

PRESS RELEASE



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Belgian - Canadian Cultural Agreement

On the occasion of the official visit to Ottawa of Prince Albert of Belgium, a Cultural Agreement of a general nature between Belgium and Canada was signed on Monday, May 8, 1967. In the presence of Prince Albert, the document was signed by his Excellency Guy Daufresne de la Chevalerie, Belgian Ambassador to Canada and the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The Agreement is intended to strengthen, by means of cultural, artistic, scientific and technological exchanges, the traditional close ties of friendship which exist between Belgium and Canada. It consists of eleven articles which define the means by which the two countries are agreed to develop their co-operation and their exchanges in the various academic, artistic, scientific and cultural fields. In order to establish direct and continuous contacts between the two countries on all matters concerning cultural relations and with the purpose of ensuring the execution of the provisions which come under the terms of reference of this convention, a permanent Mixed Commission will meet annually alternately in Ottawa and Brussels.

Announcing the signing of the Agreement, Mr. Martin expressed great satisfaction with this significant step in Canadian-Belgian relations. By means of this instrument, he declared, Canadian-Belgian cultural exchanges should experience a notable increase.