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Press Release

17 Raisings of the Franco-Albertan's Flag will launch *"Les Rendez-vous de la francophonie"* in Alberta!

EDMONTON, FEBRUARY 17th, 2010 – Further to last year's success, the ACFA's family of chapters and partners across Alberta, invite you to the second edition of the event, The Raising of the Franco-Albertan Flag. In fact, to launch the grand opening of "Les Rendez-vous de la francophonie" (RVF) (National French Canadian Heritage Week), 17 communities from across the province will proudly hoist the Franco-Albertan flag to celebrate and demonstrate the strong French-speaking presence in Alberta. So, on March 5th, 2010, our sky will be blue, white and pink!

Last year, more than 1 500 people attended various Flag raising events across the province. The president of the ACFA, Madam Dolorèse Nolette, invites the Francophone community to participate in large number: "The Flag raisings are an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our communities to speak with a single voice. It doesn't much matter our origin, let us participate, let us celebrate this language which is dear to us and let us brandish proudly the flag which unites us! When we make our presence strongly felt in so many regions, it is all our community which benefits from it." This formal ceremony seeks one moment to remember rich past, celebrate a thriving francophone community, demonstrate our pride but also raise awareness with decision-makers.

The ACFA wishes to thank its media partners Radio Canada Alberta, Calgary's Cité des Rocheuse as well as all the participating schools for their invaluable aid in ensuring that this event is great success.

Next week, at the invitation of honourable Ken Kowalski, the ACFA will participate in the 2010 RVF Ceremony. This event takes place on March 9th at the Alberta Legislature. Then, an Albertan delegation, including representatives of ACFA and the Economic Development Council of Alberta, will travel to Saint-Jérôme (Quebec) on March 11th and 12th. They will participate in an activity organized by the RVF who's aim is to twin similar size communities outside Quebec with similar size communities within Quebec. For the occasion, the Franco-Albertan flag will be hoisted at the Saint-Jérôme city hall and meetings will be held to explore the possibilities of partnerships between the French-speaking Alberta and Saint-Jérôme. Already, the notion of sustainable, or "Green," economy is gaining popularity and the town of Saint-Jérôme is a Quebecois leader in this domain. In 2011, a delegation from Saint-Jérôme will come and visit us, in Alberta.

**Regional Schedule – Franco-Albertan Flag Raising
MARCH 5th, 2010**

BONNYVILLE at 11 : 30 AM

École des Beaux-Lacs
4312 - 34 Street

LEGAL at 11 : 00 AM

City Hall (outside)
5021 - 50 Street

CALGARY at 6 :00 PM

La Cité des Rocheuses
4800 Richard Road S.W.

LETHBRIDGE (March 1st) at 4 : 00 PM

École La Vérendrye
2104 – 6 Avenue South

CANMORE at 1:00 PM

City Hall
902 - 7 Avenue

MORINVILLE at 11 : 00 AM

City Hall (outside)
10125 - 100 Avenue

COLD LAKE at 11 : 30 AM

École des Voyageurs
4719 - 69 Avenue

PLAMONDON at 1 : 15 PM

Centre culturel Philip-Ménard
9735 - 99 Street

EDMONTON at 10 : 30 AM

Edmonton Garrison
181 Churchill Road

RED DEER at 10 : 00 AM

Recreation Center Park
4501 - 47A Avenue

FAHLER at 2 : 00 PM

École Héritage
110 Charbonneau Street

SAINT-ALBERT at 11 : 00 AM

City Hall (outside)
5 St.Anne Street

FORT MCMURRAY at 11 : 00 AM

Centre communautaire Boréal
312 Abasand Drive

SAINT-PAUL at 12 : 20 PM

École du Sommet/ACFA régionale de
Saint-Paul
4537 – 50 Avenue

GRANDE PRAIRIE at 1 : 00 PM

City Hall
10205 - 98 Street

WAINWRIGHT at 12 : 00 PM

École St-Christophe
214 – 8 Street

JASPER at 11 : 00 AM

Caserne des pompiers
518 Geikie Street

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