



MEDIA RELEASE
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Théâtre français de Toronto opens new offices and Centre for Creation thanks to grants from OTF and Canadian Heritage

Toronto – Théâtre français de Toronto (TfT) unveiled its new offices and Centre for Création, thanks to a \$150,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and a \$150,000 grant from the Department of Canadian Heritage. Aileen Carroll, Ontario Minister of Culture, and Madeleine Meilleur, Ontario Deputy Minister Responsible for Francophone Affairs, joined OTF representative Paul-François Sylvestre to congratulate TfT.

TfT's Board President Donald Rumball and Artistic Director Guy Mignault are thrilled: "After the 40th anniversary celebrations, TfT enters a new era by regrouping its activities at College Park. French theatre will be even better integrated in the francophone and artistic communities of Toronto. Moreover, this is a step in its longterm development, confirming that TfT is a key organization within Ontario's cultural landscape."

"The Théâtre français de Toronto plays a very important role in Ontario theatre and is a key contributor to francophone culture in this province," said Minister Carroll. "Ontario's investment will help the theatre grow and continue this tradition of excellence."

"Théâtre français de Toronto is an institution essential to the blossoming of the francophone community in Ontario," said Minister Meilleur. "The opening of this new Centre for Creation in College Park is a new step in TfT development, for the good of francophones and francophiles in our province."

A part of the team of *Et si on chantait* entertained those present by singing some hits from TfT's 40th anniversary show, whose "Toronto song", *Comme faire le tour du monde* ("How to Tour the World"), always creates a feeling of belonging among Torontonians who hear it.

"The Government of Canada is pleased to support the performing arts," said the Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages. "This funding contributes to our country's cultural vitality by helping artists of the Théâtre français de Toronto continue their work in an environment that better meets their needs. The project clearly demonstrates our support for the arts and cultural presentation, while also contributing to the strength and sustainability of Toronto's Francophone community."

Created over 40 years ago in 1967, TfT is today one of the most important francophone theatres in Canada. It is the only theatre in Toronto and all of Southern Ontario to have a complete theatre season in the French language, for children, adolescents, and adults. Since April 2005, TfT has presented performances surtitled in English, which allows francophones to invite their friends and families and provides an opportunity for all of the region's theatre lovers to discover French-language theatre.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency of the Government of Ontario. For over 25 years, the Foundation has supported the growth and vitality of communities across the province. It continues to strengthen the capacity of the volunteer sector through investments in community-based initiatives. For more information, please visit www.trilliumfoundation.org.

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