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Canadian Participation in the Cultural Events of the Mexico Olympics

The Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that Canada will participate in the cultural events taking place in conjunction with the XIXth Olympic Games opening in Mexico City in October 1968.

The Mexican Organizing Committee for the Olympic Festival have revived the ancient Greek tradition of holding public cultural and artistic events in addition to the athletic contests normally scheduled and have invited participation from all the countries affiliated with the International Olympic Committee.

Canada's participation in the elaborate programme of cultural events began yesterday with performances by the National Ballet of Canada. Following their appearances in Mexico City, the National Ballet will perform in the cities of Jalapa and Guadalajara. In addition, Mr. Michel Cartier of Les Feux-Follets has choreographed an Eskimo dance which will be part of a "Ballet of the Five Continents" to be presented in October in Mexico City by the Mexican Folklore Ballet.

Canadian participation in a variety of exhibitions associated with the Olympiad is also planned. The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, the National Research Council, the Defence Research Board and Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. are collaborating with the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission in presenting exhibits on Canada's achievements in space research and in the application of nuclear energy for the welfare of mankind. The National Museum and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development will be making available exhibits on the ancient and modern arts of the Canadian Indians and Eskimos while the National Gallery will