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CANADA ANNOUNCES ITS PARTICIPATION IN SECOND FRANCOPHONE GAMES

Minister of Foreign Affairs André Ouellet and Minister of Canadian Heritage Michel Dupuy are pleased to announce that a delegation of 386 Canadian athletes and artists will take part in the Second Francophone Games. The Games will take place in Paris and in the French Department of Essonne from July 5 to 13, 1994.

"Canada is proud to be taking part in this second edition of the Francophone Games. The Games provide an excellent opportunity to strengthen bonds of friendship and brotherhood," said Mr. Ouellet.

"The Francophone Games, which have borrowed from ancient Greece the concept of a sound mind in a sound body, give our youth an opportunity to display the vitality and originality so characteristic of Canada," added Mr. Dupuy.

The Canadian delegation consists of three components: Canada, Canada-Quebec, and Canada-New Brunswick. Its participation is governed by a federal-provincial agreement corresponding to the way in which the two provinces participate in la Francophonie. The Canada component will have 153 athletes and 32 artists; the Canada-Quebec component, 103 athletes and 35 artists; and the Canada-New Brunswick component, 35 athletes and 28 artists. Canada will join over 3 000 participants from 46 countries and governments of la Francophonie worldwide.

Included in the sports program of the Games will be track and field, wheelchair sports, women's basketball, soccer, men's and women's handball, men's and women's judo, open wrestling and table tennis. On the cultural side, no less than seven competitions and some 700 artists are expected: singing, storytelling, contemporary and traditional dance, painting, sculpture and audio-visual production are all part of the program.

- 30 -

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