

Fact Sheet

Embassy of the United States of America • 490 Sussex Drive • Ottawa

2016 Fourth of July Celebration Facts

- This year's festivities again will be hosted by U.S. Ambassador to Canada Bruce Heyman and Mrs. Vicki Heyman at Lornado, the U.S. Ambassador's Residence in Ottawa.
- Join the celebration online by following <u>@bruceaheyman</u>, <u>@VSHey</u> and <u>@usembassyottawa</u>. The hashtags for this event are <u>#July4Canada</u> and <u>#4juilletCA</u>.
- The theme of this year's event is Road Trip USA. You can download the <u>July 4 Canada Road Trip USA</u> playlist on Spotify.
- Approximately 3,500 people are expected to attend. This event is made possible thanks to the generosity of corporate sponsors and more than 100 volunteers from the U.S. Embassy and local community.
- Guests will be admitted by invitation only.
- This year's culinary theme will include a sampling of the regional delights that you might encounter crisscrossing the United States on a summer road trip: Maryland crab cakes; fried green tomatoes; red beans and rice; herb-buttered corn; bison burgers; Chinook salmon; corned beef sandwiches; California summer rolls; sides and salads; and other summer treats. There will be Dairy Queen ice cream, Rt. 11 potato chips, Frito-Lay snacks, and Georgia watermelon. The event will also feature U.S. fruits and vegetables, Vermont Cabot cheeses, Eli's cheesecakes, beer and wines, and soft drinks.
- Canadian band *The Digs* will be back again this year to entertain. *The Digs* are a group of talented young musicians who are quickly becoming known as one of Toronto's most exciting up and coming bands. Having played at countless festivals and venues across the country including The Toronto Jazz Fest, Luminato, Ottawa Bluesfest, and Montreal Jazz, as well as sharing the stage with artists such as Ryan Dan, Nikki Yanofsky, Alejandra Ribera, Kae Sun, Saida Baba Talibah, and many more, each member brings a wealth of experience and a unique perspective to the band. Members of the group have also worked on popular projects such as Canadian Idol, CBC's Stuart McLean and the Vinyl Café, and with producers Eddie Kramer & Darryl Neudorf.
- In keeping with the Road Trip USA theme, expect to find vintage cars, a special Airstream trailer, and Harley Davidson motorcycles on the grounds of Lornado.
- An on-site installation will provide information and photographs about the Lornado Pollinator Project and the upcoming inauguration of the Lornado beehives.

- Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the creation of the U.S. National Park Service, there will be an installation of selected posters from the Creative Action Network's <u>See America Project</u>, a joint venture with the U.S. National Parks Conservation Association. More than 75 years ago the U.S. Works Progress Administration commissioned "See America" images to encourage travel to the country's public parks while simultaneously putting artists to work.
- The annual Fourth of July celebration has many moving parts. For example, buses continuously make the drive from the parking lot at the Ottawa Baseball Stadium (Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton Park) to the Ambassador's residence, shuttling guests to and from the event. On the residence grounds, golf carts will transport anyone who requires assistance.
- The U.S. Embassy greatly appreciates the vital assistance of law enforcement and first responders who will be on site in case of an emergency, including City of Ottawa Police and Fire Services, RCMP, Ottawa Paramedic Services, and St. John Ambulance Medical First Responders.

###

For on-site media assistance during the event: Steve Posivak, 613-355-9050 Jennifer Young, 613-797-7832 Nicole Wootten, 613-447-0505