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CANADA'S COMMISSIONER GENERAL FOR THE LIVERPOOL GARDEN FESTIVAL

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today the appointment of Major General Desmond Smith, CBE, DSO, CD, KstJ, as Canadian Commissioner General at the Liverpool Garden Festival.

General Smith, who was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Dragoons in 1933, served in the Canadian Army until 1962. On retirement from the Army, he began his business career with R.A. Lister, agricultural machinery manufacturers at Dursely, Gloucestershire. In 1966 he became Managing Director of Pillar Engineering Ltd., a group he started with four small engineering companies. Today the group comprises some 60 small companies and depots, employing 3,000 people, and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto Zinc.

Canada agreed to participate in the Liverpool Garden Festival soon after Britain became the first country to announce its intention to exhibit at Expo 86 in Vancouver. The Liverpool Festival has 21 gardens in the international section representing every continent in the world.

The Canadian exhibit was designed to depict the rugged beauty of the Canadian Shield. Native pines, birch and maple blend into a natural background of rocks and water, interspersed with floral emblems from the ten provinces and two territories. From June 29 to July 1 there will be a special Canada Days programme, including the raising of a totem pole carved on the site by Richard Hunt, an Indian craftsman from British Columbia. A number of cultural events are also being staged.