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Press Release

22 communities will mark the kickoff of "Les Rendez-vous de la francophonie" in Alberta!

EDMONTON, FEBRUARY 8th, 2011 – The grand opening of "Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie" will be launched on March 4th, 2011. To celebrate, 22 communities across the province will proudly hoist the Franco-Albertan flag to celebrate and demonstrate a strong French-speaking presence in Alberta. So, on March 4th, the sky will be blue, white and pink!

For the third consecutive year, raising ceremonies of the Franco-Albertan flag are an opportunity for Francophone and French language lovers to get together and remember a rich past, celebrate a thriving Francophone community and proudly show their presence.

Last year, over 4000 people attended various ceremonies held across the province. The president of the ACFA, Madam Dolorèse Nolette, invites Albertans to participate again in large numbers: "This year we celebrate the 150th anniversary of St. Albert, the cradle of French culture in Alberta. We are pleased to see that French language and culture are still shining in many communities. It is a pride for us to be seen and heard during "Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie"."

During this national event taking place from March 4th to 20th, 2011, activities are organized in all provinces and territories of Canada to better appreciate the French language and its many cultural expressions. For more information, visit www.rvf.ca.

The ACFA wishes to thank its media partner, Radio-Canada Alberta, Canadian Heritage, the government of Alberta and Calgary's Cité des Rocheuses as well as all participating schools for their cooperation in making this event a success.

**Regional Schedule – Franco-Albertan Flag Raising
MARCH 4th, 2011**

AIRDRIE – 9:00 am

(Exceptionally, March 7th)
École francophone d'Airdrie
2654, Chinook Winds Drive

BONNYVILLE – 11:30 am

École des Beaux-Lacs
4312, 34th Street

BROOKS – 2:30 pm

(Exceptionally, March 10th)
City Hall
201, 1st Avenue W.

CALGARY – 6:00 pm

La Cité des Rocheuses
4800, Richard Road S.W.

CANMORE – 12:30 pm

Civic Centre
902, 7th Avenue

COCHRANE – 10:00 am

(Exceptionally, March 14th)
École Notre-Dame-des-Vallées
1139, 245 Riverview Drive

COLD LAKE – 11:30 am

(Exceptionally, March 3rd)
École Voyageur
4719, 69th Avenue

EDMONTON – 11:00 am

La Cité Francophone
8627, 91st Street (Marie-Anne-Gaboury)

FALHER – 11:00 am

ACFA régionale de Rivière-la-Paix
308, Main Street

FORT MCMURRAY – 11:00 am

Centre communautaire scolaire Boréal
312, Abasand Drive

GRANDE PRAIRIE – 11:45 am

École Nouvelle Frontière
11201, Pinnacle Boulevard

JASPER – 11:00 am

Jasper Elementary School
300, Elm Avenue

LEGAL – 10:30 am

City Hall (Outside)
5021, 50th Street

LETHBRIDGE -4:00 pm

(Exceptionally, March 11th)
Centre scolaire communautaire francophone
2104, 6th Avenue S.

MEDICINE HAT – 12:00 pm

(Exceptionally, March 11th)
École Les Cyprès
945, 1st Avenue S.E.

MORINVILLE – 10:30 am

City Hall (Outside)
10125, 100th Avenue

OKOTOKS – 9:00 am

Municipal Center
5, Elizabeth Street

PLAMONDON – 11:00 am

Centre culturel Philip-Ménard
9735, 99th Street

RED DEER – 9:40 am

Bower Ponds
4707, Fountain Drive

SAINT-ALBERT – 1:30 pm

City Hall (Outside)
5, St-Anne Street

SAINT-PAUL – 12:00 pm

École du Sommet
4609, 40th Street

WAINWRIGHT – 12:30 pm

(Exceptionally, March 3rd)
École Saint-Christophe
214, 8th Street

Founded in 1926, the ACFA (French Canadian Association of Alberta) is the official voice of the Francophone community in Alberta. As such, the ACFA is committed to ensure the continued development of the Alberta's French-speaking multicultural society. The ACFA's Provincial Office is located in Edmonton along with 14 Regional Chapters across Alberta and 10 Community School Coordinators.

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