

57th General Conference Session 2000

PLACE: SkyDome and Metro Toronto Convention Centre, Toronto, Canada

DATES: **June 25 - June 29 (Sunday - Thursday)**
World Ministers Council
June 29 - July 08 (Thursday - Sabbath)
General Conference Session

THEME: *Almost Home*

Session 2000 Program Highlights

The opening day of the Session will feature some of the following activities:

- Musical program
- Introduction of honored guests and officials
- Official call to open the Session
- Appointment of various working and standing committees

Each evening will be filled with music and inspirational reports of the progress of the work around the world.

The daily program will begin with the morning devotional hour followed throughout the day with "business sessions."

The two Sabbaths of the Session are high days for the Church. Sabbath School and Church will be provided for all age groups, from kindergarten through adults. Please keep in mind the afternoons--there will be thrilling stories of soul winning presented by laypersons, youth and Global Mission.

For those who plan to visit the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, in the exhibit area there will be a daily program presented on a stage area. Global Mission is coordinating the program, and will feature reports from various ministries, departments, and individuals who are active in soul winning. In addition, various musical groups will be performing mini-concerts on this same stage, interspersed with the soul-winning reports.

There is something for everyone! Come and see what God is doing in His Church throughout the world. [Gerry Karst]

Music at the Session

Since music is a major part of any worship service and most Adventist meetings, the upcoming General Conference Session in Toronto is no exception. Music selections have been requested from every corner of the world Church. The aim is to provide a broad spectrum of music styles and presentations to represent a global church with multi-varied ethnic and musical backgrounds.

The music selection process must be used by every volunteer who wants to provide music at the Session. Application must be made to the division music committee from the person or group's own home division. The division music committee evaluates each entry to decide who they want to represent their division at the Session. Those selected (the best of the best) are then sent on to the GC Music Committee where all entries are evaluated and final selections are made for music to be presented at the Session on the main stage. The stage located in the exhibit hall will also use many of those selected for the main stage. This allows more use of the talent from the global church.

The evaluation process guarantees each applicant an equal opportunity to be selected, when recommended by their division, and no one has direct access or any advantage.

All musical presentations are done by volunteers who pay their own way to the Session. Music is a true "love offering" and a gift given to the GC Session and attendees.

As in the past, we look forward to the variety of music that will represent the global nature of the Adventist Church. [Dick Stenbakken]

Session 2000 On the Web!

Have you visited the official website for GC Session 2000? The website contains information you can't afford to miss. Visit us today at: www2.adventist.org/gc2000/

Translation Services at the Toronto Session

During Toronto Session 2000, the General Conference is providing simultaneous interpretation/translation in the following main languages: Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian/Croatian, Spanish, and two other unspecified languages.

Transmission will be by FM radio. There will be 12 radio channels/frequencies dedicated to the above-mentioned languages. Translation in these languages can be received on a simple FM radio set. Kindly bring your own radio and headset, or you may purchase one in Toronto. If you are a delegate, you will receive a free set in your registration package, compliments of Adventist World Radio.

Reverse translation from the floor will also be offered. In other words, if a delegate wants to address the assembly in his/her mother tongue, somebody will be available on the floor to interpret in English.

We will also provide service to the deaf and the hard of hearing in the English language.

The General Conference is making provision for simple direct mouth-to-ear simultaneous interpretation/translation for language groups with fewer speakers; namely:

- Amharic
- Bulgarian
- Czech/Slovak
- Finnish
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Indonesian Bahasa
- Greek
- Norwegian

- Polish
- Swahili
- Tagalog

Speakers of the latter will be regrouped in different seating areas in the SkyDome.

We will accommodate any language group not mentioned here that makes a request.

Anchor interpreters are needed to organize direct interpretation in the following languages:

- Amharic
- Bulgarian
- Hungarian
- Norwegian
- Polish
- Swahili

An anchor interpreter is a volunteer lead person in charge of translating the major events, finding help from other volunteer interpreters, drafting the schedule, and supervising his/her colleagues. Volunteers do not receive any remuneration from the General Conference, but they will receive meal tickets and a special tag. Both delegates and visitors are actively encouraged to participate.

If you have any suggestions or would like to be an anchor/volunteer interpreter during the Session, please contact Dr. Gerard Latchman, director of Interpretation/Translation Services at Tel. 301-680-6478, Fax 301-680-6464, or E-mail: 2731.2362@compuserve.com.

Information on the company furnishing transmission equipment, the names of anchor interpreters for the main languages, and the divisions sponsoring them will be presented in one of the next issues of this news bulletin.

[Gerard Latchman]

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