



Welcoming statement

*by the Rev. J. Bernard Fell,
President of the LPOOC*

Sixty-three months have marched into history since that day in October 1974 when the International Olympic Committee announced its selection of Lake Placid, New York, in the United States of America, as the site for the XIIIth Olympic Winter Games in 1980.

In that period of time, the Lake Placid Olympic Organising Committee has confirmed the necessary financing, drawn together architects, engineers and contractors to design and construct its sports facilities, arranged for the use of existing public facilities for press and media centres and pulled together a team of people who have assumed the job of organising and operating the Games.

The task has not been an easy one—worthwhile things rarely are easy—but the Village of Lake Placid, its people and the Organising Committee are ready to welcome the world's winter athletes, sports officials, press representatives, and the sports-minded public to our spectacular Adirondack Mountain region for the 1980 Olympic Winter Games.

Lake Placid has a long history in organising winter sports events, and in playing host to winter enthusiasts, sportsmen, sportswomen and spectators alike. We eagerly look forward to the great honour of coordinating the many events during the thirteen-day period of the Winter Games, and to this wonderful opportunity of extending the hospitality of our town to the world.

To the athletes, officials, members of the International Olympic Committee and spectators we say : "Welcome !" Thank you for coming to the "home of winter sports" in America.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bernard Fell". The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops and a prominent initial "B".