



10<sup>e</sup> CONGRÈS  
MONDIAL DU LOISIR  
10<sup>th</sup> WORLD LEISURE  
CONGRESS

Press Release  
For Immediate Broadcast

## World Leisure Congress Québec 2008 Soon to be a Solemn Declaration By Stakeholders in the Field of Leisure

Montreal, September 18, 2008 — Aware of leisure's economic weight and unfathomable spin-offs on community development on a global scale, the world's important stakeholders in leisure will soon adopt a solemn declaration, the Québec Declaration, at the outcome of the 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress which will be held at Québec City's convention center from October 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>.

The event's organiser, the Conseil québécois du loisir, and its numerous partners, has announced that the participants, over 2,500 individuals from over 40 countries, have agreed to adopt this declaration which contends that leisure has an essential positive impact on the quality of life of individuals, communities and societies. On this occasion, insofar as their personal capabilities will allow, all will agree to implement the principles of this declaration for the common good.

The Québec Declaration was inspired from several important founding texts:

- **The Universal Declaration on Human Rights** adopted by the United Nations in 1948, in which article 24 specifies that "all individuals have a right to rest and to leisure";
- **The 1985 Human Rights Act**, in which article 2 stipulates that "all individuals should have an opportunity equal with other individuals to make for themselves the lives that they are able and wish to have and to have their needs accommodated, consistent with their duties and obligations as members of society";
- **The United Nations' 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child**, in which article 31 recognizes the child's right to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts;
- **The 1987 National Recreation Statement** recognizes that recreation is a social service in the same way that health and education are considered as social services and that recreation's purpose should be to assist individual and community development, to improve the quality of life and to enhance social functioning.

During this world congress, some 450 presentations will take place during more than 200 workshops, conferences and round tables dedicated to the transmission of scientific research results, a variety of experience reports and to the promotion of better practices in this field. The event will also host an important trade show.

*The Quebec Leisure Council (Conseil québécois du loisir) and the World Leisure Organisation contribute to the social, cultural and economic development of Quebec by encouraging and supporting the practice of leisure activity. They represent leisure organizations while bringing together groups and individuals involved in leisure development for consultation and consensus-building. They defend the rights of all individuals to dedicate time in the pursuit of leisure activities, and strongly support unlimited accessibility.*

[www.loisirquebec2008.com](http://www.loisirquebec2008.com)

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Source: Conseil québécois du loisir

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