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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**FEBRUARY 19, 1969****CANADA-FRANCE JOINT COMMISSION**

The Canada-France Joint Commission established by the Franco-Canadian Cultural Agreement of November 17, 1965 held its third session in Paris on February 18. This session was chaired by M. Jean Jurgensen, Minister Plenipotentiary, Head of the American desk of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. André Bissonnette, Canadian Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, led the Canadian Delegation which comprised representatives of the organizations concerned as well as officials from New Brunswick and Ontario.

In the course of these consultations, conducted in a spirit of great cordiality and friendship, both delegations reviewed the cultural, scientific, technical and artistic relations between the two countries since the Commission's previous session. They studied the possibilities of promoting the development of these exchanges particularly in the following fields: cultural exchanges (films, radio, television, books, various missions), scientific exchanges (pure and applied sciences and social sciences), university exchanges (scholarships, assistants, professors, artistic exchanges, tours and exhibitions), technical cooperation (exchanges of trainees in the private and public sectors), youth exchanges and the promotion of the French language.

Amongst the measures which the Commission discussed, the following should be mentioned in particular: the renewal of the agreement between the National Research Council and the Direction générale des relations culturelles, the adjustment and the reorganization of procedures applicable to scientific exchanges, an increase in the number of Canadian and French scholarships, cooperation in the promotion of the French language, an increase in the number of Canadian officials in training at the Ecole nationale d'administration, the development of youth exchanges, exhibitions of Indian and Eskimo works of art in France and the exhibition of French ceramics in Canada, a tour of the Grands Ballets Canadiens in

France and the participation of French artists at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Ottawa.

In conclusion, the Commission expressed its satisfaction with the progress already accomplished and the enlarged perspectives for Franco-Canadian cultural cooperation. It also decided to propose to the two Governments that its next session be held in Ottawa in 1970.