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PRESS RELEASE

No Communist flag

at the Whitehorse Heritage Festival, Yukon, Canada

(Aug. 1-3, 2008)

The Vietnamese Canadian Federation is pleased to learn from Mr. Hung Nguyen, representative of the Vietnamese community of Whitehorse, that Ms. Deb Jutra, President of the Whitehorse Heritage Festival Society has informed him: ***there will be no communist flag in the Grand March.***

The Federation hopes that the decision of the Whitehorse Heritage Festival Society on this flag of the Communist regime in Vietnam (a gold star on a red background) will be extended to include all forms of political propaganda of this regime at the festival.

Most members of the overseas Vietnamese community, including Vietnamese Canadians, are former political refugees who fled the Communist regime in Vietnam after South Vietnam was taken over by Communist troops from North Vietnam in 1975. Therefore, allowing the Vietnamese Communist regime to spread its propaganda at the festival would be an utmost affront to them and would bring back the painful memories of their sufferings under the Vietnamese Communist regime.

The Vietnamese Canadian Federation calls upon the organizers of the Whitehorse Heritage Festival to show understanding of the feelings of the Vietnamese community in Canada on this issue and to act accordingly.

The Federation is the non-profit umbrella organization of the Vietnamese community in Canada. Established in 1980, it currently has 10 chapters in all major cities from coast to coast, with a national office in Ottawa.