



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A TONNE OF ACTIVITIES YOU SAY?

Gatineau, August 11, 2015 – Spread the word: the **Gatineau Hot Air Balloon Festival** presented by Loto-Québec in collaboration with Desjardins (FMG) has come up with its **most impressive program lineup ever, for September 3 to 7!** That was the message sent this morning by the **event's spokesperson, Patrice Bélanger.**

When they visit the site at parc de la Baie, festival-goers will discover loads of **new activities**, including the Repti-Zone, where some of you will get to confront your fears by meeting snakes, scorpions, lizards and even an alligator! There will also be giant table soccer structures, miniature hockey and *bubble soccer* for teams, friends and families!

FAMILY STAGE

New! The Family Stage is now a **big top where you can get out of the sun!** You'll find arts and crafts and get to meet princesses. On the Saturday, which is **Télé-Québec day**, the famous **Petites Tounes quartet** will be on hand with a show inspired by its fifth album, *Les 4 saisons*, **Lily et Ro-Main** from *Les Argonautes* will be there to organize Earth Day on the Argo, and **Martin Carli** from *Génial!* has a few clever participatory activities up his sleeve! On the Sunday, **Yoopa will be celebrating his fifth birthday!** **Fredo** the motormouth will be doing tricks amidst a hail of laughter and surprises, **Théo** will present his Zoo rock show, and Yoopa's new godmother, **Annie Brocoli**, will be stopping by to delight her young fans: photos and autographs for everyone! Finally, on the Monday, the super popular **Atchoum** will present her new Monte le son rock show! **Shilvi** and her stuffed hippopotamus **Popo** will drag the kids into a fantasy world, and **Tristan Smith** will impress one and all with his mystifications and magic tricks.

ADDITIONS TO THE CASINO LAC-LEAMY STAGE PROGRAM!

The list of **Éric Lapointe's** guests has grown with the addition of his protégée from The Voice, **Rosa Laricchiuta!** Bijo&Sun, the local duo, will join the other Country artists on the Sunday, and host-comedian-occasional singer **JC Lauzon** will take the stage on Monday evening to accompany the best Quebec bands of the 90s. A small reminder of this important program lineup, which will offer a unique concept in evening shows, seen only in Gatineau: **Thursday, September 3:** Alex Nevsky, Les Trois Accords, Klô Pelgag, Claude Bégin and Karim Ouellet will share the stage! **Friday, September 4:** **Éric Lapointe** will have the place rocking with his guests Rick Hughes, Hugo Lapointe, Valérie Lahaie and Rosa Laricchiuta, preceded by Marie-Chantal Toupin! **Saturday, September 5:** comedy and music for the Royal Lepage evening with Réal Béland, François Massicotte, Martin Vachon, Mariana Mazza, Peter MacLeod, and the Brothers' Sessions, which include Jason-Roy Léveillé, Martin Rouette, Simon Morin, Maxime Desbiens-Tremblay and Martin Giroux! **Sunday, September 6:** it's all cool country, with Gildor Roy, Édith Butler, Maxime Landry, Paul Daraïche, Bijo&Sun and Patrick Groulx! **Monday, September 7:** Québec 90 with Noir Silence, Les Respectables, Vilain Pingouin, Zébulon, Frères à Ch'vals and JC Lauzon hosting.

A record number of up-and-coming artists, who were selected during *Secondaire en spectacle*, the *Concours de la relève culturelle* and Gatineau prend la scène, will also have a chance to present their talents on the Casino Lac-Leamy Stage! We will be seeing Groupe 3, Les Adorables, Maurane Mathieu-Lemay, Justin Lagacé, César Lord Speak White and Marie-Ève Noël.

144, boul. de l'Hôpital, bureau 510, Gatineau (Québec) J8T 7S9
ADRESSE POSTALE : C.P. 1970, succursale Hull, Gatineau (Québec) J8X 3Y9
Téléphone : (819) 243-2330 • Télécopieur : (819) 243-2324

www.montgolfieresgatineau.com

A BLEND OF FLAVOUR ON THE HYDRO-QUÉBEC STAGE

The **Hydro-Québec Stage** will be graced by a stream of **local favourites**, as well as some **up and coming artists** and other well established performers from **Quebec's artistic community!** The thrills will begin on Friday, September 4, with the **Malpris**. On Saturday, September 5, it will be Soul Step of the **Mackenzie Rhythm Section!** This will be followed by the poetry and catchy melodies of writer-composer-interpreter **Sally Folk**, and the many popular songs of **Luc De Larochellière**. On Sunday, the rock harmonies and violin of the **Billy Love Band** will prepare the crowds for **Marie Michèle Desrosiers**, who will lend her voice to the finest songs in our répertoire! She will be followed by **Raphaël Torr** with his vibrant tribute to **Joe Dassin**. The day will end with the show by **Marie Denise Pelletier**. **Céleste Lévis**, who won everyone's heart in Quebec and Ontario in 2015 on *The Voice*, will take the stage on Monday, September 7. That will be followed by the great blues voice of **Bob Walsh!** Finally, for the closing show on the Hydro-Québec Stage: **The Box**, the big rock band from the 80s!

Ministère du Tourisme/Ville de Gatineau International strength athletes competition

This whole new competition, which will run from September 5 to 7, will give **eight international calibre athletes** the opportunity to display their strength as a team, and to defend their country's colours! Two Canadians, two Americans, two Slovenians and two Brits will take part in the competition. Gatineau's own **Jessen Paulin will be making his comeback!** The **nine world-calibre** events will include the Atlas Stone and the BMR Log Lift! The purses add up to \$15,000. Championship promoter **Hugo Girard** will be on hand to provide the commentary, and to meet all the strength athlete fans.

Michel Quesnel, pharmacien fireworks

Saturday, September 5, at nightfall, the sky will come alive with the pyrotechnical wonderland presented by Michel Quesnel, pharmacien. Prepare for a ballet of colours and music! A magnificent show designed and orchestrated by Royal Pyrotechnie, winner of 4 Jupiter d'Or!

The biggest amusement park in the Outaouais

Powerful sensations and thrills for the braver ones, as Amusements Spectaculaires brings us some forty or so of their rides. Think of buying your amusement ride package, and get express access to all of the extreme rides! Parents, remember that there is a special area for the wee ones.

The region at your fingertips!

Take part in the Outaouais' tourist, recreational and sports attractions. Discover the program that awaits you at the parc de la Baie play area: the Repti-Zone reptiles, the Canadian Museum of Science and Technology activities, the demonstrations by the ferme Cabriole trapeze students, the gigantic Pikaboo inflatable structures, the giant SPIN - Sport and innovation *babyfoot* and *bottinoire* inflatable structures, face painting, costumes and manicures of Fêtes en Boîtes, the GoSkydive parachute demonstrations, and the Altitude Gym climbing walls and zip lines, as well as the FoObz bubble soccer.

Eat and drink

Take a seat at one of the tables in the Tim Hortons picnic area under one of their umbrellas. More than 40 food concessions with a wide range of quality food choices. Remember that the Tim Hortons concession starts serving its finest coffee at 6 a.m.! Our partner, the SAQ, also has wine and spirits, as well as a food service with fondue and raclette.

And more

The Festival will host the **graffiti contest** organized by the Programme de prévention et de soutien relié aux tags et aux graffitis, the **Classic Cars Exhibition** by the Association les Voitures Anciennes de l'Outaouais (AVAO), the **1001 Hidden Treasures Tent** and the **Arts, Crafts and Wellbeing Tent**.

So much to see and so little time

Festival wristbands are available on our Web site, and will be available at our many points of sale starting on August 13 (full list on our Web page)! For additional information, check our different supports: the official program, Facebook, the infoletter and www.balloongatineau.com.

-30-

Sources:

Pascale Gagnon

Communications Director

Gatineau Hot Air Balloon Festival

819-243-2331, extension 1-4

Cell.: 613-276-0282

gagnon.pascale@montgolfieresgatineau.com

Éric Brulotte

Communications Officer

Gatineau Hot Air Balloon Festival

819-243-2331, extension 1-8-3

Cell.: 819-319-0387

brulotte.eric@montgolfieresgatineau.com