



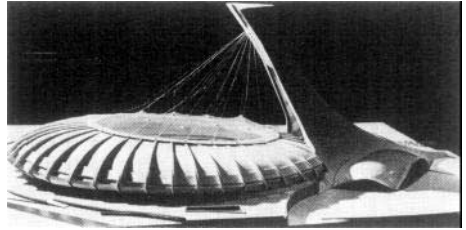
**MONTREAL '76**

## **Montreal 1976**

### **Rendez-vous 76 Montreal**

The Organising Committee for the games of the XXIst Olympiad has released the first issue of its official bulletin entitled "Rendez-vous 76 Montreal". A convenient size, edited in French and English and very well illustrated, this first issue is based on the theme, "three years before the Games, Montreal is ready... or very nearly".

The following information has been taken from this bulletin:



### **Where will the Games be held?**

For several months, Montreal has been the centre of attraction for the IFs. The Presidents and leaders of these federations have come in rapid succession to study the sites proposed for the competitions. A certain number of sites have already been fixed and work is progressing very well.

Through the voice of Mr. Oscar State, Secretary General of the IWF, the weightlifters have declared themselves very happy with the choice of "Place Bonaventure", in the heart of the unique subterranean city, which will be able to seat 5000 spectators, and at the same time offer competitors close facilities for warming up, training, massage, etc.

Track cyclists and judokas will compete with audacity and power inside the new velodrome, nested against the mast of the future stadium, before the eyes of 7500 spectators which this creation will welcome as from 1974, when the World Cycling Championships take

place. The judokas will find that the curling hall at the Paul Sauvé Centre has been converted to give them maximum training facilities.

As for rowers and canoeists, they will confront one another in the magnificent setting of the Montreal World Fair of 1967. In fact it is at "Man and his World" on the artificial island of Notre Dame where the competition basin will be dug out, for which the plans have received the complete approval of the FISA.

Canoeists will also for the first time have the use of a training course specially arranged for them on the Regatta Lake.

Of all athletes, the wrestlers will be closest to the site of their competition: the Maisonneuve Centre which, on the eastern side of the Olympic park, has the capacity of 2000 - 3000 seats.

The "Forum", fortress of Canadian hockey players, will host the gymnastic

events, the basket-ball semi finals and finals, and the boxing and volley-ball finals. Completely renovated a few years ago, the Forum can seat 18000 spectators. A few steps away, the preliminary boxing events will take place at the Maurice Richard Winter Stadium.

The athletes for their part will be able to give the best of themselves in the great Olympic stadium at present under construction (the first stone was laid on 28th April 1973). At the moment engineers and architects are putting their final touches to the plans and tenders for the installations envisaged which have received the approval of the IAAF. A few minutes away the Etienne Desmar-teaux training ground for the athletes, and crouched near the mast of the great stadium, the dome of the Olympic swimming pool will shelter the swimming, diving and water polo competitions.

Finally, the town of Kingston on the edge of Lake Ontario, one hour by plane from Montreal, will lodge the sailing enthusiasts. The caprices of the prevailing winds of the Lake will allow each Olympic series to make the best of their nautical skill.

As one can see, a certain number of sports have not yet specified a site for their competitions: shooting, archery, football, modern pentathlon, basketball, volley-ball, fencing, hockey, equestrian events, handball. But each federation is in close contact with the Organising Committee and the final selection will soon be made.

### **Financing of the Games**

On 27th July 1973, the Canadian President passed a law authorising the release of special coins and stamps and launching the Olympic lottery.

### **Olympic Coins**

The first coins commemorating the Games of the XX1st Olympiad in Montreal were put into circulation on 3rd December, 1973.

The complete collection contains 28 coins, released at intervals of two series of four coins each per year. Each series includes two 10 Canadian dollar pieces and two 5 Canadian dollar pieces.

The numismatic proofs as well as the coins now in circulation were struck in an alloy of 92.5% silver and 7.5% copper. The 5 dollar pieces are 38 mm in diameter and the 10 dollar pieces 45 mm.

The 28 coins in this collection represent various aspects of Olympism. The first series of four coins deals with the geography of the Games: a world map, a map of North America and diagrammatical views of Montreal and Kingston.

The following series will illustrate the Olympic symbols, the first Canadian sports, the Olympic athletics and sailing events, the Olympic team and combat sports, and finally, the Olympic location in Montreal and Kingston.

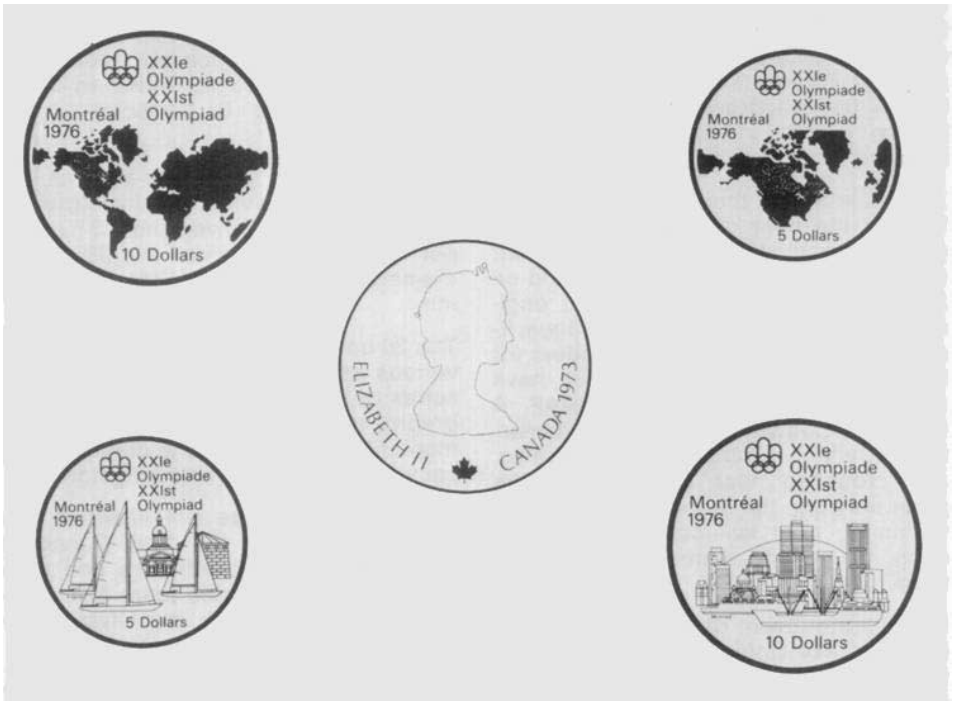
These coins will be legal tender in Canada. The 7th and last series will constitute a souvenir set and its release is planned for June or July 1976.

### **Olympic Stamps**

Similarly, a certain number of philatelic series have been programmed from now until 1976, and collectors have already shown their enthusiasm in this respect, since the first two series of commemorative stamps were exhausted within a few days. Other series, commemorative or with a slight tax, are going to appear and their release will be aimed at coinciding with the release of Olympic coins.

### **Olympic lottery**

Only three provinces have not yet given the necessary authorisation to organise an Olympic lottery on their territory. Over the rest of Canada, the sale of tickets for the 1st lottery started at the end of 1973, the drawing being due to take place in March 1974.



Other draws will follow one another at six monthly intervals.

### **Olympic Village**

Viau park, 800 m from the Maisonneuve Olympic Park, has been chosen as the site for the Olympic Village. Taking up 20 hectares (49.4 acres), the village will be created in function of the environment and its ultimate use. Conforming to the basic idea of urban unity, the buildings will be integrated into the green spaces in such a way as to form a living park, calm and welcoming, but entirely functional.

### **A breeze of youth**

Since 1968, when the Games were attributed to Montreal, Quebec has been experiencing a terrific boost as regards sport. Well set-up sports orga-

nisations have been born, such as the Quebec Sports Confederation, created in 1968 and which now embraces 57 federations and 375 000 members.

Each year the Quebec Games see the massive participation of Canadian youth.

Competitions are organised by the Organising Committee in order to make the youth of Quebec conscious of the Olympic Movement. 500 000 school children participated in this event this year, and their number is increasing.

One new idea will disappoint candidates: the Montreal Organising Committee, contrary to that of Munich, has decided that hostesses employed to Welcome, guide and give information to athletes, officials and visitors will all be Canadian. The leader of these young persons has already taken up his post: 33 year-old Sigrid Chatel, who is responsible for their selection and instruction.