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ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE OF CALGARY

Sixtieth Anniversary

Statement by:

The Honourable Claudette Tardif

Thursday, March 1, 2007

THE SENATE

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ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE OF CALGARY

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Hon. Claudette Tardif (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):
Honourable senators, I am delighted to rise here today to commend the Alliance Française of Calgary, which will celebrate its 60th anniversary on March 3, 2007.

His Excellency, Daniel Jouanneau, France's Ambassador to Canada, will attend the gala to celebrate this important milestone.

It was on February 22, 1947, the same year that oil was discovered in Leduc, Alberta, that the Alliance Française of Calgary was founded. At the time, a small group of francophones met once a month in a hotel, often joined by a speaker, a singer or other prominent individual to enliven the meetings.

The Alliance Française of Calgary now boasts five classrooms, a resource centre and an exhibit gallery. At present, there are 850 adult students, and cultural activities continue to thrive thanks to several partners, including Calgary's francophone community.

I can assure you that, over the years, the Alliance Française of Calgary has made a significant contribution to the promotion of the French language and culture, as well as to intercultural exchanges in the Calgary region.

I wish the Alliance Française of Calgary continued success in its excellent work and its partnership with the local francophone community, as well as other local and provincial francophone organizations.
