thrown in for good measure.

“It is impossible not to applaud when the city of Winnipeg Massed Pipes and Drums come marching in from three directions led by a rather portly drum major with kind of a regal aura about him.

“Highlights of the show are the appearances of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride and Canada’s National Dance Company Les Feux Follets....

“Spectacle Canadien” is a spectacle in the grandest of traditions.”

**British Columbia Day**  
The highlight of British Columbia’s Provincial Day ceremonies, which took

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Bill Reid’s carved cedar screen of Haida Indian symbols is part of Canada’s fine and folk art exhibit in the B.C. pavilion.



Ambassador Marcel Cadieux and Spokane Mayor Rodgers unveil a plaque on August 28, commemorating the date of

official name change of the island that Canada transformed into a permanent park for the City of Spokane.

**Modest participation will leave lasting impression**

Asked for his opinion of the public reaction to Canada’s contribution to Expo ’74, Patrick Reid, Canadian Commissioner General said:

Expo 74 is being held in the smallest city ever to host a world exposition. Spokane has a population of less than 200,000. Yet the event, so far as attendance and public acclaim is concerned, has been very successful. Part of the reason for this is that the great mobility of the potential audience in the Pacific Northwest, including British Columbia, was not impaired by the short-lived energy crisis. But more important, there appears to have been a real middle-American yearning to be diverted from the concerns of the day. The fact that the theme of the exhibition is on the preservation of the environment has been somewhat incidental to the need of this particular audience to be entertained.

Canada Week was, therefore, a straightforward effort to put on a friendly show for neighbours. The general reaction was expected to be good, because the major spectacle (in the Spokane Coliseum) was free, varied and professional. But it would have been impossible to predict the emotional response of an American audience singing, for example, *America the Beautiful* accompanied by a

Canadian band; or a standing ovation for a total of 17 minutes as successive groups of Canadian performers left the arena. Equally impressive was the very evident pride of all Canadians, performers and audience alike, in what was going on. It was a most gratifying exercise in direct international relations between citizens.

The serious intent of Canada’s participation, and that of British Columbia and of Alberta as well, was consummated during the week by the dedication of Canada Island as a permanent environmental park by Ambassador Cadieux, by a resolution of the City of Spokane that the Canadian and United States flags would fly there in perpetuity, by the gift of the open-air Alberta amphitheatre as a continuing feature of the island, and an original totem pole from British Columbia for the same purpose.

Thus a modest participation at a rather small world exposition has become, by happy circumstance and timing, an enduring and lively monument to the close relations that exist between Canadians and Americans in the Pacific Northwest and the Inland Empire.