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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Chutes Coulonge Aerial Park now officially opened**

**Mansfield, September 10, 2008** – Visitors and friends of the Chutes Coulonge will have one more reason to visit this breathtaking site. Chutes Coulonge officially opened its new aerial park and the first series of zip lines, a high intensity activity guaranteed to appeal to thrill seekers.

The 280-meter long and 20-meter high zip line is the first part of a half a million dollar tourism development installation at Chutes Coulonge. An aerial adventure course for kids, a giant zip line down the falls' jagged canyon, and a via ferrata are currently under construction and will open to the public next spring.

"Chutes Coulonge was the ideal site in the Pontiac for this installation," said Pontiac County Warden, Mr. Michael McCrank. Recognized as a star tourism destination in the Outaouais, Chutes Coulonge already attracts an impressive number of tourists for a region at the dawn of its tourism economy.

"The entire county will feel the economic impact of this facility," said McCrank. "It has already created three jobs, and with the new installations, that number will easily quadruple in the spring."

With the financial support of several organizations: the MDEIE (Ministère du Développement économique, de l'innovation et de l'exportation), the MRN (Ministère des ressources naturelles, via the Volet II program), the Caisse Populaire Desjardins of Fort-Coulonge, and the MRC Pontiac, the Chutes Coulonge Foundation was able to hire PRISME EQUIPEMENT CANADA of Montréal for the design and installation of these aerial courses.

Christine Mitchell, Director of the Chutes Coulonge Park, gratefully accepts a cheque in the amount of \$40,000 from the MRC Pontiac, a financial supplement the Council of Mayors has allocated to the project.

“I am proud to be involved in such an important economic development project,” said Mitchell. “The aerial park will attract more visitors to the site and consequently to other Pontiac attractions and activities.”

Indeed, in addition to its rich natural beauty and cultural heritage, which have made the Pontiac a perfect country getaway for people in search of R&R, the Pontiac is also a choice destination for white water rafting, boasting the best expeditions in the world.

Cyclotourists are also delighted with the 92 km PPJ Cyclopark which crosses the Pontiac from East to West, and in 2010, the cycling path will finally link to the famous Route Verte.

During the Chutes Coulonge Park’s official opening, McCrank said that he was confident that the aerial park would prove to be another feather in the Pontiac’s cap and thanked all stakeholders in the project.

“Our ability to concretise the MRC Pontiac’s Tourism Development vision rests on several governmental organizations, tourist operators, our citizens and employees. It is an honor for me today to thank all of you for your commitment and a first rate job.”

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