



# communiqué

N°: 121  
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
RELEASE: DECEMBER 10, 1981

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

---

The tenth France-Canada Cultural Joint Commission met in Ottawa from December 7-9, 1981.

A number of cultural and artistic events were held to mark the meeting, including the opening of the exhibition of stringed instruments and bows entitled "Prestige de la lutherie française" at the National Arts Centre, a lecture-recital by the Orford String Quartet with master stringed-instrument makers, Jean Bauer and Etienne Vatelot, two concerts by the French Orchestra and a week of French films.

Stressing the importance of the meeting, the Governor-General gave a gala dinner at Rideau Hall for the members of the French and Canadian delegations, the members of the Canada Council and the National Museums Corporation and representatives of the arts community.

Both sides noted with satisfaction that the rhythm of cultural and academic exchanges between the two countries had increased substantially over the past two years, resulting in a notable expansion of the French presence in Canada and the Canadian presence in France. They agreed to maintain and to expand, wherever possible, the scale of such exchanges over the next two years.

Of the large number of projects considered by the Commission, the following will take place during the next two years: a Canadian tour of the Paris Symphony Orchestra in February 1982; the presentation of the "Fantin La Tour" exhibition at the Louvre in the autumn of 1982 and at the National Gallery of Canada in the spring of 1983; and a proposed French exhibition entitled "The Mysterious Life of Masterpieces: Science in the Service of Art." Micheline Beauchemin will exhibit four tapestries at the Museum of

Modern Art in Paris between December 1982 and March 1983. The Centre d'essai des auteurs dramatiques will present a series of readings of contemporary Québec dramas in Paris and Lyon in January 1982 and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra will visit Paris in March 1983.

The Commission reviewed the scholarships programmes and other forms of aid to students established between the two countries. Thanks in part to these programmes and a special bilateral programme to facilitate contacts between researchers, exchanges between academics and universities are continuing to grow. The two sides noted with interest the development of Canadian studies in many French universities. Thus Margaret Laurence's The Stone Angel is now on the curriculum for post-graduate studies in English literature in France.

A substantial increase is anticipated in French involvement in the training of Canadian teachers of French, both as a first and as a second language, and in the training of teachers by provincial Departments of Education.

The two sides discussed the general issue of the French language in terms of the promotion of the language and the cultural impact of technological change. They focussed on the opportunities offered by terminology banks and machine translation, the problems posed by the flow of televised information and programmes and the role of satellite broadcasting.

The Canadian side outlined its activities to promote the development of the French language and proposed more extensive co-operation between the two countries in the areas of terminology and translation. The French delegation expressed its deep appreciation of Canada's efforts and pledged its support for the expansion of this mutually beneficial co-operation.

The next meeting of the France-Canada Cultural Joint Commission will be held in Paris in April 1984.