



FOLKLORE CANADA

Express

Annual report 2007

This Report covers the period from May 20, 2007 to May 16, 2008.
It includes a summary of Folklore Canada International's major activities during the period.

August 2008

2007 highlights

- **Success of the North-American meeting and the Canadian Conference on Expressive Heritage held in Winnipeg in May 2007, thanks to the excellent collaboration of the Winnipeg Folk Arts Council.**
- **Changes made to FCI's structure concerning the membership, the National Council and work groups.**
- **Progress made in Canada for the recognition of intangible cultural heritage by provinces and municipalities.**

Members' participation

Actions were undertaken to stimulate members' participation through five programmes: the network, the annual conference, work groups, participation in associations and modification of the structure.

The Network

Folklore Canada International cooperates with national, regional or local associations, folklore festivals, and folklore groups in expressive heritage from nine Canadian provinces. FCI has maintained its relations with the network through various means: meetings, services, telephone and electronic communications. To ensure the efficient running of the network, FCI has continued the updating of its data bank on people, groups, associations, cultural communities, media and government organisations in expressive heritage. The data bank contains over 5 700 registrations.

The Board of Directors elected by the General Meeting has ensured the continuation of the following activities: members' participation, recognition of intangible cultural heritage and diversity of cultural expressions, programmes in Canada, international programmes and FCI's management.

The Board of Directors met four times. Its members were:

- Jean-Claude Ménard, President;
- Leticia Bulotano, Vice-President
- Ineka Limbertie, Treasurer;
- Lise Sirianni, Secretary;
- Barbara Campbell, Christian Hidalgo
- Ted Zdybal, Directors.

The Executive Committee provided management of FCI and met three times. Its members were:

- Jean-Claude Ménard, President;
- Leticia Bulotano, Vice-President ;
- Ted Zdybal, Director; and
- Guy Landry, Director general.

The running of FCI was made possible thanks to the commitment of its members and friends who give their time and share their expertise. This commitment is estimated at 210 persons and 3000 hours for a total of \$ 30 000 and travel expenses of \$ 9 000. Ville-Marie borough of the city of Montreal supply the office space evaluated at 20 000\$.

FCI is made up of affiliate members, friendly member, representatives of provincial associations and persons elected as leaders of work groups in expressive heritage from various Canadian cultural communities, folklore groups interested in exchanges and folklore festivals. FCI thus reaches over 14 000 persons, with links to over 700 associations active in the dissemination of intangible heritage. Through its activities, the FCI network furthers the popularity of traditional Canadian cultures to over two million people.

Annual Conference



PHOTO GUY LANDRY

Folklore Canada International's Annual Conference took place in Winnipeg from May 18 to May 20, 2007. It included workshops and Folklore Canada International's General Meeting. The workshops brought together some thirty participants and were about the participation of Canadian folklore groups abroad, CIOFF festivals and the Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage. The programme also included a show by groups from Winnipeg and a tour of the city. Tribute was paid to Lucien Loiselle for his commitment of

Participation des membres (suite)

over 20 years as President of Folklore Canada International. The following organisations were represented:

- CANADA** • Community Folk Art Council of Metropolitan Toronto, ON
• Ensemble folklorique les Éclusiers de Lachine, QC
• Fiesta Filipina Dance Troupe of Canada, ON
• Karilagan Dance Society, AB
• Kyumamggi Philippine Performing Arts, MB
• La Gigue en Fête, QC • Les Danseurs de la Rivière Rouge, MB
• Les Danseurs de la Rivière la Vieille, SK
• Pamana Ng LuzViMinda, QC • PHILCAS, BC
• Société du patrimoine d'expression du Québec, QC
• Winnipeg Folk Art Council, MB

- ETATS-UNIS** • Folkmoot USA, NC
• Holiday Folk Fair, WI
• Yocana International Folk Festival, MN

Work Groups

To promote a greater participation of members to the organisation of Folklore Canada International, benefit from the Canada-wide and distribute responsibilities throughout the country, FCI has set up work groups. Group work, as on the international level, is developing thanks to new means of communication, such as Internet. The work groups are:

- Canadian groups abroad and Canadian festivals: Leticia Bulotano
- Communication: Carla Oliveira
- Fundraising: Jean-Claude Ménard
- Heritage and education: Ineka Limbertie
- Youth Canada CIOFF: Joëlle Saltel-Allard

Participation in Associations

FCI is a member of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. It receives information and collaborates to the promotion of the Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage.

FCI makes exchanges with the Folklore Studies Association of Canada.

Changes to the Structure

At FCI's last General Meeting, membership and the structure. Membership now includes provincial associations, affiliate members and friendly members member friends. Membership fees are \$ 250 for provincial associations, \$ 115 for affiliate members and \$ 50 for friendly members.

The National Council includes one representative per provincial association, five persons elected among affiliate members and two among friendly member. The Board of Directors names the work group leaders, four of which sit on the National Council. Members of the Board of Directors are elected by voting members among members of the National Council.

Development of Provincial Structures

FCI recognises in each province one organisation that gathers together expressive heritage organisations. In provinces where there is no such organisation, the mandate is given to local groups who are asked to set up a provincial organisation. Presently, FCI recognises the following organisations: Société du patrimoine d'expression du Québec and the Winnipeg Folk Arts Council. The Ontario Folk Arts Council is presently being set up and people have been commissioned in Alberta, British-Columbia, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.



PHOTO CARLA OLIVEIRA

INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

Canada has not signed the Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage. Yet, over 100 countries have presently signed this Convention. Pressures exerted by associations in Canada and information conveyed by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO have made it possible to aim at other targets such as municipalities and provincial governments. The province of Nova Scotia has just accepted a strategy on cultural heritage. In Québec, the cities of Rivière-du-Loup, Montréal and Québec have voted a policy which includes intangible cultural heritage. The Government of Québec is presently making consultations to revise the law on cultural property. In Alberta, a study approach on heritage has just started. If you know of other measures undertaken in cities or provinces on this subject, please let us know.

DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

Canada was among the first countries to sign the Convention on Cultural Diversity. Over 50 countries having signed the convention, a first session of the intergovernmental committee for the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions was held in Ottawa from December 10 to 13, 2007. Mr. Guy Landry had been asked by the international organisation CIOFF to be its representative. More than 100 representatives of 69 countries or associations took part. During the meeting, a document concerning the role of civil society was tabled. It is a first official action by the governments to recognise the roles of civil society in the development of culture.

EDITORIAL TEAM

The newsletter **Folklore Canada Express** est publié par Folklore Canada International. Items published are under the sole responsibility of the authors.

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PROGRAMMES IN CANADA

COMMUNICATION

In 2007, we added an English version to FCI's Website. Moreover, many sections of the site were updated. The French version also contains a first list of members for the last three years. The site opens directly on the next upcoming activity, the Annual Conference in Expressive Heritage. It also contains explanations on the new structure. Folklore Canada International's Annual Report for 2007 is available on the Website.

To visit the site, go to the following address: www.folklore-canada.org.

In its 2007 budget, the Canadian government announced a \$ 500 tax credit for physical fitness for dependent children aged 3 to 16 who take part in sports. This tax credit was available for children's dance classes under certain conditions. This information was made available to members.

DOCUMENTATION

About ten persons came to do research at SPEQ's Documentation Centre. The centre was used for SPEQ committee meetings and SPEQ's Board of Directors, approximately 200 persons. Mr. Pierre Gagnon does the computer classification while Mrs Natalia Chatilova transfers video tapes on DVDs. The Documentation Centre continues to acquire CDs, DVDs, magazines and documents on intangible cultural heritage.

TRAINING

Steps were taken with the École malgache de Montréal to invite to Montréal two teachers from Madagascar for the transmission of traditions. During six months, they worked with the Madagascan community to transmit Madagascar's intangible cultural heritage.

EXCHANGES IN CANADA

Folklore groups were invited to take part in festivals in other provinces. Hawaiian Pacific Magic (Toronto) and Kodaly Ensemble (Toronto) participated in Gigue en Fête (Sainte-Marie de Beauce, QC). The Mondial des cultures de Drummondville hosted Polonez Polish Folk Arts Ensemble of Edmonton (Alberta) and Cultures Philippines of Ontario from Mississauga. Requests for exchanges of young people in expressive heritage were transferred to SEVEC, who is in charge of exchanges between schools.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SOCIÉTÉ DU PATRIMOINE D'EXPRESSION (QUÉBEC)

FCI continued its partnership with SPEQ by sharing office space and equipment. It took part in the implementation of various projects: Fête des enfants de Montréal, Week-end les Cultures du monde, Folklories de Montréal, newsletter La Lignée and show production.

■ FÊTE DES ENFANTS DE MONTRÉAL

The 9th Fête des enfants de Montréal took place on August 18 and 19, 2007 in Jean-Drapeau park, with 266 000 visitors. SPEQ cooperated with Folklore Canada to organise the participation of cultural communities and groups in expressive heritage. Know-how, shows and games allowed visitors to discover the multiple facets of Montréal. Forty-five (45) associations, from 40 communities and bringing together 800 volunteers were called upon to ensure the success of the event.



PHOTO CARLA OLIVERA

■ WEEK-END

LES CULTURES DU MONDE

The Week-ends du monde which aim at the participation of many communities and a diversified public during the same time period was made concrete by the carrying out of an event which brought everyone together, "Les Cultures du monde", August 23 to 26, 2007 in Jean-Drapeau park. FCI contributed to the carrying out of the event.

- Shows (dance, music and singing): 20 groups from 18 cultural communities

- Running of traditional games: 5 associations from 5 cultural communities
- Participating gatherings: 13 associations from 13 cultural communities
- Arts and crafts stands: artisans or associations from 17 cultures
- Cornhusking event: 5 accordeon players and 4 percussionists, 15 dancers (men and women) and 40 singers (men and women)
- Running of folklore dances: 3 associations and 15 dancers (men and women)

■ LE FESTIVAL DU PATRIMOINE D'EXPRESSION DE MONTRÉAL

The Festival montréalais du patrimoine d'expression was held on January 20, 2008 in Lachine, on the theme of water. Know-how workshops on origami, plate painting and knots were held in Lachine. The festival also included the journeys of Sinbad the sailor in search of cultures. During seven fantastic trips, Sinbad discovered traditions linked to water in Chinese, Egyptian, Greek, Jewish, Madagascan, Filipino and traditional Québec cultures. FCI contributed to the organisation of this event.

■ CONSULTATION ON THE LAW ON CULTURAL PROPERTY

The government of Québec is presently carrying out a consultation to revise the law on cultural property. SPEQ, in cooperation with FCI has prepared a paper to recommend the inclusion of intangible cultural heritage in the law. Recommendations also dealt with the various fields of intervention to help the development of intangible cultural heritage.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

FCI is CIOFF's national section in Canada. It represents Canada internationally and implements CIOFF programmes in Canada. Guy Landry sits on the work group of CIOFF World Folkloriada. Barbara Campbell sits on the CIOFF work group for children. Jean-Claude Ménard participates in the work done by the finance commission.

CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN CIOFF FCI a soutenu le directeur général dans son travail comme représentant canadien pour la correspondance et la préparation de rapports. FCI produit, à chaque année, un rapport annuel pour le CIOFF sur les résultats de l'année dans les échanges internationaux. Il demande aussi aux festivals concernés de produire une évaluation des groupes internationaux et aux ensembles folkloriques de préparer une évaluation sur les festivals. Jean-Claude Ménard était le délégué officiel canadien lors du Congrès mondial CIOFF qui se tenait à Monterrey au Mexique, du 26 octobre au 2 novembre 2007. Il était accompagné de Leticia Bulotano, Barbara Campbell, Ron Gauthier, Christian Hidalgo-Mazzei et Guy Landry. Lors de la conférence culturelle, Guy Landry a présenté un exposé sur la transmission par les disciplines des valeurs en patrimoine culturel immatériel. La délégation a été très active durant le Congrès pour développer des ouvertures pour la participation des ensembles folkloriques canadiens au réseau des festivals internationaux CIOFF.

NORTH AMERICAN MEETING A meeting of the North American sector took place in November 2007 in Mexico. Members of the Canadian delegation present in Mexico took part in the meeting. During these meetings, the agenda included various international exchange programmes. The next North American meeting should have been held in Milwaukee (USA), but it was cancelled and replaced by a telephone conference on May 1st for national officials.

CIOFF YOUTH During the Annual Conference in Winnipeg, many exchanges took place on the participation of young people in CIOFF. Mrs Joëlle Saltel-Allard from Winnipeg was chosen to represent Canada at CIOFF Youth. Moreover, FCI has invited young people to participate in the conference on expressive heritage in Montréal to discuss CIOFF Youth and set up a committee to intervene in this project.



FIESTA DANCE TROUPE

FUNDING OF THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATION IN CIOFF FCI organised, in cooperation with SPEQ, a fundraising show to help finance Canadian representation in CIOFF. The show was given on

October 14 at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf with the participation of eight folklore groups, including two from Ontario. These activities raised \$ 2 500. Participating associations were:

- Compagnie de danse folklorique Podhale from Montréal, QC
- Fiest Filipina Dance Troupe from Mississauga, ON
- The Iranian dance group Khorshid Khanon
- L'Ensemble de danse Ani de l'Association culturelle arménienne Hamazkayin from Montréal
- Les Éclusiers de Lachine, QC
- Mapou Ginen, Haitian dance ensemble from Montréal
- Polish Song & Dance Ensemble Tatry, ON
- Troyanda Ukainian Dance Ensemble from Montréal.

Deeply felt thanks to all these artists and other associations who ensured the success of the event.

FOLKLORIADA CIOFF 2008 CIOFF has asked Guy Landry to sit in the Folkloriada work group which aims at supervising the carrying out of the future Folkloriada. The work group met in Monterrey in Mexico to recommend the candidature of Korea for 2012 and follow up on the work done by China.

INTERNATIONAL DISSEMINATION FCI has continued its interventions for the international folklore festival network. Members of the committee for the participation of Canadian groups abroad met with the groups and CIOFF international festivals.

International Festivals FCI met international folklore festivals to coordinate the work and promote cooperation. Folklore Canada continued to exchange information with the Mondial des Cultures de Drummondville festival and cooperated with Gigue en Fête, Festival folklorique des enfants du monde, Fête des enfants de Montréal and Folklorama from Winnipeg for the participation of international groups. FCI is in contact with the city of Sept-Îles, who wants to organise an international folklore festival.

Festivals included in CIOFF's 2007 calendar are:

- Mondial des Cultures de Drummondville
- Gigue en Fête from Sainte-Marie de Beauce
- Folklorama from Winnipeg
- Fête des enfants de Montréal.

Approaches were made by FCI towards the participation of the group Sardarapat from Armenia at the Festival La Gigue en Fête. Contacts were established with the national section of Hungary to host the members of the delegation of the corporation of Old Trades. Exchanges were made to host artisans of the old trades in Hungary. Likewise, the Festival des Vieux métiers of Longueuil hosted Hungarian artisans.

CANADIAN FOLKLORE ENSEMBLES AT INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE FESTIVALS

With a view to disseminating traditional Canadian cultures internationally in 2007, FCI and its partners delegated Canadian groups to various international folklore festivals.

- Germany, October 21-29, Troupe Adultes Pieds Légers (Laval, QC)
- Belgium, Italy, August 8-21, Danse Tradition de Beauport (QC)
- Brazil, July 30-August 13, Polish Song & Dance Ensemble Tatry (ON)
- Brazil, August 5-14, La relève des Bons Diables (Laval, QC)
- Brazil, August 5-16, Hawaiian Pacific Magic (Toronto, ON)
- Ecuador, April 4-9, Lechevia Polish Cdn Folk Dance Co. (Toronto, ON)
- France, Belgium and Switzerland, August 7-26, Andicha n'de Wendat (Wendake, QC)
- Hungary and Tcheque Rep., August 14-26, Les Éclusiers de Lachine (QC)
- Italy, August 2-6, The Rae MacCulloch Dancers (Maxville, ON)
- Madagascar, May 15-28, La troupe V'la l'Bon Vent (Québec, QC)
- Mexico, July 5-29, Bialy Orzyl Polish Dance Ensemble
- Mexico, July 5-30, Fiesta Filipina Dance Troupe
- Mexico, July 30-August 13, La Compagnie de danse Podhale (Montréal, QC)
- Peru, August 22-27, Mandaragat Philippines Inc (Winnipeg, MB)
- Peru, August 22-27, Ena Sutton Highland Dancers (Winnipeg, MB)
- Peru, August 22-27, McConnel School of Dance (Winnipeg, MB)
- Poland, July 28- August 12, Les Bons Diables (Laval, QC)
- Portugal, July 5-16, Volya Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, (Edmonton, AB)
- Portugal, July 4-9, Tam Ti Delam (Sept-Îles, QC)
- Russia, August 30-September 10, The Rae MacCulloch Dancers (Maxville, ON)
- Switzerland and Germany, August, Andicha Windat (QC)
- Taiwan, July 7-August 19, Polish Song & Dance Ensemble Tatry (ON).