

A Huge Success for the 17th edition of *Le Festival de cirque Vaudreuil-Dorion*

Vaudreuil-Dorion, June 28, 2023 – *Le Festival de cirque Vaudreuil-Dorion* ended in style on Sunday with a performance by the legendary Robert Charlebois before a crowd of 5,000 people, despite difficult weather conditions.

The superstar, who has occupied a prominent place on the Quebec artistic scene for more than half a century, performed hit after hit for more than an hour. The cheering crowd was totally captivated by this icon of the Quebec music scene, who just happened to be celebrating his 79th birthday on the main stage of the festival. The show, preceded by DJ Kingdom's performance, wrapped up the 17th edition in which nearly 40,000 people took part, despite the uncertain weather on June 24th and the smog on June 25th. These unpredictable situations did not prevent citizens of all ages from flocking to rue Jeannotte to enjoy the entertainment with its rich and diverse array of activities, according to Vincent Bastien - Director of Recreation and Culture.

«Hosting an outdoor event of this magnitude comes with its share of challenges and factors over which we have no control. We saw a bit of this over the weekend with the uncertain weather on June 24th, and the intense heat and historic smog on June 25th. Despite these circumstances, festival-goers showed up! We are really truly very proud of this edition. I would like to thank everyone who played a part in its success, including many City employees. *Le Festival de Cirque* is a foundation project for our entire organization. I would like to acknowledge the exceptional contribution of the various departments: Finance and Treasury, Public Works, Communications, Recreation and Culture, Legal Affairs, Fire Safety and Municipal Patrol. Teams very often work in the shadows, but their role is essential. Employees are fully invested and spend many hours planning and especially optimizing the experience of festival-goers. »

In addition to the incomparable Robert Charlebois, the popular group Les Trois accords kicked off the Festival. They performed a string of hit songs in front of a crowd of more than 10,000 people happily singing along to iconic songs such as *J'aime ta grand-mère*, *Ouvre tes yeux Simon!*, *Saskatchewan*, and *Hawaïenne*, to name just a few. The crowd had been warmed up beforehand by the very talented local group *Le Band de la Cité*.

Finally, *La Fête nationale* shone all the brighter as the fireworks display lit up the sky over Vaudreuil-Dorion between performances by Vibes and Taxis and the progressive folk group *Le Vent du Nord*.

«I am very proud of this 17th edition of our *Festival de cirque* and I was also able to feel the same pride from our citizens, financial partners and employees. To be able to experience an event of such quality a few steps from our home is a great privilege, not to mention that most of the programming is free.

Seeing thousands of people participate in our event is a great source of motivation for the teams,>> said Mayor Guy Pilon.

While the dismantling of the site unfolds, discussions are already starting for the 18th edition. Until then, residents will continue to be entertained thanks to the rich summer programming offered throughout the City. The program is available for viewing on the City's website at ville.vaudreuil-dorion.qc.ca, and in the brochure entitled *Sous le soleil de Vaudreuil-Dorion*.