



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For immediate publication**

### ***The National Launch of Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie in an Era of Change***

**OTTAWA, MARCH 3, 2020** – The Rendez-vous de la Francophonie (RVF) has officially launched its 22nd edition under the theme ***LES RENDEZ-VOUS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE: AT THE HEART OF CHANGE!***

Along with spokespersons Anu Boucher and Bernard Voyer, as well as the Member of Parliament for Orleans, Marie-France Lalonde, Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie kicked off the festivities this morning at [Le Prélude Public Elementary School](#) and [Mer Bleue Catholic College](#), both located in Orleans, Ontario.

In the evening, over 200 guests, partners and collaborators took part in the national launch of the 2020 Rendez-vous de la Francophonie at the Shenkman Arts Centre in Orleans. The event closed with a performance of *Exploration sonore* [Musical Exploration] featuring Bernard Voyer and three musicians from the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal.

Until March 31, explore our brand new [Web journal](#), where you will find editorials, contests, quizzes, and information on free film screenings from the National Film Board. Participate in a range of activities advertised on our website. Starting today, try the quizzes in the atMOTSphere contest, presented by Air Canada and the Language Portal of Canada, an initiative of the Translation Bureau at Public Services and Procurement Canada. You could win a trip to Geneva, Switzerland! You'll also find other contests with exciting prizes online!

The RVF invites Canadians of every language and background to come together to celebrate Francophone culture, to listen and to learn.

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*The RVF is part of the cultural events surrounding the Journée internationale de la Francophonie, held on March 20 each year to promote the French language and the many ways it can be expressed. Made possible through funding from Canadian Heritage, the RVF is an initiative of the Canadian Foundation for Cross-Cultural Dialogue.*

The Canadian Foundation for Cross-Cultural Dialogue and the 2020 RVF team would like to thank their major partners, including the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, Air Canada, the Language Portal of Canada, NAV Canada, the National Film Board, VIA Rail, the Fédération de la jeunesse canadienne-française (FJCF), the Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité (RDÉE Canada), the Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française (ACELF), the Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (CEPEO), the Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est (CECCE), the Association de la presse francophone, the Association des collèges et universités de la francophonie canadienne (ACUFC), the Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes and Collège La Cité.

#### **SOURCE**

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**2020 Rendez-vous de la Francophonie**

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