



## Press release

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# Brussels to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Destinations for All World Summit* for accessible tourism in 2018

Montréal/Namur, September 27, 2016

Quebec-based organization Kéroul and Belgium's Collectif Accessibilité Wallonie-Bruxelles (CAWaB) are pleased to announce that the second edition of the ***Destinations for All World Summit*** will be taking place in Brussels in fall 2018. The aim of the event is to give concrete expression to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) *Recommendations on Accessible Tourism*.

For more information:

[http://www.accessibletourism.org/resources/accesibilityen\\_2013\\_unwto.pdf](http://www.accessibletourism.org/resources/accesibilityen_2013_unwto.pdf)

These two organizations are making this announcement now in the spirit of *World Tourism Day*, September 27, 2016, the theme of which is "*Tourism for All: Promoting Universal Accessibility*."

The first edition of the Summit was held in Montréal in October 2014, under the auspices of Kéroul and with the involvement of the UNWTO, UN, European Network for Accessible Tourism and ICAO, among others. With more than 360 participants from 31 countries having come out to share their knowledge and experience, the event wrapped up with the adoption of the *A World for Everyone* declaration.

Available in 10 languages, this declaration features 40 specific measures for implementing the *UNWTO Recommendations on Accessible Tourism* globally and locally. It is a veritable plan for action on the local, national and international scales to promote the accessibility of infrastructure, buildings, tourist services as well as transportation services.

Declaration: <http://www.destinationspourtous2014.com/medias/declaration-eng.pdf>

With the Western population aging and the benefits of including disabled people in all facets of society, the tourism, culture and transportation sectors have no choice but to fully welcome and

adequately serve all citizens, and to be particularly attentive to the needs of elderly and physically disabled people. Moreover, in September 2015, the UN adopted new Sustainable Development Goals recognizing accessibility and the inclusion of persons with disabilities as principles of sustainable development.

The second edition of the *Destinations for All World Summit* will provide the opportunity to assess progress made since 2014 and move closer to an international standard of accessibility, information sharing, practices and services for persons with disabilities. In conjunction with this event for trade professionals, there will also be an accessible vacations show for the general public, wherein visitors will learn more about the world's accessible tourist destinations.

As the respective chairs of Kéroul and CAWaB, Isabelle Ducharme and Vincent Snoeck will co-chair the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Destinations for All World Summit* on behalf of their organizations.

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### **About Kéroul**

Kéroul is a non-profit organization dedicated to making tourism and culture accessible to persons with limited physical abilities. Founded in Montréal in 1979, Kéroul acts as the Ministère du Tourisme du Québec's key consultant in matters of accessibility.

### **About CAWaB**

Since 2006, the Collectif Accessibilité Wallonie-Bruxelles has served as the umbrella organization for associations representing persons with limited physical abilities as well as for accessibility consulting firms. It advocates for universal accessibility in the spirit of the UN *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*.

### **Contacts**



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