

# newsletter

10<sup>th</sup> WORLD LEISURE CONGRESS QUEBEC 2008

Version française disponible



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

## You Had to Be There!

We are very pleased to present you with the final edition of the 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress newsletter. This event will be dubbed in international leisure records as a great success which surpassed all expectations.

## AN UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS!

According to the World Leisure Organization and the data available on the Québec Convention Center's web site, the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008 is the greatest world leisure congress ever to be held and one of the most important congresses to have ever taken place in Québec.



## MANY RECORDS BROKEN!

The 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress now holds many records, such as:

- A record number of delegates with over 4,468 participants in the various activities offered over a five day period;
- A record number of countries represented, that is 59 countries from all five continents;
- A record number of delegates from French-speaking countries;
- A record for "content" with 683 papers and conferences registered in the program;
- A record participation at the trade show with 164 exhibitors, including several non-profit organisations, distributed over 225 kiosks;
- A record involvement with respect to the number of associative, public and private partners.



## OTHER NOTEWORTHY ELEMENTS!

- Over 800 students in leisure not only participated as delegates in order to perfect their training as technicians or recreologists, but several also volunteered for the congress. As a matter of fact, their participation as volunteers greatly contributed to the quality of our hospitality, which was noted by several participants;
- Nearly 200 people gave a helping hand to our organisers, most as volunteers or on borrowed time from their organisations;
- A professional grade event, offered at a very reasonable cost;
- A hospitable and functional convention center with impeccable logistics, located in a historic and touristic part of town.

## A THOUGHT-OUT, CHALLENGING AND QUALITY THEME

The 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress provided a thorough and exceptional contribution to the reflection and knowledge of leisure as a driving force in community development. The quality and diversity of its lecturers and panelists, as well as the contribution from a majority of presentators, whether as researchers or professionals, allowed for a better understanding of the potential of leisure and to shed light on the challenges and answers to the questions brought about by leisure in the social, cultural and economical development of communities. The statements made in the Quebec declaration were widely demonstrated and analyzed during the entire Congress.



*"For me, there were many highlights at the 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress that I will long remember. The high level of discourse presented by keynote speakers and panellists provided many new insights and opportunities for reflection",* wrote Mr Christopher R. Edginton, Secretary General, World Leisure Organization to the Program Committee Director.

## OPENING COCKTAIL AT QUEBEC'S MUSÉE DE LA CIVILISATION

The opening cocktail for the Congress was held at Québec's Musée de la Civilisation, welcoming nearly 1,000 guests. The Minister of Education, Leisure and Sports, Mrs. Michelle Courchesne, addressed the audience highlighting the important contribution of leisure to the quality of life and recalling the Québec government's involvement in the World Leisure Congress project from the very beginning. Afterwards, delegates were able to enjoy the exhibition "Temps Libre" (Free Time) on the museum's program until September 2009. This exhibition calls for reflection on the importance of leisure for people and communities and was supported by the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sports in collaboration with several other partners.



*President of the World Leisure Organization, Dr. Derek Casey.*

According to Dr. Derek Casey, President of the World Leisure Organization, the 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress held in Québec City, Canada, was "wonderful and will be remembered by many. The organization, the program and, above all, the atmosphere contributed greatly to the event's success."







The President of the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008, Mr. Michel Beaugard, the Honorary Chairman, Mr. Jean-Paul L'Allier, the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sports, Mrs. Michelle Courchesne and the President of the International Bureau of Social Tourism, Mr. Norberto Tonini.



Here, the Minister is surrounded by Mr. André Roussel, Administrator for the Conseil québécois du loisir, Mr. Jean-Pierre Bastien, who was first to support the idea of the congress being held in Québec and formerly a member of the secretariat of Leisure and Sports, Mr. Maurice Gauthier, President of the Regroupement des unités régionales de loisir et de sport, Mr. Denis Servais, President of the Association québécoise du loisir municipal and Michel Beaugard.

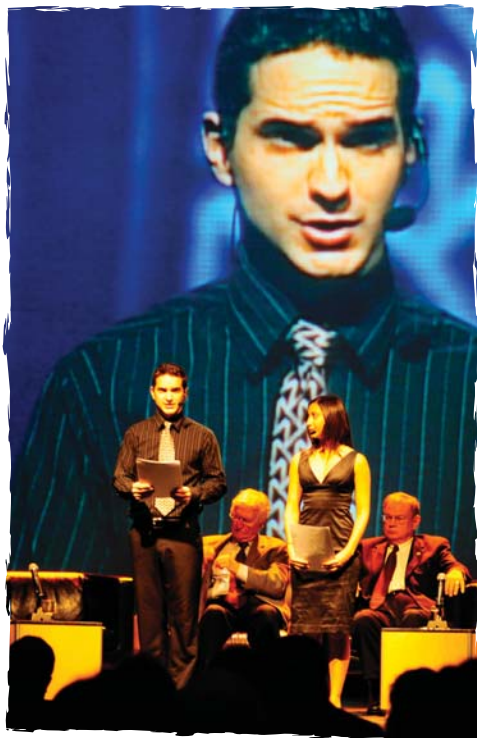
# A GRANDIOSE TRADE SHOW!

One of the most important leisure trade shows opened its doors to delegates and the general public during the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008. This trade show had a record participation with 164 exhibitors from all fields of activity - equipment, games, tourism, sports, leisure, safety and animation - including several non-profit organisations, distributed over 225 kiosks. This event was a privileged moment for contacts between workers in the field of leisure and suppliers of leisure products and services.

Mr. Gerald Mirecki, President of the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association and Mr. Denis Servais, President of the Association québécoise du loisir municipal officially declared the trade show open from a rather unusual location!!!







## PROCLAMATION OF THE QUEBEC DECLARATION

The 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress ended on the morning of October 10<sup>th</sup> with the proclamation of the Québec Declaration, adopted beforehand by the World Leisure Organization and several of the event's partners. The proclamation was made by two young students in the field of leisure and in the presence of Mr. Michel Beauregard, President of the Congress, Mr. Jean-Paul L'Allier, Honorary Chairman, Mr. Christopher R. Edgington and Derek Casey, respectively Secretary General and President of the World Leisure Organization, Mr. Régis Labaume, mayor of Québec City, Mr. André Thibault, President of the program committee, Mr. Lee Kwang-jun, mayor of ChunCheon, and Son Eun-nam, President of the World Leisure Congress 2010.

"We have every reason to be pleased that over 4,000 people from nearly 60 countries came together to proclaim this official declaration affirming that leisure has a positive and essential impact on the quality of life of individuals, communities and society and that they have solemnly committed to the application of its principles for the common good," rejoiced Michel Beauregard.

You can get your copy of the Québec Declaration on the official site of the Congress at [www.loisirquebec2008.com](http://www.loisirquebec2008.com) or on the Conseil québécois du loisir's web site at [www.loisirquebec.com](http://www.loisirquebec.com). You are invited to spread the word!

## TOWARDS GREATER COOPERATION



"This congress has established the foundation of a collaboration which we truly hope is just the tip of the iceberg. In the coming weeks, we must continue in the path of united action to collectively develop leisure in all its facets in Québec, Canada and throughout the world", concluded Michel Beauregard, President of the World Leisure Congress 2008 and the Conseil québécois du loisir, during the closing ceremonies.

## SHARED HONOURS

As is customary in such circumstances, the event's main speakers, Mr. Jean-Paul L'Allier, Mr. Michel Beauregard and Mr. André Thibault were honoured with the *Distinguished Service Award* by the World Leisure Organization for their exceptional contribution to the organisation of the 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress, "a significant, historic and decisive event for the World Leisure Organization," declared the President of the organisation, Dr Derek Casey. This recognition highlights the importance and success of the unprecedented mobilisation of leisure communities towards the success of this event.



The Secretary General of the World Leisure Organization, Dr. Christopher R. Edgington and the President of the Congress program committee, Mr. André Thibault.

Furthermore, in the wake of the historic success of the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008, the President of the Conseil québécois du loisir and World Leisure Congress 2008, Mr. Michel Beauregard, was honoured during the 2008 edition of the Prix du bénévolat en loisir et en sport Dollard-Morin (Dollard-Morin sports and leisure volunteer award). The ceremony was held during the evening of October 10<sup>th</sup>, at Québec's National Assembly. This "special mention" was exceptionally awarded to Michel Beauregard by the Ministry of Education, Leisure and Sports for his remarkable contribution in leisure, but especially for having headed the organisation of the most important and most successful world leisure congress ever held.



The recipient of the award and the legislative assistant to the Minister of Education, Leisure and Sports, Mrs. Stéphanie Vallée.





*The Honorary Chairman, Mr. Jean-Paul L'Allier and representatives of the World Leisure Organization stand by some of the volunteers who played an important role in organizing the event.*

## A UNIQUE TEAM

All honours received by the congress reflected on the unique team responsible for its success: members of the administrative council and organising committee, including the six committee directors - André Thibault, programming, Charles Pagé, operations, Bruno Léger, communications, Ariane Loignon, human resources, Louis-Paul Guindon, complementary programming and Anne Pontbriand, protocol - all the volunteers, all the partners and all the sponsors. And particularly the event's Director, Mr. Luc Toupin.



*Mr. Luc Toupin, Director of the event.*



## THE HONORARY CHAIRMAN BECOMES HONORARY MEMBER OF THE CONSEIL QUÉBÉCOIS DU LOISIR

The President of the Conseil québécois du loisir (CQL) and the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008, Michel Beauregard, and his board of directors granted Mr. Jean-Paul L'Allier, Honorary Chairman of the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008, honorary membership in the Conseil québécois du loisir.

Through his actions, he has always placed leisure as a determinant in matters of improving quality of life and testified to his appreciation of volunteers' essential contribution. Mr. L'Allier is an important figure in the field of leisure and it was an honour to pay him tribute on October 8 for having made history in Québec leisure in his various roles, especially as mayor of Québec City, President of the Association mondiale des maires francophones, founder and President of the board of directors for the Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse, Minister of Youth, Leisure and Sports and President of the interdepartmental committee on the quality of life.

By receiving this honour, Mr. L'Allier joins four other Québec personalities who have made history in the field of leisure, Messrs. Joffre Dumazedier, Claude Ryan and Claude Charron.



*Certificat de membre honoraire  
présenté à  
Maitre Jean-Paul L'Allier  
Québec, le 8 octobre 2008*



## WE WILL MEET AGAIN IN KOREA

To conclude the 10th World Leisure Congress activities, the "flame" was passed on to the city of ChunCheon, Korea for the 2010 edition of the World Leisure Congress and the first World Leisure Games.

Mr. Derek Casey, Chair of Board of Directors, and Christopher Edginton, Secretary General, handed over the world leisure flag to Lee Kwang-jun, Mayor of ChunCheon, and Son Eun-nam, President of ChunCheon 2010 World Leisure Organizing Committee.



*"The 10<sup>th</sup> World Leisure Congress Québec 2008 was a great success and ChunCheon will make every effort to ensure that the next Congress is an outstanding event with a comprehensive program and world-class preparation,"* assured Mayor Lee.



## ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS

The papers presented at the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008 will be available online beginning in the new year on a web site of the Conseil québécois du loisir which is presently under construction. The delays are longer than expected since we had to obtain authorization from all the speakers prior to putting their papers online.

*If you are a speaker and you have not yet signed your authorization, please do so as quickly as possible!!! You can send your authorization to publish at [quebec2008@uqtr.ca](mailto:quebec2008@uqtr.ca).*

A first publication will be appearing during the coming months which will testify to the congress' theme: leisure and community development. This report will include a summary of the main conferences and the panellist presentations which took place during morning plenary.

As soon as the papers are available online, everyone registered to the Congress will receive written notice by e-mail.

## A UNIQUE AND CONCERTED EFFORT

This unprecedented success is without a doubt the result of a remarkable collaboration between several partners who participated, in various ways, in the organisation of the event. Amongst others, they are:



## ESSENTIAL SPONSORS

To break records, you need great supporters, and the World Leisure Congress Québec 2008 was lucky enough to count on its precious partners! Our deepest gratitude goes out to each and every one of them!



Thank you to all participants, partners, sponsors and volunteers!  
To all of you in the great family of leisure:

**Happy New Year 2009!**



A Unique Gathering!



## KEEP INFORMED

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