



2017 VOYAGEURS RENDEZVOUS

A Canada 150 Signature Project

Un Projet Signature Canada 150

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INFORMATION LETTER & REGISTRATION FORM 2017 Voyageurs Rendezvous Canoe Race

The Story: Birchbark canoes have been a part of the fabric of Canada dating back 500 years to the greeting of Cabot at Bonavista by 50 canoes of the Mic-Mac, and then 100 canoes of the Huron and Iroquois leading Cartier to Hochelaga. By the mid-1600s, courier de bois and voyageurs trading out of the walled fortress cities of Quebec and Montreal, had paddled their way to trade on the Ottawa, French and Winnipeg Rivers, as well as the Ohio, Mississipi, and Missouri. By the late 1700s, the canots du nord of the winterers were meeting the great supply canoes, les canos du maitre, in a great Rendezvous at Grand Portage. After the war of 1812, the great Rendezvous Depot was reconstructed on the Kaministiqua River at Thunder Bay, on the Canadian side of David Thompson's new survey.

Our Rendezvous history dates back 50 years to Canada's Centennial year. A canoe race in the tradition of the competition of the fur brigades, was staged to coincide with celebrations across Canada from Rocky Mountain House to Montreal. Our race and Rendezvous grew out of the Gold Rush Canoe Derby, at the Flin Flon Trout Festival. A small group of enthusiasts proposed a two-man canoe race from Edmonton to Montreal. The idea grew into a race for north canoes with six paddlers, representing each province and territory. Trial races across Ontario in 1965 and from Montreal to New York City and from Fort St. James to Victoria in 1966 preceded our race to Expo '67. Our epic 5,250 km race in 1967 recreated the excitement of the brigades of old, and began a tradition of races, brigades and Rendezvous for north canoes and Canadians across our country from coast to coast.

We invite you to rendezvous with us in 2017 to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday in voyageur style. We have an itinerary of events of interest to all Canadians, including daily entertainment, sightseeing tours, barbecues and breakfasts, dances, receptions, first nation games, and a banquet and Voyageurs Ball. Three canoe events for both casual and serious paddlers will provide excitement and atmosphere as our community and the staff at the Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site roll out the welcome mat for you.

You will see the start of the 2017 Voyageurs Rendezvous Canoe Race, the 1,600 km race to The Pas, Manitoba, and will be able to follow their progress across the country, by media, or by the internet.

Canadians may receive a certificate with the race route.

For information email: canada150.chs@gmail.com

Philatelic collectors and Canadians will have an opportunity to actively participate in the race this year. A special issue postage stamp for 2017 Voyageurs Rendezvous will be issued and post-marked envelopes with a certificate of authenticity may be purchased to be carried by canoe from Rocky Mountain House across Rupertsland to be mailed to the purchaser from The Pas, Manitoba. The certificate with artwork, will certify that the envelope was carried by canoe from Rocky Mountain House, Alberta to The Pas, Manitoba, in celebration of Canada 150. The cost of each stamped envelope and certificate will be \$20.17 plus a postage and handling charge of \$6.60 CDN., \$8.60 US., and \$9.95 for European residents. Please email: canada150.chs@gmail.com

Come and celebrate Canada's 150th birthday with us in Rocky Mountain House!

2017 Voyageurs Rendezvous Registration Form

Registration Fee of \$59.50 per person includes a Commemorative Canada 150 Identification Pass to all events including: Reception, Banquet and Voyageurs Ball. Honoured Guests, 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1970 Centennial Voyageurs - no cost.

email registration form to: vmaxwell67@gmail.com • Cheques to Canada 150 Voyageurs' Rendezvous



CONFLUENCE HERITAGE SOCIETY Greg Joyce - Manager RMH National Historic Site Email Entries & Registrations to: vmaxwell67@gmail.com 403-846-1242 Vic Maxwell, Chairman Canoe Events Canadian Centennial Voyageurs www.voyageursrendezvous.ca

Committee: Archie Griffith, Dave Ellery, Ray Fieber, Geoff Peruniak, Jim Rheaume, Norm Crerar, Leigh Noton and Bud Salloum

SCHEDULE

EVENT • Rocky Mountain North Canoe Brigade 25 ft. Canoes - \$275 registration per team inclusive June 24 & 25 - Assembly - Kootenay Plains Campground Introductions, Camp, Hike Siffleur Falls, BBQ June 26 - Canoe - Sask. Crossing to Cline R. 42K June 27 - Bighorn Dam & Crescent Falls Viewing Canoe Bighorn R. to Saunders Landing, 43K June 28 - Canoe Saunders to R.M.H. Nat'l Hist. Site, 72K Camp, Reception, Voyageurs Rendezvous

EVENT • Voyageur Whitewater Canoe Race June 29 – Saunders to Hwy. 11A, R.M.H., 77K Classes - 15', 16', 17', 18', 18'6", 19' Canoes Men's - Ladies' Mixed / \$200 entry. \$5,000 Cash Split

Finish - Parade - Events - Reception - Banquet - Voyageurs Ball

EVENT · Voyageurs Rendezvous Reunion

June 28 - Registration, reception for 1967 Voyageurs, Rendezvous - Reunion program. Rocky Mountain House National Historical Site. Arrival Rocky Mountain North Canoe Brigade, BBQ, entertainment June 29 - Reunion Breakfast - memory time at Highwater House Nat'l Hist. Site, Finish Voyageur Whitewater Canoe Race at Hwy. 11A Bridge, PARADE - River Park to Main Street - featuring 1967 Voyageurs and 2017 Canoes and Voyageurs "Marketplace on Main", Canada 150 Canoe Weigh-in & Measure - Civic Reception, Dinner, Introductions, Honoured Guests, Honourary Voyageurs, Welcome 1967 Centennial Voyageurs, Prizes, Whitewater Canoe Race, Guests, Entertainment, Voyageurs Ball June 30 - Pancake Breakfast at Historic Site, Entertainment, Start Canada 150 Canoe Race - Sprint #1 Historic Site to Hwy. 11A, return. 10K BBQ, Entertainment, Fireworks

EVENT • 2017 Voyageurs Rendezvous Canoe Race

July 1 Race Start - Rocky Mountain House Nat'l. Historic Site to The Pas, Manitoba - 1600K

July 1 - Lap 1: Alder Flats, Rose Creek - 112K

July 2 - Lap 2: Drayton Valley 24K - 136K

July 3 - Lap 3: Devon 120K - 256K

July 4 - Lap 4: Fort Saskatchewan 75K - 331K

July 5 - Lap 5: Pakan, Smoky Lake, 77K - 408K

July 6 – Lap 6: Duvernay, Two Hills, 83K - 491K

July 7 - Lap 7: Elk Point, Buckingham House 61K - 552K

July 8 – Lap 8: Hwy. 17, Lloydminster, Fort Pitt 82K - 634K July 9 – Lap 9: Hwy. 21, Turtleford, 75K - 709K

July 10 - Lap 10: North Battleford, 115K - 824K

July 11 - National Park Program Day, Sprint

July 12 – Lap 11: Borden Bridge, Hwy. 16, 107K - 931K

July 13 - Saskatoon Park Program Day, Sprint

July 14 - Lap 12: Fort Carlton, 82K - 1013K

July 15 - Lap 13: Prince Albert, 88K - 1101K

July 16 - Prince Albert Program Day, Sprint

July 17 - Lap 14: Peter Smith First Nation, 78K - 1179K

July 18 - Lap 15: Nipawin, 80K - 1259K

July 19 - Lap 16: Tobin Lake Dam, 61K - 1320K

July 20 - Lap 17: Cumberland House, 120K - 1440K

July 21 - Cumberland House Program Day

July 22 – Lap 18: The Pas, 125K - 1565K Mileage for Sprints, 35K - Total Mileage - 1600K

July 23 – The Pas Program Day, Sprint, Closing Ceremonies - Prize Money - Awards

Total Mileage : 2017 Voyageurs Rendezvous Canoe Race - 1,000 miles (1,600K)

Total Prize Money \$160,000 (prize money subject to change) Prize Money Split:

\$50,000, \$30,000, \$20,000, \$10,000, \$5,000, \$3,000 All Finishing Teams (Prize money subject to total entries) Additional Prize Monies - Local Sprints

For ENTRY FORMS and DETAILED SCHEDULES ENTRY REGULATIONS, FEES email: vmaxwell67@gmail.com • 403-846-1242 www.voyageursrendezvous.ca