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MINISTER CLARK ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR TWO INTERNATIONAL
TOURS BY THE ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced in Ottawa today that the Department of External Affairs will provide financial assistance to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet for tours to Europe in May 1990 and to Latin America in January 1991.

Mr. Clark made the announcement at a presentation of a specially signed poster by the company in appreciation of the External Affairs' assistance on their recent 50-day tour to six countries in the Far East. This tour was supported by the Department in partnership with the Province of Manitoba and with the private sector.

Mr. Clark said "In all the reports that I have received about the tour from Canadian missions abroad, the praise for the company as ambassadors for Canada was unanimous". He added "A successful performance by one of our major arts organisations projects an image of Canada abroad as a dynamic, distinct nation whose cultural activities can meet the highest international standards". Mr. Clark noted that a tour of this kind can be an effective instrument in promoting Canada's political and commercial interests and objectives. This particular tour coincided with the opening of a six week food show in Hong Kong and provided visibility for a trade mission sponsored by the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

External Affairs support to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet is part of the Department's international cultural relations program, which embraces the arts, academic relations, sports and exchange of young workers. The program contributes to the image of Canada as a dynamic, distinct nation; and improves the likelihood of Canada being seen as a source of excellence for goods and services and a destination for tourism and foreign investment; it contributes to the overall achievement of Canada's foreign policy goals.