

Ottawa features Festival of Spring

OTTAWA — Cultures through the ages have found some way to celebrate the renewal of life following the winter — sometimes with a maypole dance, sometimes with a sacrificial animal, sometimes with mystery shrouded rites symbolizing rebirth.

Ottawa has its own way of ushering in spring. The Festival of Spring

in our nation's capital is bright, lively and close-packed with entertaining events. The only mystery is the profusion of tulips. How can our sagging economy manage to import over three million tulip bulbs every year?

The answer is simple. The strikingly beautiful flowers are an annual gift of the Dutch royal family in appreciation of Ottawa's protective hospitality during the

Second World War. More than 200 different varieties are planted along the scenic drivers and bicycle paths. If the festival offered nothing else beyond this city-wide flower show, it would be worthwhile.

The festival begins Saturday, May 12, with Bavarian folk dancing, European music and food at Hofbrauhaus, and an Italia dance at the Civic Centre.

Major's Hill Park will become the heart of the festival for the following week. There you will be able to buy crafts from more than 100 Ontario and Quebec handicrafts artists; to dance to Bavarian-style music nightly; to feast on ethnic and natural foods of great variety; to watch fashion or television shows in the making; and to enjoy military bands, concerts and all types of live entertainment.

Sports events will take in a wider portion of the city. The fifth annual National Capital Marathon, like the bicycle race, will stretch along many of the parkways.

The Backgammon Classic (all calibres welcome) will be fought in the Convention Hall. The Senior Citizens' Mini-Golf Tournament will tee off at the Airport Golf.

The Girls' Softball Tournament will be decided in Gloucester Place, Ogilvie Road.

Nature walks and outings will sometimes enter Gatineau Park.

Saturday, May 19, is designated Downtown Ottawa Day.

Horse-drawn wagon rides through the superb Byward Market and Dalhousie Street will cost a quarter. Pony rides for children will be free from the corner of Bank and Somerset Streets.

A lot of paint will be happily spilled at a 36-foot mural paint-in for

children at the same location. Puppeteers will virtually take over the town.

A marching band will play in the Sparks Street Mall, to be followed in the afternoon by Le Groupe de la Place Royale dancers. Concerts will erupt here and there.

In short, downtown Ottawa will be a pleasing pandemonium.

Probably inspired by thoughts of preserving the downtown streets for another year, the celebrations move to Dow Lake on Sunday.

There the Canal Flotilla forms for its water parade, depicting cartoon characters this year. The Carlsberg Wagon will lead a land parade of antique cars. Pipers will accompany highland dancers.

Dominating the lakeside activities will be paramilitary displays, including musketry, bayonet drill and air-sea rescue. Parachutists and the Air Canada hot air balloon will add to the fascinating picture.

Puppeteers will present bilingual historical shows.

If you manage to have energy left for Monday's activities, you will find them in Nepean Waterfront Park.

There maypole, Scottish, square and stepdancing will be revived on land, while yacht racing and waterski shows cut the water. Freestyle aerial acrobatics and fireworks will enliven the air above you. There will be concerts and displays as well.

All this is only an incomplete listing of the festival events. For the complete brochure write Festival of Spring, No. 703, 71 Bank Street, Ottawa K1P 5N2.

And while you're there for the festival, consider seeing the old library of the Parliament Buildings, the changing of the guard and the National Art Theatre. Old buildings, old ceremonies, new tulips — that is Ottawa in the spring.



More than 200 varieties of tulips bloom annually along scenic driveways in Canada's capital, Ottawa. The Canadian tulip festival is held the last two weeks in May when the blooms have reached their peak.

Travelchat

By **Anne Wanstall**
Travel Editor

VIA Rail is geared up for its spring and summer excursions to Niagara. Starting May 19 and running through to September 29, VIA's tour combines rail and motor coach trips from Toronto, Oakville and Hamilton to Niagara-on-the-Lake, Queenston Heights and Niagara Falls.

The tour begins with the 9:30 a.m. train from Toronto (9:55 a.m. from Oakville and 10:23 a.m. from Hamilton) to the Village Depot at Grimsby where the old CN station has been converted into boutiques and specialty shops.

Then it's on to Niagara-on-the-Lake by motor coach, travelling the scenic route. There is a one hour stop for lunch and sightseeing and a brief stop at Queenston as the tour follows the Niagara Parkway to Niagara Falls.

There's a three-hour stopover at Niagara Falls before the return trip by train.

Cost of the tour from Toronto is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children. From Oakville the cost is \$17, children, \$8.50.

Included in the tour is a visit to Andrew Wines at Winona, including a session in the company's wine tasting room.

Reserve through any travel agent or VIA office.

Photography buffs can join another Phyllis Reeser Phototour in September.

This year's trip goes to the south of France and Northern Spain, to include Aix-en-Provence, Nimes, Pamplona, Burgos, and Santiago de Compostela. The tour will end in Bordeaux, France.

The tour route has been chosen because of its particular interest to amateur photographers.

For information contact Phyllis Reeser Phototours, 166 Rosedale Heights Dr., Toronto.

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If you can provide new jobs for Ontario's Youth, Ontario will help pay their salaries.

If you operate a business or farm and create new jobs between April 30 and October 21, 1979, you may apply to the Ontario Youth Employment Program for a grant of \$1.25 an hour (up to a maximum of \$50.00 a week) towards the wages of each eligible youth you hire for those jobs.

Apply early. Grant funds are limited.
If you wish to employ a young person any time during the program's duration submit your application as soon as possible. Applications are processed as they are received. Deadline date for application is July 3, 1979 or earlier, should all funds be allocated.

Eligible Employers
are those who have been actively engaged in business or farming for at least one year prior to April 30, 1979 at each Ontario business location for which grant application is made.

Eligible Employees
must be at least 15 but not yet 25 years old on April 30, 1979. They must reside and be eligible to work in Ontario. They must not be related to the employer as defined in the Ontario Youth Employment Act.

Program Duration:
The program is in effect for 25 weeks from April 30 through October 21, 1979. An employer is not required to hire a youth for the full 25-week period.

Hiring of Employees:
Before you hire an employee under the program you must first receive written approval from the Province.
Last year the program approved 40,000 new jobs for young people throughout the province. If you think you would be eligible for funding under the program we invite you to apply.
For further information on the Ontario Youth Employment Program and application forms, please contact: Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs, Subsidies Branch, Queen's Park, Toronto M7A 2R8. Telephone 1-800-268-7592 (toll-free). In Metro Toronto, telephone 965-0570. In Northern Ontario (Area Code 807) call Toronto collect at 965-0570. Please call between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Terms of Employment:
To be eligible for funding, a position created must be in addition to regular and seasonal employment normally provided during the program period. It must provide a minimum of 25 hours of supervised employment per week for at least six weeks.

Grants:
Employers may qualify for grants for up to 150 manweeks of employment at each eligible business location. For example, if you wished to make use of the maximum grant available you could hire 10 young people for 15 weeks each, or 6 for 25 weeks each, or 15 for 10 weeks each. Approved employers will receive a grant of \$1.25 an hour up to a maximum of \$50 a week (40 hours) for each young person hired under the program.

Note:
If you participated in a previous OYEP program an application form and guidelines booklet have been mailed to you.

OYEP works for all of us.

William Davis, Premier
Province of Ontario

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