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HOUSE OF COMMONS
CANADA

Maurice Vellacott, MP
Saskatoon-Wanuskewin

The Government of Canada Supports Fransaskois Community

For Immediate Release

March 14, 2008

SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN - Young people from Saskatchewan's Francophone community will receive exciting training and development opportunities thanks to an investment from the Government of Canada in two projects being run by the Federation des francophones de Saskatoon and the Association jeunesse fransaskoise.

On behalf of the Honourable Josee Verner, Minister of Canadian Heritage, Status of Women and Official Languages, Maurice Vellacott, Member of Parliament (Saskatoon-Wanuskewin), today announced funding for the two French-language organizations.

The two groups will share \$102,100 in funding, which will enable them to carry out projects geared to providing Fransaskois young people with training. The Federation des francophones de Saskatoon will get \$47,100 to train secondary-school students in the creation of short films. The Association jeunesse fransaskoise will receive \$55,000 to help recruit, train, and supervise young people on the Saskatchewan delegation to the Jeux de la francophonie canadienne in Edmonton in August 2008.

"The Government of Canada is pleased to support the development of young people in minority official-language communities," said Minister Verner. "The projects announced today will enhance the vitality of Saskatchewan's young people and enrich its Francophone community."

"Our Government is demonstrating its commitment to supporting Fransaskois young people," said Mr. Vellacott. "These projects will help them develop their skills in a number of areas, including athletics, arts, leadership, and teamwork."

"Thanks to the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, we are proud to say that 88 young Fransaskois will represent the province's Francophone community with honour at the Jeux de la francophonie canadienne in August 2008," said Denis Simard, Executive Director of the Association jeunesse fransaskoise.

Funding for these projects will come from the \$30 million in additional funding over two years announced by the Government of Canada in the 2007 Budget to support minority official-language communities and linguistic duality.

This news release is available on the Internet at www.canadianheritage.gc.ca under Media Room.

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