CANADA DAY

Festive ways in our nation's capital

ttawa is both the nation's capital and a vibrant, colourful city in its own right. In its role as capital, Ottawa has more pomp and ceremony than most cities and there are special events throughout the year, such as the opening of Parliament, visits by heads of state, and the Remembrance Day ceremonies at the National War Memorial on November 11.

The city celebrates its heritage and its life with an eclectic mix of festivals. Mid-May brings out the tulips and Ottawa has literally millions of them. The annual Tulip Festival is a particularly fitting reminder of the friendship between Holland and Canada, a friendship strengthened during the Second World War when the Dutch Royal Family spent an enforced exile in Ottawa. The original gift of 100,000 tulips was the Royal Family's way of saying thank you.

Ottawa, with its sister city of Hull, forms the largest bilingual area in English Canada. It is the centre of Franco-Ontarian culture in the region and celebrates that culture every June with the Festival Franco-Ontarien. There's traditional and modern entertainment, crafts, food and more.

Not to be missed if you're in Ottawa July 1 is the Canada Day Celebration held on Parliament Hill in honour of Canada's "birthday." This is an all-day party with marching bands, pealing bells, thundering jets and top entertainment. Another stirring ceremonial event is the daily Changing the Guard on Parliament Hill during the summer. Marching bands in scarlet tunics and bearskin "busbies" make this popular spectacle one to catch if you can.

Ottawa's winter scene is brightened every February with Winterlude, a festival held over the first three weekends in February, celebrating winter's special pleasures. The frozen Rideau Canal becomes the centre of the festival with ice skating and other winter sports, entertainment, fireworks, ice sculptures and much more. Winterlude is one of North America's biggest winter carnivals.

The Ottawa calendar includes a host of other festivals; popular among them are the Ottawa International Jazz Festival, from July 14-23 and celebrating their 20th anniversary this year, the Central Canada Exhibition from August 17-27 and the 13th annual Gatineau Hot Air Balloon Festival from September 1-4 this year. - (MASI)

Don't miss your chance to take part in a dazzling fireworks display

River Oaks Community Church in Oakville is again inviting the were set off. community to come and set off their fireworks at their property on Canada Day, July 1st.

The display will start at approximately 9:45 p.m., and will run as long as there are fireworks to set off, rain or shine. This is the fourth year the church has hosted a Community Fireworks Display, which encourages everyone to get involved and fosters great com-

The Victoria Day Fireworks were very successful last year, with well over 800 people in attendance and 45 minutes of fireworks

Everyone is welcome to come and watch the fireworks, but the success of the event depends on people from the community bringing their fireworks, even though a small display is provided by the

Bring a lawn chair, come early, park at the River Oaks Recreation Centre and walk to the church, located at the corner of Munn's Avenue East and Sixth Line.

For more information, call the church office at 257-3864.



Photo by John Bauld

Handling all fireworks with extra care

Even sparklers can be dangerous if used unsupervised! As the adult in charge of fireworks at your home this year, planning ahead and following these safety tips could help prevent an

Buy your fireworks from a reliable source. Keep them in a closed box (preferably locked), in a cool, dry place away from children and animals.

Use outdoors in a large, cleared area, making sure you leave yourself lots of room to get back and forth to your box of fireworks. (It should be kept well away from the display area.)

Wear eye protection, gloves and snug fitting clothes (no loose or baggy jacket or pants that could catch fire).

Always light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves to hold them. Do not give sparklers to children under five.

Keep a full bucket of water or garden hose close by for any emergency. Sparklers should be doused in a bucket of water as soon as they have been used. The wires should then be folded and disposed of safely.

Follow the specific instructions for each firework (use a flashlight, not an open flame) and use common sense.

Never put fireworks in a pocket.

Never throw lit fireworks or point them at someone.

Light fireworks at arms length using a firework lighter or taper, never an open flame.

Never go back to a firework once it is lit. It could still be alive and explode unexpectedly! Leave it until the end of your evening display and then douse completely with lots of water before disposal. (You can phone your local fire department for disposal information.)

Pets hate loud noises and flashes. Put them inside for the night and close the curtains.

Lastly, you and all spectators should stand well back and enjoy the "show" safely.





"SUMMER DANCE CAMP 2000"

FOR GIRLS AND BOYS AGES 3 - 12 YEARS

LOCATION: St. John's United Church – 131 Dunn Street

DATES: One Week Session – July 10th – July 14th One Week Session – July 17th – July 21st

Two Week Session – July 10th – July 21st

TIMES: Full Day 8:30 - 3:30 (option for 3 - 12 Yrs.)

Half Day 8:30 – 12:00 Noon (option for 3 & 4 Yrs.)

EXAMPLE OF ACTIVITIES

Dancing, Arts & Crafts, Skill Games, Movies Outdoor Sports, Scavenger Hunts, Nature Walks, Water Games Morning and Afternoon Nutritious Snack

Families and Friends are Welcome and Do Not Have to be Registered With Our Current Dance Program or Have Any Prior Dance Experience Two or More Campers From The Same Family Receive an Extra 10% Discount.

> DON'T BE DISAPPOINTED!!! REGISTER EARLY AS SPACE IS LIMITED!!!

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information

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FOR GIRLS AND BOYS AGES 3 - AND UP MONDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES

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(ALL LEVELS – GIRLS 3 YEARS TO ADVANCED)

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Two or more students from the same family receive an extra 20% discount.

PROUD TO BE CANADIAN - HAPPY CANADA DAYI

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RECEIVE OUR BROCHURE PLEASE CALL:

EVA LOWTHER-YOUNG 905-607-5300

KIM BELANGER 905-637-2758