



For immediate release

Launch of the 2018 summer season

DIVE INTO SUMMER AT PARC JEAN-DRAPEAU

Montréal, June 21, 2018 – Summer was officially launched at Parc Jean-Drapeau today, as partners, promoters and employees gathered at the Aquatic Complex to mark the start of what promises to be an exciting season from a cultural, sports and recreation standpoint.

“We are exceedingly pleased to present a diverse summer program which is filled with plenty of nice surprises for all of our visitors, regardless of what they are looking to experience on their trip to the Parc,” said Ronald Cyr, the General Manager of the Société du parc Jean-Drapeau.

Aquatic activities in the spotlight

In addition to the return of children's free Wednesdays at Jean-Doré Beach and the Aquatic Complex, a special program has been designed to provide Montrealers with a summer season they will long remember.

Regarded as one of the finest outdoor aquatic complexes in Canada, Parc Jean-Drapeau's Aquatic Complex invites everyone to come and enjoy the nice weather or do some training in one of its three outdoor pools. Special events for families have been organized throughout the summer; water-polo clinics are among the events. Along with this program, there is the popular *Inflated Saturdays* where youngsters can expend their energy on a fun-filled floating obstacle course.

Meanwhile, Jean-Doré Beach is offering an especially festive program which gets underway on June 30 with the popular *Party at the beach* event, which includes an array of playful activities, friendly competitions and an exciting ambiance for families. The activities will continue at the Beach every weekend with *Fun-filled Saturdays*.

Summer will be flourishing at the Parc on July 21-22, with the *Family Weekend*. Over the course of this family-oriented weekend, Jean-Doré Beach will be a source of delight to youngsters, with inflatable games in foam, a Granby Zoo animation booth and an interactive hot-air

balloon experience. At the Aquatic Complex, families can enjoy floating ball activities, jumping and zany race competitions, in a musical setting. And Saturday will be capped off by a night at the movies, as swimmers will be able to watch a film set up in the buoys.

Lots of new features for everyone

A brand new animation squad is coming to Parc Jean-Drapeau, and with them anything is possible! From a giant bowling pin tournament to a two-player intergalactic soccer competition, members of the squad will entertain you with a wide range of activities. The squad will be traveling throughout the Parc aboard its glamorous kart, every Wednesday and Saturday.

All summer long, the Tour de Lévis will be turned into an observatory, providing visitors with a 360-degree view, along with an impressive panorama of the islands, the river and downtown Montréal. The Tower is open and it's free to the public on weekends.

Week-ends du monde

Week-ends du monde presented by Loto-Québec is back on the weekends, from July 7 to 15. The 14th edition of this must-see summer event in Montréal, will be playing host to 12 cultural festivals, including two new ones: *Île Maurice en fête* and the *Festival culturel du dragon de Jade*.

The culinary segment will again be a focal point of the celebrations. Every day, cultural communities will have you discover typical meals of their respective countries. From Salvadoran *pupusas* to Mediterranean grills and the unique flavours and spices of Mexico, *Week-ends du monde* will be "the" place to be for an unforgettable gourmet experience.

Much to the delight of soccer fans, the World Cup of Soccer final will be shown live on a giant screen on July 15. It's a great opportunity to get together with the various communities and celebrate the biggest international sports event of the year.

"All of us at Loto-Québec feel lucky to contribute to showcasing Québec's rich multiculturalism by again presenting the *Week-ends du monde* event. Taking place right next to the Casino de Montréal, this event brings people together for a whole *World of Entertainment* experience," said Simon Robert, Director, Corporate Responsibility at Loto-Québec.

Events all summer long

Summer at Parc Jean-Drapeau is also synonymous with major events. Regardless of their musical tastes, Montrealers will have their fill with the many festivals, including OSHEAGA, Piknic Électronik, îleSoniq and Heavy Montréal. *L'International des Feux Loto-Québec*, the fireworks competition, is back at La Ronde and will again light up the skies of the city on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from July 7 to August 8.

Sports-wise, the Olympic Basin, Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve, Aquatic Complex and Jean-Doré Beach will all be welcoming their share of athletes with such events as the *Triathlon Esprit de Montréal*, the Haba Waba North America water-polo tournament, the Blue de Montréal international open water swimming competition, along with a host of canoe-kayak, rowing

and dragon-boat competitions. The Aquatic Complex will also be hosting Psicobloc, the first Canadian extreme climbing completion, which involves solo climbing over a deep body of water.

Even more activities

Just steps from home and easily accessible by subway (Jean-Drapeau station), Parc Jean-Drapeau presents a wide range of recreation-tourist attractions which makes it a one-of-a-kind place in Canada. There are activities to suit any interest, whether it is an outing on the hiking trails, having a picnic in the Floralies Gardens, getting active on Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve, taking in some entertainment at the Casino de Montréal, or discovering the exhibits at the Stewart Museum or the Biosphere, Environment Museum.

Parc Jean-Drapeau is proud to be able to rely on the support of many partners, all summer long. The partners include: Loto-Québec, the presenter of Week-ends du monde, Tourisme Montréal, Molson Coors, Coca-Cola, Lafleur, Breyers, Parks Canada, as well as its many media partners.

For any information on the activities and events presented at Parc Jean-Drapeau, please go the website: www.parcjeandrapeau.com.

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Information or interviews:

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