



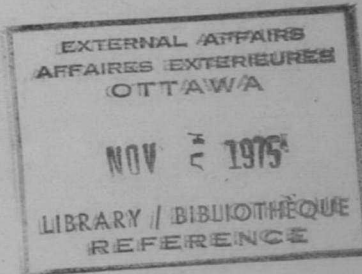
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OCTOBER 29, 1975



CANADA/BELGIUM CULTURAL AGREEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, announced today that, in the framework of the Cultural Agreement concluded between the two countries in 1967, the Canada/Belgium Mixed Commission will meet in Quebec City, December 8 and 9, 1975.

Following discussions between federal government authorities and those of the government of Quebec, it has been agreed with the concurrence of the Belgian government that the Mixed Commission will adopt at its first meeting the attached resolution, creating a Belgium/Quebec Sub-Commission with a view to permitting the Government of Quebec to participate fully in the implementation of the Agreement.

The convening of the Commission and the creation of the Belgium/Quebec Sub-Commission will encourage the growth and diversification of the links which traditionally unite Canada and Belgium in the cultural sphere.

Cultural exchanges have increased considerably since the conclusion of the Canada/Belgium Agreement in 1967, and have involved the academic (scholarships, exchanges of university professors), and artistic (exhibitions by Belgian and Canadian artists) sectors as well as the performing arts (tours by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Jeunes comédiens du Théâtre du Nouveau monde and by the National Theatre of Belgium). To complete the picture, mention must be made of the opening in 1974 of the Canadian Cultural and Information Centre in Brussels, youth exchange programmes and gifts of books, and the existence of a Belgian/Canadian literary prize.

A further announcement will be forthcoming soon of the names of the Canadian members of the Mixed Commission.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

1. Under the terms of the Agreement on Cultural Co-operation signed by the contracting parties May 8, 1967, the Mixed Commission may create sub-commissions.
2. Consequently, the Mixed Commission creates a Belgium-Quebec Sub-Commission.
3. This Sub-Commission shall be composed, on the one hand by a chairman and representatives named by the competent Belgian authorities. On the other hand, it shall be composed of a chairman and representatives named by the government of Quebec. An adviser named by the federal government shall also participate in this work of the Sub-Commission.
4. The Quebec chairman of the Sub-Commission shall be a member *ex officio* of the Mixed Commission.
5. The Sub-Commission shall meet on the same dates as the Mixed Commission.
6. The Sub-Commission shall pronounce upon any project presented within the framework of the Canada-Belgium Agreement which has direct implications for Quebec institutions.
7. The Sub-Commission is responsible for all projects financed by the government of Quebec.
8. The Sub-Commission is responsible for all projects financed by Belgium and involving Quebec institutions in the sense of paragraph 6 above.
9. The Sub-Commission may be given responsibility for any other project or any other question by the Mixed Commission.
10. The Mixed Commission shall receive and approve the report of the Sub-Commission.