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CANADIAN SHOWING: TUTANKHAMON EXHIBITION

The Department of External Affairs and the National Museums of Canada announce that a protocol which will bring one of the largest and most sumptuous exhibitions of ancient Egyptian artifacts to Canada was signed today in Cairo. Canadian Ambassador Jean-Marie Déry signed on behalf of Canada, and his Excellency Dr. Hassan Mohammed Ismail, Minister of Education, Culture and Scientific Research, on behalf of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

A technical agreement was also signed representing the interests of the National Museums of Canada and the Egyptian Organization of Antiquities which will allow the "Treasures of Tutankhamon" to be seen at the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto in November-December 1979.

Preliminary discussions began in July 1976 and formal negotiations began in November 1977 during a visit to Cairo by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson. Agreement in principle was reached at that time to bring this major exhibition to Canada following its tour of the U.S.A. and prior to its tour of Germany. The addition of other cities in Canada to the itinerary will not be possible because of the short time the exhibition will be available.

The exhibition contains fifty-five objects from the tomb of Tutankhamon, Pharaoh of Egypt from 1334 to 1325 B.C., which was discovered by the British archaeologist Howard Carter in 1922. The works have been on tour in the U.S.A. since November 1976 when it opened at the National Gallery in Washington D.C. Before it comes to Canada it will also have been seen in Chicago, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Seattle, New York, and San Francisco.

