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THE MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE ANNOUNCES

CANADA'S PROGRAM FOR AUSTRALIA'S EXPO 88

The Honourable Pat Carney, the Minister for International Trade, today announced Canada's program for participation at EXPO 88, which takes place in Brisbane, Australia from 30 April until 30 October.

"Canadians will be proud of our participation at EXPO 88," Miss Carney said. "Our pavilion promises to be one of the best in Brisbane. Our own EXPO 86 was a great success and we want to carry forward that success to Australia".

The Minister made the comments at a news conference in Ottawa with Rick Hansen, Commissioner General for Canada at EXPO 88.

Mr. Hansen leaves for Brisbane next week, where he will sign the formal EXPO 88 participation contract with the exposition authority on behalf of the Government of Canada. While in Brisbane, he will launch an Australia-wide campaign to promote awareness of Canadian participation at the international exposition.

"I am really excited about EXPO 88 and very proud to represent Canada. This will be my first visit to the EXPO 88 site to see first-hand how things are coming along", Mr. Hansen said.

Mr. Hansen unveiled a scale model of the \$9 million Canada Pavilion, presented examples of staff uniforms and outlined plans for the Canadian entertainment package being developed for the six-month world exposition.

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Minister for
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Trade

Ministre du
Commerce
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There will be seven distinct areas within the Canada Pavilion: two 350-seat theatres, an underwater "sound and light" show, a fitness arcade, an exhibit hall filled with sport and leisure items, the Adventures British Columbia Theatre and a restaurant.

Canada Pavilion hosting staff will be outfitted in distinctive green, blue and grey uniforms designed by Pacific Skirtmaker Inc. of Vancouver. A number of top Canadians entertainers will perform at the pavilion and participate in a Canada Day gala.

"EXPO 88's theme is Leisure in the Age of Technology and we are trying to show Australians how we spend our leisure time. The films, the exhibits and the entertainment program we are planning are first-rate", Mr. Hansen said.

British Columbia is presenting an interactive theatre within the Canada Pavilion. The \$2 million provincial display is a room-size computer game that promotes leisure activities in B.C.

Miss Carney said that EXPO 88 is the international highlight of Australian Bicentennial celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of European settlement "down under". In addition to EXPO 88, Canada will participate in a range of Bicentennial events and activities.

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