

Statement

Department of
External
Affairs



Discours

Ministère des
Affaires
extérieures

88/10

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

Notes for remarks
by the Honourable Pat Carney,
Minister for International Trade,
at a news conference to unveil the
program for Canada's participation at
Expo 88 in Brisbane, Australia

OTTAWA

February 9, 1988.

Minister for
International
Trade

Ministre du
Commerce
extérieur

Canada

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING THIS AFTERNOON.

IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO FORMALLY INTRODUCE RICK HANSEN TO YOU IN HIS ROLE AS COMMISSIONER GENERAL FOR CANADIAN PARTICIPATION AT WORLD EXPO 88 IN BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA.

RICK WILL BE CANADA'S OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AT THE INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION, WHICH RUNS FROM APRIL 30TH TO OCTOBER 30TH, 1988.

AS COMMISSIONER GENERAL, HE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ASPECTS OF OUR NATIONAL PAVILION IN BRISBANE, AND WILL TAKE PART IN A NUMBER OF SPECIAL EVENTS, INCLUDING THE FAIR'S OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES AND CANADA DAY FESTIVITIES.

NEXT WEEK RICK LEAVES FOR BRISBANE TO BEGIN HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES. HE WILL SIGN THE FORMAL PARTICIPATION CONTRACT WITH THE EXPO 88 AUTHORITIES ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA. AFTERWARDS, HE WILL LAUNCH AN AUSTRALIA-WIDE PROMOTION PROGRAM TO TELL AUSTRALIANS ABOUT OUR PLANS FOR THE WORLD'S FAIR.

IT WAS JUST A YEAR AGO THAT I WAS IN AUSTRALIA TO RAISE OUR FLAG AT THE EXPO SITE. IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE THAT I TURN OVER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THAT FLAG TO RICK HANSEN.

EXPO 88 IS THE INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHT OF BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS THAT MARK THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT "DOWN UNDER".

CANADA IS PARTICIPATING IN A WIDE VARIETY OF BICENTENNIAL EVENTS. THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND THE SENATE ARE DONATING A SPEAKER'S CHAIR AND A CLERK'S TABLE TO THE NEW AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS. THE R.C.M.P. BAND IS TOURING, THE SKYHAWKS PARACHUTE TEAM WILL VISIT AND VARIOUS DANCE COMPANIES, THEATRE GROUPS AND ARTISTS WILL PERFORM.

ALL THIS IS CANADA'S WAY OF SAYING "HAPPY BIRTHDAY AUSTRALIA".

"LEISURE IN THE AGE OF TECHNOLOGY" IS THE THEME FOR THE EXPOSITION IN BRISBANE. SOME 45 GOVERNMENTS AND 20 INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS ARE PARTICIPATING. ORGANIZERS EXPECT TO WELCOME MORE THAN NINE MILLION VISITORS. IT IS THE FIRST TIME IN THIS CENTURY THAT A WORLD EXPOSITION WILL BE STAGED IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

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CANADA IS PROUD TO BE A PART OF EXPO 88. AUSTRALIA IS OUR CLOSE SISTER NATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH, AND AN IMPORTANT PACIFIC RIM TRADING PARTNER. IN FACT, AUSTRALIA IS CANADA'S FOURTH LARGEST MARKET FOR MANUFACTURED GOODS.

THIS WORLD'S FAIR IS A FIRST-CLASS OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO STRENGTHEN OUR TIES WITH OUR LONG-STANDING ALLY AND GOOD FRIEND.

THE CANADA PAVILION AT EXPO 88 WILL BE ONE OF THE LARGEST, AND MOST COMPREHENSIVE. IT WILL GIVE AUSTRALIANS AN IMPRESSIVE VIEW OF OUR COUNTRY.

I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO SHOWCASE THE BEST CANADIAN TECHNOLOGY AND SOME OF OUR MOST IMPRESSIVE CREATIVE ARTISTS.

CREDO GROUP FROM WINNIPEG HAVE PRODUCED A SPECTACULAR 15 MINUTE FILM FOR 5 SCREENS THAT SHOWS OUR VAST COUNTRY COAST-TO-COAST.

CREATIVE HOUSE FROM VANCOUVER HAVE DEVELOPED A 24-PROJECTOR AUDIO-VISUAL PRESENTATION TO SALUTE CANADIANS CELEBRATING GOOD TIMES.

MORE THAN FIFTY PRIVATE COMPANIES FROM ACROSS CANADA HAVE PROVIDED SPORTS AND LEISURE PRODUCTS FOR THE DISPLAY.

A 1987 BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER, INTERNATIONAL HARD SUITS INC. OF VANCOUVER, IS SENDING THEIR REMARKABLE "NEWTSUIT". THIS UNIQUE LIGHT-WEIGHT DIVING SUIT IS A TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH FOR CANADIANS.

B.C.'S SUBMAR SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL INC., IS SENDING THE MANTARAY, AN UNDERWATER RECREATIONAL VEHICLE THAT I BELIEVE WILL DELIGHT AND IMPRESS AUSTRALIANS.

QUEBEC'S BOMBARDIER INC. IS PROVIDING SNOWMOBILES AND SNOWMOBILE OUTERWEAR. I AM SURE THIS WILL MAKE AN IMPACT IN A COUNTRY WHERE MOST PEOPLE HAVE NEVER SEEN SNOW.

LASER SAILBOATS, BICYCLES, HOME GYMS, HOCKEY STICKS AND SKATES: THEY ARE ALL PART OF AN EXCITING EXHIBIT THAT WILL SHOW AUSTRALIANS HOW WE SPEND OUR FREE TIME.

I'M EXCITED ABOUT EXPO 88, AND WITH RICK HANSEN IN CHARGE, I AM SURE THE CANADA PAVILION WILL BE A BIG HIT.

OUR COMMISSIONER GENERAL WOULD NOW LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS AND PRESENT THE CANADA PAVILION MODEL AND OUR SPECIALLY DESIGNED STAFF UNIFORMS.

THANK YOU.