

Minister of Canadian Heritage
and Official Languages



Ministre du Patrimoine canadien
et des Langues officielles

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5

Ms. Evelyn Peck
President and
Ms. Glenna R. Smith
Advocacy Coordinator
Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario
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JUL 02 2014

Dear Ms. Peck and Ms. Smith:

Thank you for your letter of April 9, 2014, co-addressed to the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of the Environment, Minister of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and Minister for the Arctic Council, expressing concerns about possible environmental issues associated with Canada Day celebrations. I appreciate being advised of your organization's resolution and commend your efforts to ensure that these celebrations will provide lasting benefits for Canadians.

Canada Day is an opportunity for Canadians to participate in celebrations that reflect on our accomplishments, celebrate our nationality and promote a strong sense of pride and belonging. Each year, celebrations are held on Parliament Hill to celebrate Canada's birthday. I would like to note that balloons are not currently part of Canada Day celebrations on Parliament Hill.

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