



FÉDÉRATION  
DE LA JEUNESSE  
CANADIENNE-FRANÇAISE

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate publication

## **The 4th Canadian Francophone Games Edmonton 2008 are launched and the City of Greater Sudbury named as the next host city for the Games**

**OTTAWA, August 15th 2008** – The opening ceremonies of the 4<sup>th</sup> Jeux de la francophonie canadienne (Canadian Francophone Games), spearheaded by the *Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française (FJCF)*, were held last night in Hawrelak Park, Edmonton.

“I am proud that such an important event for Francophone youth could be held in Edmonton. As a Franco-Albertan myself, it is an honour that I can experience my first Games in my hometown,” said Karlynn Grenier, president of the FJCF.

The brilliant and fun filled opening ceremonies of the Games saw many athletes, artists and community leaders inspire close to one thousand participants attending from all over Canada. These Games, which play host to a series of athletic, artistic and leadership competitions, were launched with the lighting of the Games’ cauldron by two young Franco-Albertan torchbearers.

In her inspiring opening comments at last night’s ceremony, Ms Grenier announced that the FJCF’s future host city committee had chosen the next venue for the 2011 Games and declared the City of Greater Sudbury as its future host.

“The 5th Games scheduled for summer 2011 will provide the City of Greater Sudbury with an athletic, artistic and cultural, heritage along with an important economic impact, declared Ms Grenier. We were pleased and impressed by the proposal put forward by the future Organizing Committee. They have shown great determination through their work so far, showing a strong commitment to youth and to the vitality of French Canadian communities.”

Paul Lefebvre, President of the Organizing Committee of the 5th *Canadian Francophone Games*, declared that the next Games will be a fantastic experience bridging together the Francophone community in Sudbury and other communities in Northern Ontario. “The local Organizing Committee is proud to invite the Canadian Francophone youth to Ontario in 2011, a first for the province” added Mr. Lefebvre. This announcement will do nothing but energize the local committee and solidify its enthusiasm and commitment to provide a warm and unprecedented welcome to Francophones and Francophiles from all over Canada.”

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*The Jeux de la francophonie canadienne (JFC), an original initiative of the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française (FJCF), provide a unique opportunity for Francophone youth to participate in one of three fields: sports, arts and leadership. One of the largest youth gatherings in Canada, the Games are also one of the most popular, in part because of the sense of belonging they foster, but also because they promote the vitality of French-Canadian culture, society and language. The first three editions of the Games were held in Memramcook, New Brunswick, in 1999, Rivière-du-Loup, Québec, in 2002, and in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 2005.*

*The Organizing Committee of the Jeux de la francophonie canadienne du Grand Sudbury was founded by a group of volunteers and local organizations. Members of the Committee include Le Collège Boréal, le Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel-Ontario, le Conseil scolaire publique du Grand-Nord de l’Ontario, Laurentian University and the City of Greater Sudbury.*

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*Governed « by and for » youth, the FJCF is a national federation, comprised of 12 provincial and territorial Francophone youth organizations. The FJCF spearheads a number of projects, always with the objective of contributing to the development and growth of a young generation, which is proud of its culture and language, which asserts itself and claims its place.*

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