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Canadian convention centres produce big business

By 1987 Canada will enjoy more than a dozen new or expanded convention facilities, built at a cost exceeding half a billion dollars. These huge, world-class centres hope to attract equally huge meetings or trade shows.

Canada's most recent convention centre in Toronto, a \$90-million facility, is the country's largest, catering to groups of up to 12 000. The centre hosted its first convention, the fifth annual Conference of the Canadian Association of Exposition Managers, September 8-9. In stressing the importance of the centre, vice-president of sales for the Metro Toronto Convention and Visitors Association, Gino Giancola, says "we're going to be able to go after pieces of business we couldn't even look at before".

With its new showpiece centres, Canada is poised to win considerably more than its current 2 per cent share of the \$27 billion North American meetings business. Convention centres in the country are aiming for an increase of one percentage point, which would net an estimated \$200 million in incremental meetings revenue.

Advantages in Canada

While Canada will have to work hard at luring business as organizers take advantage of what has become a buyer's market with the addition of major new facilities throughout the United States and overseas, Canada does have some distinct advantages.

Recently, customs regulations were broadened to make it easier for foreign groups to meet in Canada. The new Canadian policies provide free entry for convention and promotional material and give-away souvenirs, and offer temporary duty-free status for audio-visual and office equipment.

Canada Customs officers at all border crossings have also undergone a training program underlining the importance of a warm welcome and hassle-free entry to Canada.

The Canadian dollar *vis-a-vis* its US counterpart has provided added incentive for groups considering an event in Canada, and



The \$90-million convention centre complex in Toronto, with the impressive CN Tower in the background. The centre, which hosted its first convention this summer, can accommodate groups of up to 12 000.

in the fight to attract convention dollars, most facilities are also offering cut-rate bargains. The Hull *Palais des Congrès*, for instance, charges half price for any group booking in the traditionally slower months of April, July and August. In Edmonton, Alberta, convention centre officials play up the generally lower costs for delegates stemming from the province's lack of room and sales taxes, and the city's generally lower hotel rates.

Canadian airlines also offer special packages or reduced rates for convention meetings. Both Air Canada and CP Air offer 20 per cent off regular economy fares for groups travelling within Canada, and 25 per cent off for US groups meeting here.

Others rely heavily on promoting the destination itself. "Our centre is being marketed as an opportunity, a foreign destination without leaving the continent — one with a different culture," says Michael



External Affairs Affaires extérieures
Canada Canada



The new trade and convention centre, in the heart of old Saint John, New Brunswick.

Davis, manager of convention sales at the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre.

Working together

Co-operation has also become a key strategy. Last May, the Montreal *Palais des Congrès* signed an agreement with a sister facility in Paris, France, each gaining access to the other's data bank and client information. Convention officials in New York City are interested in making it a three-way deal, which would create a powerful Canadian, US and overseas combination.

Smaller centres, like the Prince Edward Hilton International and Convention Centre in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, are expecting to gain through internal connections, in this case with its giant parent company, the Hilton hotel group.

At international market-places, such as the spring and annual conventions of the American Society of Association Executives, Canadian participants are brought together under a "Canada umbrella", creating a strong and unified presence that dominates the exposition area.

Many such co-operative marketing forays to the United States and abroad are unique in that they involve the participation of Canada Customs officials, giving prospective clients on-the-spot advice about customs procedures in Canada.

Canadian suppliers also have access to the computerized Meetings and Incentive Travel (M&IT) Data Bank. The bank contains more than 7 000 detailed profiles of organizations that would consider holding an

event in Canada, with key information on the needs and special requirements of each group, their preferred locations in Canada, and much more. Partner support among the members is also strongly encouraged in order to maximize the impact of the M&IT advertising programs.

Key industry leaders collaborate further through the M&IT Steering Committee which

offers advice on issues of concern and the best marketing approaches for soliciting business in foreign meetings markets. The committee, including public and private sector representation, is believed by many to be the only one of its kind.

Economic catalysts

While these efforts are not expected to produce an overwhelming share of the lucrative international meetings business for Canada, convention officials stress that the centres are not intended as money-makers in as much as they are merely catalysts for economic growth.

The Winnipeg Convention Centre, in its tenth year, is a prime example. Curt Smith, of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, has high praise for the centre's impact on the economy. "The building of the centre and the ongoing business it generates has rejuvenated that whole part of town...brought in new business that otherwise wouldn't be there. There's even some demand for expansion of the centre," he says.

Barely a year old, the convention and trade centre in Saint John, New Brunswick, is already getting rave reviews from local businessmen. Ceci McLean, the director of marketing at the market square shopping and office concourse which houses the new facility says that "there is a distinct correlation between convention bookings and sales peaks".

(Article from Tourism, Summer 1984.)



The steel framework for Vancouver's \$137-million convention complex was completed in early July of this year.

New speaker of the House

John Bosley, a Conservative member of Parliament from Toronto, has been named speaker of the House of Commons by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

The appointment will not become effective until Parliament reconvenes on November 5 and Mr. Bosley is officially elected by his peers. His appointment has been endorsed by Liberal leader John Turner and New Democratic Party leader Ed Broadbent. His quiet manner, eloquence, keen intelligence and unfailing politeness have made him a favourite with all three parties ever since he was first elected.

Mr. Bosley, 37, will replace former Liberal member of Parliament Lloyd Francis.

Background

Born in Toronto in 1947 and educated at Crescent School and Upper Canada College, Mr. Bosley served two terms as a Toronto alderman before becoming involved in federal politics. He has served as director of the Canadian Council on Unity and the St. Lawrence Centre.

Mr. Bosley is bilingual and was first elected to Parliament in 1979 for the riding of Don Valley West. During Joe Clark's term as prime minister, Mr. Bosley served as parliamentary secretary to Mr. Clark and then as the Conservative Party's external relations and culture critic.

He was vice-chairman of the Progressive Conservative task force on Revenue Canada and in 1981 he was appointed a member of the committee that set out the party's strategy on the Constitution.

Role of speaker

Tradition dictates the speaker should have served as a back bencher for a time to learn the rules of the House, and also that he or she be bilingual.

The speaker is considered important in determining the way the House of Commons operates. The speaker sets the tone and pace and is able to influence the conduct of the members in the House.

The speaker is expected to be impartial to all parties. In the current situation Mr. Bosley must be careful to protect the rights of the 71-member opposition, ensuring that it is not swamped under the large Conservative majority.

He will also face demands from his former fellow back benchers who will be expecting more time than ever for their questions during question period. Normally, most of the 45-minute time period is allotted to questions from opposition members of Parliament.

William Davis retires as premier of Ontario

Ontario Premier William Davis surprised close friends, advisers and cabinet colleagues, when he announced his retirement from politics on October 8.

Even senior cabinet ministers who had been called that morning to attend an afternoon meeting, expected to sign an order-in-council required to issue an election writ for a November 22, provincial election. Now, there will be no election until next spring at the earliest.



Premier William Davis

Making the announcement in an emotional statement to the press and his supporters after the cabinet meeting, Mr. Davis said he was leaving political life to spend more time with his family and because "it is time for new leadership in the Progressive Conservative Party".

"This is not the end of an era in Ontario politics, because eras are never shaped by any single human being," said Mr. Davis. "This is the beginning of a new approach, new personalities and perhaps some new directions," he added.

Long career

William Grenville Davis was born in Brampton, Ontario on July 30, 1929. He attended local schools, the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1955. He practised general law with a Brampton firm until his first election.

As a young lawyer, he became actively involved in politics. He has served on the Peel Board of Education and worked for member of the provincial Parliament Thomas

L. Kennedy for a number of years.

In the 1959 provincial election when he was 29, the constituency of Peel became vacant and Mr. Davis decided to run for the seat. He now represents Brampton.

After Mr. Davis had served as a back bencher for a number of years, Premier John Robarts made him vice-chairman of Ontario Hydro, and later minister of education. He became the province's eighteenth premier on March 1, 1971 and began by completely reorganizing the government structures.

Since becoming premier of Ontario, Mr. Davis has fought four elections, winning majorities in 1971 and 1981 and minorities in 1975 and 1977.

Style of government

Governing to Mr. Davis was not a matter of exerting his political will on an unwilling populace. He usually tested the public mood and gained political consensus for his policies before he acted. He became known for his willingness to listen to all sides, and adopt ideas for their practicality rather than their philosophy.

Taking control of Ontario after the inflationary boom days of the 1960s, Mr. Davis had to steer through some of its roughest times. Under his leadership, government expanded and then shrank. The deficit grew to pay for social programs and then was held in line.

An intense nationalist, Mr. Davis always argued that what was good for Canada was good for Ontario. He stood tough against eight of his fellow premiers to back former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau on the Constitution, prodded by his belief in the need for a strong national government to hold Canada together, even if it meant less independence for the provinces.

With his retirement, Mr. Davis said he intends to become "actively involved in some pursuit which will be both challenging and demanding". He also added that he had no specific plans at the moment.

He is considered an intensely private man with a strong sense of family and deeply-held moral convictions. He is married to Kathleen Mackay and has five children.

The Conservative Party executive is expected to meet in the near future to arrange a leadership convention, probably in January. The new leader will automatically become premier.

Meanwhile, the provincial legislature has resumed as scheduled on October 9 for the fall session. Mr. Davis will stay on as leader until a new leader is elected.

English hospital salutes Ontario bicentennial

A Toronto eye specialist, Dr. Clive Mortimer, helped to celebrate Ontario's bicentennial in England at a hospital built 70 years ago for Canadian soldiers wounded in the First World War.

Dr. Mortimer, chairman of the department of ophthalmology at the University of Toronto and Toronto General Hospital, was invited to give a lecture at Orpington Hospital in Kent, which began as the Ontario Military

Hospital. The province of Ontario completed the 2 000-bed hospital, composed of rows of huts, in February 1916, when it was opened by Andrew Bonar Law, later prime minister of Britain.

Before the war ended in 1918, the Ontario Military Hospital had cared for 26 278 troops of the Canadian, British and other Commonwealth forces.

In the Second World War the hospital,

again became a military hospital. Troops wounded at Dunkirk were taken directly there from the beaches of France.

Although most of the huts have been replaced by modern buildings, some of the originals remain in use. Orpington Hospital, named after the town it's in, is a 451-bed centre, where acute care in a variety of specialties, as well as geriatric and emergency care is provided.

Co-operation for equipment

Dr. Mortimer practised in England for five years before settling in Canada. He is working to establish an eye research institute in Toronto to provide closer collaboration for teaching hospital ophthalmology departments in the city. It would be involved in undergraduate and graduate teaching and in basic and clinical research.

According to Dr. Mortimer, "the politics of inter-hospital co-operation, which is just starting in Canada", is already paying off in Toronto by achieving collaboration instead of competition among University of Toronto teaching hospitals in the use of expensive equipment such as the YAG laser used to treat certain eye conditions. (YAG stands for yttrium, aluminum and garnet.)

Dr. Mortimer said the YAG will be used by five hospitals, Toronto General, Sunnybrook Medical Centre, Mount Sinai, St. Michael's and Toronto Western. The same kind of arrangement will apply to a new \$150 000-computerized field tester used in neurology and for glaucoma.

Canada helps finance hydroelectric project in India

The Canadian government has announced that it will give financial support in the amount of \$620 million for the export of Canadian goods and services to India.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) signed parallel loan agreements with the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation in New Delhi on August 3.

These agreements will finance \$403 million and \$217 million, respectively, of Canadian goods and services for the 540-megawatt Chamera hydroelectric project on the Ravi River in Himachal Pradesh, India. These amounts will complement India's own contribution of domestic goods and services valued at about \$648.5 million.

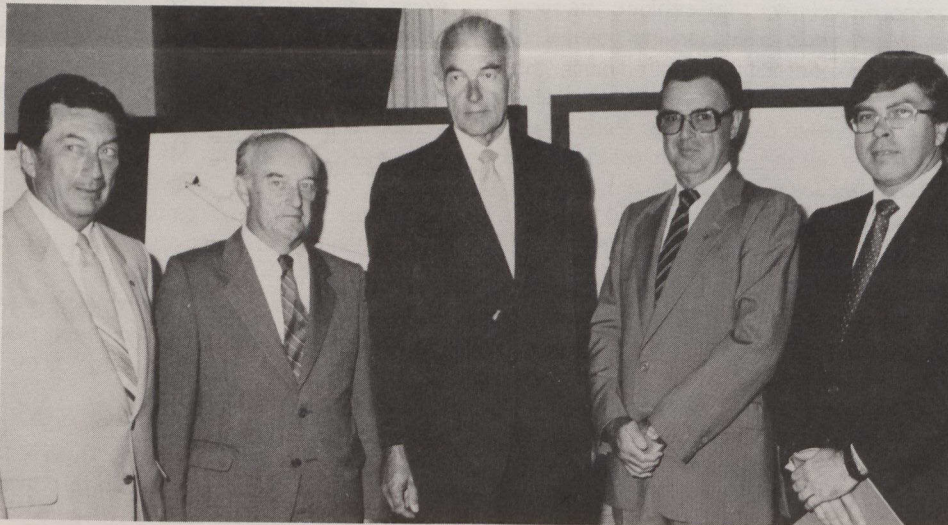
CIDA is lending an additional \$28.5 million separately under a CIDA power sector line of credit with India. The total cost of the Chamera project is \$1.3 billion.

The Canadian Consortium of Chamera Constructors (sponsored by SNC Inc. and

composed of SNC, Acres, Canadian General Electric, and Marine Industries Limited) was nominated as exporter of record for the Canadian participation in the project. SNC and Acres will provide engineering services that will consist of project management, technical training, construction assistance, and procurement services. Marine Industries Limited's equipment package will consist principally of turbines, gates and accessories, while Canadian General Electric Company Limited's will consist of generators, generator exciters, bus ducts and accessories.

The generation of additional power is expected to play a key role in India's economic development and the Chamera project is one part of a general plan to develop the country's substantial hydro resources.

In addition to the work performed by the four prime companies, some 200 other Canadian firms could be involved as sub-suppliers during the execution of the project.



Members of the Canadian Consortium of Chamera Constructors are represented by (left to right): Jean-Roch Brisson, president of Marine Industries Limited; Max Drouin, vice president of Canadian General Electric; Hugh Reinhart, president of Acres International; Jean-Paul Gourdeau, president of SNC; and William Pearson, vice president of the Energy division of SNC Inc.

Reassessment of drug safety

A systematic review of the safety of drugs and chemicals was recently begun by Health and Welfare Canada.

The new initiative, which will cost about \$2 million, is expected to help the department ensure that drugs, pesticides and food chemicals marketed for many years, still meet modern safety standards.

The program will consist of a variety of activities including: a review of old drugs whose risk/benefit ratio may no longer be acceptable in modern medicine; a reassessment of the safety of food additives, colours, and flavours that have not been examined according to modern standards; the development of a system for the pre-market approval of new food flavours and packaging materials; a study of the health of pesticide applicators and their families; and the preparation of safety guidelines and education programs for pesticide users.

Canada-China sign line of credit agreements



Canapress

Bank of China President Jin Deqin (left), EDC President Sylvain Cloutier (centre) and Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark, at the signing of a \$2 billion line of credit.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) recently signed a \$2-billion (US) general financing protocol with the Bank of China to support the sale of Canadian capital goods and services to the People's Republic of China. The protocol, which expires in 1988, consists of a line of credit and a letter of understanding regarding Bank of China guarantees for EDC-arranged supplier credits in China.

The protocol was signed by Jin Deqin, president of the Bank of China; Sylvain Cloutier, chairman of the board and president of EDC; and Jean Arès, senior vice-president Export Financing Group, EDC. The Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark attended the signing ceremonies for the line of credit.

Mr. Cloutier said that China's acceptance of the general financing protocol is a confirmation that China is interested in increasing the commercial activity between the two countries. He said that the financing facility is a statement of EDC's long-term commitment to the development of Canada's presence in the market and to the maintenance of a close working relationship with the Bank of China.

Mr. Cloutier indicated that EDC looks forward to the development of increased trade between Canada and China. He also suggested that the agreement will be very beneficial to both countries.

Sectors of the Chinese economy which hold the greatest potential for Canadian companies are transportation, food pro-

cessing, chemicals and petrochemicals, coal mining and production, communications and telecommunications, and hydroelectric power generation and transmission.

The agreement replaces a \$2-billion line of credit signed in 1979, which expired earlier this year. The new agreement will enable EDC to continue to provide financing in support of a growing number of specific projects under discussion between Canadian exporters and Chinese institutions.

Satellite sale

The EDC also announced the signing of 11 allocations totalling \$19.7 million (Cdn) under a line of credit that expired earlier this year to support the sale of equipment, services and technology by Spar Aerospace Limited of Canada for China's domestic satellite communications system. China National Instruments Import and Export Corporation, a state-owned foreign trade organization, has purchased the equipment.

Included in the sale are the supply of major sub-systems and components for 31 earth stations, related spare parts, and varying degrees of supervision during installation; fixtures, tools and test jigs; know-how and licensing and the design, manufacture and sale of elements of earth station components; and associated test services.

The Canadian International Development Agency is providing financing totalling \$1 million for training services associated with the assembly and operation of the equipment supplied by Spar.

Export trade month

Canada export trade month was launched on October 1 at the International Public Transit Expo '84 held in Washington, D.C., by the Canadian Minister for International Trade James Kelleher.

In making the announcement, Mr. Kelleher said that it was "especially fitting" that the country's trade month was introduced "at this very large and important international show, being hosted this year by Canada's principal trading partner".

The initiative marked the beginning of a concentrated focus on international trade across Canada during the month of October. Business, industry, the academic community and federal and provincial governments have combined their efforts to increase awareness of the critical role of exports in Canada's economy and to encourage small and medium size businesses in their export endeavours.

Events planned by regional committees have been achieved for every province and the territories. They range from major meetings and trade seminars involving hundreds of people, to small meetings with trade commissioners.

MICO-PLAN for fish processors

A new "user-friendly" software program called MICO-PLAN has been developed to help managers in the fish-processing industry improve market returns by planning production and controlling product costs more effectively.

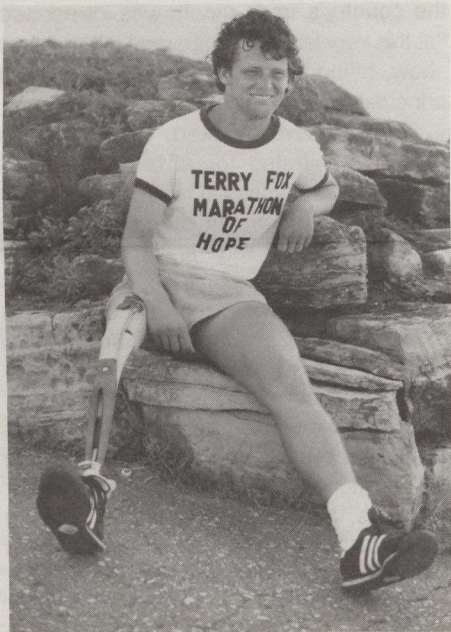
The micro-computer-based costing and planning system, which has been tailored to the specific needs of the industry, was designed by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. It was developed specifically for small and medium-sized fish processors interested in using modern management information systems in their operations.

MICO-PLAN micro-computers feature several modules that can generate periodic product cost reports, product ranking reports, and production plans as well as provide an analysis of fish landings and production.

Currently employed in 14 plants, from British Columbia to Newfoundland, the bilingual software is considered a powerful and valuable management tool for getting the best market returns from available fish resources. Users have been impressed with MICO-PLAN's effective role in improving production planning and financial reporting and are particularly impressed with its speed and ease of operation.

Fourth annual Terry Fox Marathon of Hope

On September 23, thousands of people ran in marathon races across Canada and around the world to raise money for cancer research, and to commemorate Terry Fox of Port Coquitlam, British Columbia, the amputee who tried to run across Canada in 1980 to raise money to fight cancer.



Terry Fox

Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope ended in Thunder Bay, Ontario, and he died of cancer in June 1981. His 5 374-kilometre run and the annual Terry Fox runs since have raised about \$37 million for cancer research.

Round the world

This was the fourth year for the annual marathons in which people walk, jog and run courses of ten kilometres or more in communities across Canada and at Canadian military bases and embassies abroad.

In British Columbia, the number of run sites was up 10 per cent over those in 1983 and a record number of people took part.

In Alberta, the runs were held despite freezing temperatures and snow but inclement weather in Saskatchewan forced officials in most major cities in the province to postpone the runs for a week.

The organizers of the runs in Prince Edward Island, expected about \$50 000 to be raised by some 5 000 runners. Among the many organized runs in the province, a tiny community, North River, with a population of fewer than 100, raised more than \$4 700 while a group of young Bahai refugees who recently arrived in Charlottetown from Iran raised \$400.

Almost 16 000 Nova Scotians took part

in their provincial runs, including 100 NATO personnel from Dutch, British and US ships docked in Halifax. "One person, paralyzed from the waist down, managed to make it the whole way on a tricycle-like vehicle that he pedalled with his hands," said provincial co-ordinator Helen Graham.

Coreen Villemere, Ontario co-ordinator, said most sites in the province increased their number of runners and pledges over last year. She expected Ontario runners to raise \$1.2 million.

Various schedules

Some Canadian runs were held early this year as in Montreal where there was a

conflict with the city's marathon. In the Northwest Territories, the 317 Inuit on Holmand Island ran on September 7 because of decreased sunlight later in the month. Other northern communities held their runs later because people were out on hunting expeditions.

Overseas, 11 runs were organized by Canadian military attachés at embassies including London, England; Madrid, Spain; Belgrade, Yugoslavia; Canberra, Australia; and Rome. Runs were also scheduled in Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, India and Pakistan.

Military personnel with the major Canadian bases overseas in Lahr and Baden-Baden, West Germany, held their runs a week later.

Electric-powered commuter car of the future

Major Tech Industries Inc. of Vancouver, British Columbia, has designed a lithium-based battery that could lead to the mass production of electric-powered cars.

The battery requires only one-quarter the space of a conventional lead-plated battery but provides the same energy output.

In addition, a Major Tech subsidiary, Rogers Inter Auto Inc., has developed a new three-wheel convertible and microvan prototype called the *Rascal* designed with electric propulsion in mind.

Major Tech's chairman Murray Pezim, is optimistic that the electric-powered *Rascal* will be the car of the future.

"Most electric-car designs have failed due to the short distances travelled before recharging is necessary. Our research has

shown that the new lithium-based battery will be able to travel 320 kilometres before recharging," said Mr. Pezim.

"That distance by far would make the car practical for commuter's needs," he added.

Although the battery is still at the research and development stage, the company hopes to have a workable electric-car prototype ready for Expo 86.

Cost analysis for the *Rascal* has shown the car could be sold for less than \$5 000, excluding options. Mr. Pezim said there were no plans for Major Tech to produce the vehicle but he would gladly license production.

Earlier attempts at producing electric-cars have failed because the batteries weigh too much and travelling times between recharging are too short.



Murray Pezim tries out a prototype of an electric car designed for commuters.

Gala celebration for Canada's "first lady of dance"

Celia Franca, founder and for 24 years the artistic director of the National Ballet of Canada, was honoured in a gala celebration at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa on September 29 for her contribution to the arts in Canada.



Ken Bell

Miss Franca performs one of her early roles in dance.

Called the "first lady of dance" in Canada by many, she has helped to bring dance in the country to a high level of professionalism. She is now a member of the board of directors of the Canada Council where she continues the struggle to raise the standards of dance in the country.

Miss Franca has danced on the Canadian stage in many roles since she arrived from England in 1951. Her most recent role has been as Lady Capulet in the National Ballet's production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

Dedicated to developing ballet

She is most remembered for her efforts and dedication in helping to establish the National Ballet Company as the world class ensemble it has become today.

The National Ballet School was also founded by Miss Franca with Betty Oliphant in 1959. Graduates of the school have filled the ranks of the National Ballet and many have gone on to other companies in Canada as well as other parts of the world.

Recognizing the necessity for touring, Miss Franca invited guests like Rudolf Nureyev for star appearances to draw audiences in cities where the National Ballet was unknown. Within a short period the company was taking its full length production of *Swan Lake*, the only one

in North America at the time, and productions like *Cinderella*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *La Sylphide*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *The Nutcracker*, across the continent and on successful tours of Europe and Japan.

Miss Franca has also helped many individual Canadian choreographers and artists. Ann Ditchburn, James Kudelka and Constantin Patsalas made their first steps towards creativity under her watchful and helpful eye.

In demand in other parts of the world since retiring as director of the National in 1974, she has mounted *Pineapple Doll* and *Offenbach in the Underworld* for the Joffrey Ballet in New York, and visited and taught in mainland China, where she staged a full length *Coppelia* in Peking.

Artists pay tribute

The gala, *Celia...a celebration*, was presented by two Ottawa-based arts ensembles, Theatre Ballet of Canada, the smallest and youngest of the country's ballet ensembles, and the Ottawa Symphony. Many of the dancers who have benefited from the contributions of Celia Franca, danced in the celebration.

There were two premieres on the program. The first was the world premiere of a pas de deux by Jeff Hyslop, *A Place to Dance*, danced by Evelyn Hart, of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and Frank Augustyn of the National Ballet. The second was the Canadian premiere of Gerald Arpino's *Confetti*, presented by Theatre Ballet of Canada.

The more conventional contributions were a pas de deux from Miss Franca's National Ballet production of *Cinderella*, danced by Veronica Tennant and Raymond



Ken Bell

Celia Franca

Smith of the National, and *Le Corsair* pas de deux and variations danced by Karen Kain and Frank Augustyn.

A surprise addition to the program, announced from backstage by Donald MacSween, the director general of the National Arts Centre, was the second act pas de deux from *Swan Lake* danced by Evelyn Hart and Raymond Smith.

Theatre Ballet of Canada and its artistic director, Lawrence Gradus, were also represented by Gradus's now classic *Garden*. The Debussy piano pieces to which it is set, were performed by Nicole Presentey.

Brian Law and the Ottawa Symphony provided the orchestral overture and the major support for the dancers.

Career highlights

The gala performance included a film, *Celia*, that contained highlights from film footage depicting Miss Franca's career to



National Ballet of Canada

Karen Kain as Swanilda and Frank Augustyn as Franz in *Coppelia*, with artists from the National Ballet of Canada, the company founded by Celia Franca.

date. It was produced by Don Brown and edited by Michael Manne.

Governor General Jeanne Sauvé attended the gala along with many diplomats, politicians and members of the arts communities including Canada's first prima ballerina Lois Smith, the National Ballet's new artistic director Eric Bruhn, Ludmilla Chiriaeff, founder of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and Robert Joffrey, founder and director of New York's Joffrey Ballet. Betty Oliphant, co-founder of the National Ballet School also attended.

The evening's festivities included pre-performance dinners, a post-performance champagne party and a lively dance and dessert party held on the stage.

Wow, it's a yow



Canapress

It's a yow! That's the name of the rare species – probably the first in the world – coined for baby Rose, zoo-born offspring of a Tibetan yak and a Highland Scottish bull. Burgundy-coloured Rose was born recently at a privately-owned zoo in Bowmanville, Ontario. At birth, she weighed almost 20 kilograms, about the same size as a normal cow's calf. But she has more than doubled her weight since then, bottled a special blend of powdered milk four times a day, two litres a feeding. Zoo and government officials say she may well be the only yow in the world. Because of the distance between their homelands, Highland cattle and Tibetan yaks rarely cross paths, let alone cross-breed.

News briefs

The sixth bilateral treaty on the transfer of inmates entered into force on October 1 this year. The agreement between Canada and France on the Transfer of Inmates and the Supervision of Persons under Sentence, had been signed in Ottawa on February 9, 1979. Under the agreement, an inmate who so desires may apply to serve his sentence in his country of nationality. Canadian and French officials are working to establish the necessary procedures for transfers. Canada already has such treaties in operation with Mexico, Peru and the US, while those with Bolivia and Thailand are awaiting ratification.

Former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has joined the Montreal law firm of Heenan, Blaikie, Jolin, Potvin, Trepanier and Cobbett as a senior consultant. His duties will be to advise and discuss cases with any of the 40 members of the firm, especially those involved with the Charter of Rights. Mr. Trudeau, 64, was called to the Quebec Bar in 1943. He began to practise law in the province in 1952, after post-graduate studies in law, economics and political science, and working with the Privy Council in Ottawa as an economist and policy advisor. He specialized in labour law and civil liberties cases in Quebec.

Premier John Buchanan of Nova Scotia has announced that a provincial general election will be held on November 6. In the last provincial election in 1981, the Conservative Party won 37 of the 52 seats in the Legislature. The Liberals took 13 while the other two seats went to New Democratic leader Alex McDonough and Paul MacEwan, leader of the Cape Breton Labour Party.

The Export Trade Information Centre, where businesses can obtain information on foreign markets, was officially opened in October by International Trade Minister James Kelleher. The centre is already receiving an average of 60 telephone calls daily. Canadian firms wanting to pursue trade opportunities can call the centre for information on toll-free telephone lines from all provinces.

Canadian male athletes dominated the sprints at an international track meet, marking the official opening of Seoul's Olympic Stadium on September 29. Ben Johnson of Toronto won the men's 100-metre final in 10.48 seconds ahead of South Korean Shim Dock-sup and Luis Morales of Puerto Rico. Desai Williams, also of Toronto, captured the 200-metre final in 20.89.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) recently approved export insurance,

guarantee and financing transactions supporting potential export sales of \$142.7 million to eight countries. The transactions involve sales of goods and services for the construction of buildings; aircraft, related spare parts and support services; a service contract for the reconditioning of an aircraft; a Cobalt 60 cancer unit; highway trucks; breeding cattle; boiler pressure controls; pipes and accessories for a water supply project; and equipment and services for a pulp mill project.

Canadian dance champions Tracy Wilson of Port Moody, British Columbia, and Robert McCall of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, won the ice-dancing event recently at the St. Ivel international competition in Richmond, England.

Mitel Corp of Kanata, Ontario, has signed a \$12-million three-year licensing agreement with Arfeen International Limited of Pakistan, to supply and manufacture their SX-20 and Entrepreneur telephone systems. Under the agreement, Mitel is to provide technical and marketing support while Arfeen International is to subcontract the production of the systems to another Pakistani company, the Shaheen Foundation. Sales and marketing are to be done under a joint venture between Arfeen International and the Shaheen Foundation.

Canada's first Chinese-language pay-TV station began programming September 29 in the Toronto area. Called *Chinavision*, the station combines news, documentaries, variety and drama programs from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan as well as Chinese-Canadian shows. Francis Cheung, who has 20 years of film and television experience in Southeast Asia, was awarded the licence for *Chinavision* from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission in May. He is looking to more than 200 000 Chinese living in Toronto to buy the service which will cost subscribers \$20 a month. He said he plans to take *Chinavision* by satellite to the Vancouver area in two years.

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