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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Canadian Icons to help Celebrate USC Canada's 60th Anniversary

OTTAWA, August 29, 2005 – David Suzuki and Bruce Cockburn will perform in Ottawa on September 8, 2005, for a benefit evening of dialogue and song in support of USC Canada.

Renowned environmentalist Suzuki will speak on human rights, poverty, and the environment. Singer-songwriter Cockburn will perform a selection of songs from his wide-ranging repertoire. The event is a benefit for USC Canada – one of Canada's oldest international development agencies.

USC Canada works with partner organizations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to promote strong, healthy, and just communities in the developing world. Susan Walsh, USC's Executive Director, says "in a perfect world, USC Canada would be out of business, but since social injustice still exists, we continue our work." Suzuki and Cockburn are well-known advocates for social justice and Walsh adds "both of these Canadian icons share a connection with the work of USC Canada."

David Suzuki is an award-winning scientist, environmentalist, and broadcaster. USC shares his commitment to environmental issues, which has, for decades, driven much of the organization's work – particularly in Africa where USC's programs fight desertification and promote conservation.

Cockburn has been USC Canada's spokesperson for more than 20 years. With over 25 albums to his credit, he is one of Canada's greatest singer-songwriters, whose music and words have had a profound influence on generations of Canadians. His political consciousness, his views on nature, and his respect for human rights and world cultures make his music unique and inspiring.

"My family supported the work of Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova (USC's Founder), because we believed that every individual could make a difference," says Cockburn adding "I've seen with my own eyes how, with USC's help, people are improving their own lives, building strong, healthy communities."

Walsh says she's excited the two are performing on the same stage. "It will help us celebrate and renew our commitment to development and social justice. I'm sure it will be a most memorable and inspiring evening."

Cockburn hopes his performance "will help raise awareness of the ways Canadians are connected globally – in terms of our cultures, hopes, and the actions we take to make this a better world."

The evening of dialogue and song will take place at the Ottawa Congress Centre on Thursday, Sept. 8, starting at 7:30 pm. Tickets are available through TicketMaster for \$35 (\$25 for students).

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For further information or to schedule an interview with Bruce Cockburn or Susan Walsh:
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