



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

N^o: 118
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: DECEMBER 3, 1981

TENTH FRANCE-CANADA CULTURAL JOINT COMMISSION
DECEMBER 7-9, 1981

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, announced today that the Tenth Franco-Canadian Joint Commission will meet in Ottawa from December 7-9, 1981. Under the terms of the cultural agreement of November 17, 1965, between France and Canada, a Franco-Canadian Joint Commission meets alternatively in Paris and Ottawa every other year (the Ninth meeting was held in Paris in June 1979) to study the programmes and projects which each country intends to develop in the other. These activities fall mainly in the fields of artistic exchanges, school and university exchanges and linguistic and socio-cultural exchanges.

The French delegation will be chaired by Mr. Jean Batbedat, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Director-General of Cultural, Scientific and Technical Relations, Ministry of External Relations of France, and he will be accompanied by specialists of this ministry. The Canadian delegation will be chaired by Mr. Jean Touchette, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, with the participation of Mr. Gilles Lefebvre, Director-General of the Bureau of International Cultural Relations. It will also include representatives of federal departments, agencies and organizations responsible for cultural matters together with representatives from Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario and Saskatchewan.

With a view to enhancing this tenth meeting of the France-Canada Joint Commission, several important cultural events will be taking place between December 3-15, including a bowed-instrument exhibition "Prestige de la lutherie française", concerts by the National Orchestra of France conducted by Lorin Maazel and a lecture/concert by the Orford Quartet.