



The Road to the Games - Release 1 of 5

A Major Entertainment Attraction Right in Your Own Backyard

The 2008 Glengarry Highland Games is just over a month away and everything is shaping up for an outstanding celebration of our celtic heritage. On August 1st and 2nd, tens of thousands of people will join hundreds of pipers, drummers, dancers and heavyweight competitors for two jam-packed days of competitions and entertainment.

Just a short drive away, Maxville, Ontario hosts one of the largest Scottish gatherings in North America. Many people think of the Games as bag pipes and pipe bands, but it is so much more than that. On Friday, starting at 8 am, heavyweight events begin with competitions for Amateurs, Women and the Masters athletes. At the same time, Highland dancers of all ages are performing their intricate steps. Sheep Dog demonstrations, military re-enactments and an afternoon concert by local celtic entertainers round out a full day of events.

The Friday Night Concert and Tattoo offers a most exciting display of entertainment and pageantry. Scocha, a celtic group direct from Scotland takes the stage to perform for the packed grandstands and the thousands ringing the infield. Also on stage will be Nova Scotia award winning fiddle sensation, Troy MacGillivray. After the concert, pipe bands and a military band march onto the infield for the Tattoo as night settles over the site. Each year, there are a few surprises worked into the program and this year will be no exception. The show presented on Friday evening is one of the finest musical experiences to be found anywhere.

Saturday presents another full day of competitions in dancing, piping, drumming and the heavyweights. Track and field events and a junior heavyweight competition are held for the younger group. Those seeking to know more about their Scottish heritage can meet with the many Clans who set up their booths. At

noon, the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of Defence, will declare the 2008 Glengarry Highland Games open followed by massed bands performing on the infield. After a full afternoon of competitions on the field and the best in celtic music in the entertainment venues, the Games are capped off by the breath-taking massed bands performance. Sixty-five pipe bands with over a thousand pipers and drummers stride across the infield playing in unison.

Add to all of this 100 Scottish food and goods concessions that offer luxurious woolens, fine celtic jewelry, paintings and carvings, music recordings and anything in the world made with tartan.

The Games are meant for everyone from 1 to 100. Whether coming to the Games for the first time or the sixty-first time, it always proves to be an exciting time that leaves everyone looking forward to coming back for more.

With a summer of high traveling costs, the Glengarry Highland Games is a close-by alternative right in our own backyard that will provide an experience equaling that of major attractions found hundreds of miles away.

A great bargain, the Games admission is \$20 a day including parking and access to all events once inside the Gates. Camping is available and the grounds are handicap accessible. More information can be found at www.glengarryhighlandgames.com.

See you at the Games. Ceud mille failte!