



NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## SOARING HIGH FOR THE 28<sup>TH</sup> EDITION!

**Gatineau, August 11, 2015** – The Gatineau Hot Air Balloon Festival presented by Loto-Québec in collaboration with Desjardins promises to soar for its 28<sup>th</sup> edition! With no less than **12 special shapes** in addition to the dozens of regular hot air balloons, **Envolées Desjardins** promises to be quite spectacular, to say the least!

Some of the special shapes that will be visiting us for the very first time are *Angry Bird*, *Brazilian Birds*, *Owl*, *Kermit the Frog*, and *Chicken Mom*! Some of the popular favourites will also be back to keep our *Super FMG* company, including *Pegleg Pete*, *The Pirate Parrot*, *Tiki the fish*, the *Queen Bee*, and many others. Crews will be joining us from as far away as Brazil, and from all over the USA and Canada.

The hot air balloons are at the centre of it all, and a variety of activities have been organized to teach the public more about them. Besides the **8 Desjardins Hot Air Balloon Lift-offs**, (Thursday to Monday between 6 and 7 p.m., and Saturday to Monday between 6:30 and 7:30 a.m.), there are the **Night Glows** that absolutely must be seen. The one on the Friday will introduce the special shapes, and the one on Sunday is choreographed to the Beatles' festive tunes.

While the specific meteorological required only occur at sunrise and just before sunset, hot air balloons are part of the daytime activities as well. **Exploring a hot air balloon**, presented by Desjardins, gives the public the chance to explore the inside of the envelope and to discover just how huge it is. **Meet the pilots**, also presented by Desjardins, is an opportunity for pilots, crew and festival-goers to get into some fascinating discussions.

### **Treat yourself to a hot air balloon ride!**

Once all is said and done, the best way to learn all about the world of hot air balloons is to climb into the basket and send yourself up for a ride. For \$200, this magical moment can be yours at least once in your life!

Festival wristbands will be available through our Web site and at several points of sale as of August 13 (full list on our Web page)! Additional information is available through our different supports: official program, Facebook, infoletter and [www.balloongatineau.com](http://www.balloongatineau.com).

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