



## Prince George Regional Heritage Fair

**What is it?** Heritage Fair provides students with a deeper understanding of their history, culture and identity. The Fair is a **free** event designed for students in grades 4-10.

**What do students do before the Fair?** Your students can get involved through completion of a classroom assignment or as part of a history club. Students select and research an aspect of local, regional, provincial or national history & then communicate their findings through a poster, panel, model, painting, etc. (See the attached guidelines for more information.)

**What happens at the Fair?** This one day Fair is a celebration of Canadian Heritage! Students are divided into groups and rotated through judging, heritage activities, and a field trip. The Fair showcases outstanding projects for our community. Friends and family are then invited for the evening event. Students then have the opportunity to go on to the Provincial Heritage Fair located somewhere in our Province!

**How does participation benefit your students?** Our Heritage Fair is a fun, rewarding school district event. This annual event features the development of communication skills, the discovery of our rich heritage, and exploration of issues of personal relevance. Providing young people with the opportunity to develop strong roots in their community and culture gives them the confidence to become active, caring citizens. By participating with your students in Heritage Fair, you are supporting your existing Social Studies curriculum. See [www.histori.ca](http://www.histori.ca) for downloadable documents with links to BC Curriculum. Participation in Heritage Fair also promotes literacy because students read for information; write about what they have learned; listen to judges' questions; and, speak about what they have learned.



## How to Register:

1. Teachers can register their students/class/club by February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011. To do so, please contact the Prince George Regional Heritage Fair Coordinator, Amanda Tisseur (amanda@theexplorationplace.com) with your name, school, grade, and the number of students you wish to register.
2. Due to space constraints, every student in your class may not be able to participate in the Fair. In early March 2011, the Fair Coordinator will distribute the number of participants per class. Average number of students per school in the past has been between ten and fifteen.
3. Teachers decide which students to send to the Prince George Regional Heritage Fair. Teachers are encouraged to send students with a genuine interest and/or demonstrated effort put into their projects (see below for guidelines on participation vs. project criteria).
4. Teachers ensure that Student Registration Forms are sent in by April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

The Prince George Regional Heritage Fair is proudly sponsored by: The British Columbia Heritage Fairs Society, The Exploration Place, Huble Homestead Historic Site, Prince George Railway and Forestry Museum, the Province of British Columbia, Prince George Public Library, BC Hydro, and numerous dedicated volunteers!

## Timeline 2010-2011

November 2010 – March 2011	Teachers organize and deliver classroom-based and school-based Heritage Fair assignments.
February – March 2011	Teacher selection of student participants for Heritage Fair
<b>February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>	<b>Heritage Fair Registration Deadline</b> for your class/club
<b>April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011</b>	<b>Heritage Fair Registration Deadline</b> for students
<b>May 3, 2011</b>	<b>Prince George Regional Heritage Fair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Judging, activities &amp; field trip during school hours</li><li>◆ Evening showcase for community, family, friends</li></ul>
June/July	Provincial Fair, TBA (tentatively scheduled in Victoria)

## Goals of Heritage Fair

The Prince George Regional Heritage Fair provides students with a deeper understanding of their history, culture and identity while supporting existing Social Studies curriculum. The Fair is a free event designed for students in grades 4-10.

Regional Heritage Fairs encourage students to explore Canadian heritage in a dynamic, hands-on learning environment. Students use the medium of their choice to tell stories about Canadian heroes, legends, milestones, and achievements - and present the results of their research at a public exhibition.

Since its beginning in 1993, the Fairs Program has grown to include more than 275,000 students across Canada each year. In the long term, it is hoped that every eligible student in Canada will have the opportunity to participate in a Regional Heritage Fair during his or her years at school.

## Heritage Fairs:

- ◆ Create an environment where students are excited to learn and share
- ◆ Provide recognition for student achievement
- ◆ Celebrate cultural diversity and multiple perspectives

- ◆ Reveal connections between the past and present
- ◆ Inspire Canadians to celebrate their places in history

The Fairs Program is driven by volunteers. More than 12,000 people contribute their time every year. Volunteer committees involving educators, museums, heritage groups, and community associations work together to organize School, Regional, Provincial, and Territorial Fairs. The result is a community-based celebration of Canadian heritage that has a lasting impact on participants.

The heart of the Fair is the students' research projects! The variety of self-selected topics are diverse; projects feature icons, industry, leaders, geography, resources, natural heritage, sports, leisure activities, transportation, and immigration, to name a few.

**The goal of the Prince George Regional Heritage Fair is to celebrate and appreciate Canadian Heritage.** The Fair is designed to create a captivating learning environment for students, strengthening their knowledge of the diversity and uniqueness of our country.

### **How the Prince George Regional Heritage Fair Benefits Your Students' Learning:**

- ◆ Increases awareness of Canadian history and heritage
- ◆ Celebrates Canada's cultural diversity
- ◆ Provides an exciting, dynamic learning environment
- ◆ Accommodates multiple intelligences and multi-disciplinary learning
- ◆ Builds on students' creativity, curiosity and initiative
- ◆ Encourages students to explore issues of personal relevance
- ◆ Supports community dialogue about important issues facing our community
- ◆ Increases student pride through the opportunity to present their project to peers, adults, and a receptive public
- ◆ Encourages students to take an interest in the development of our community and country
- ◆ Develops communication skills such as reading, drafting, summarizing, writing, listening, speaking, researching, interviewing, and recording.
- ◆ Provides students with the opportunity to communicate their thoughts and concerns to the community
- ◆ Provide positive home-school-community interactions

### **Prince George Regional Heritage Fair Guidelines**

#### **General Guidelines**

- ◆ Heritage Fair emphasizes discovery-based, constructivist learning, community participation and exchange of ideas.
- ◆ Students in grades 4-10 are welcome to participate in the Fair.
- ◆ Due to space constraints, the number of projects per class will be limited by the Prince George Regional Heritage Fair Committee (usually 10-15 students per class).

#### **Project Guidelines**

- ◆ All projects must have a Canadian theme and title.
- ◆ All projects must record their sources used (including print, electronic and interviews).
- ◆ Students have a maximum display space of 1 metre x 1 metre x 1 metre; freestanding displays are encouraged.

- ◆ The project should not be expensive to produce; basic supplies like poster board and art/craft material should be the only costs.
- ◆ Heritage Fair is not responsible for the loss of or damage to any projects; valuable items should not be a part of the display.
- ◆ Projects may not include any offensive matter (profanity, racist/sexist remarks, etc).
- ◆ Projects can directly target Prescribed Learning Outcomes for Social Studies and/or Language Arts.
- ◆ Projects from all disciplines are encouraged (poster, poem, 3D display, model, painting, speech, play, powerpoint, etc).
- ◆ Projects can be completed by an individual, a group, or a class.
- ◆ Examples of curricula-based projects with diverse media:
  - A grade 4 student compares an 1880s map to a modern map, then makes notes and draws a map.
  - A pair of grade 4 students investigate how their grandparents farmed (and interacted with the environment) forty years ago.
  - A grade 4 class researches the origin of place names, and each student prepares a postcard with a description of the town's name and a picture.
  - A grade 5 student researches why his family immigrated to Canada and makes a poster communicating the main points in a linear timeline.
  - A pair of grade 5 students find out about the role of the potlatch in Haida governance and gather photos of items, chiefs, etc to display.
  - A grade 5 class researches our resource development and makes a poster board display with each student displaying a picture of the item manufactured from that resource and the location where it is manufactured and/or used (i.e. Coal heating a home in England; a tree in a railroad tie; apples in a local lunchbox, etc).
  - A grade 6 student compares maps and aerial photos to look for changes in transportation and prepares a powerpoint presentation with descriptive notes.
  - A grade 6 student interviews her veteran grandfather about his experiences in WWII and paints a picture of life in the field.
  - A pair of grade 6 students investigates the importance of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and makes a list of the top ten.
  - A grade 7 student researches a historical issue and prepares a speech that defends a position.
  - A grade 7 class identifies a historical Canadian issue and applies problem solving strategies; the class then votes on their preferred solution and prepares a graph that communicates their collective position.

### **Participation Criteria**

A high-quality project demonstrates one or more of the following:

- ◆ Genuine interest in the chosen topic.
- ◆ Enthusiasm and/or curiosity towards heritage.
- ◆ Draws connections between history/heritage and contemporary life.
- ◆ Raises more questions during research.

### **Project Criteria**

A high-quality project demonstrates one or more of the following:

- ◆ Poses a thoughtful, creative question or theme.
- ◆ Uses one source per grade and uses diverse information (i.e. books, interviews, maps).

- ◆ Features the student's voice in analysis and synthesis (i.e. draws on individual experience and knowledge to interpret Canadian Heritage).
- ◆ Includes a thoughtful and/or innovative summary sentence (i.e. can answer the question, "Why is this important?").

Students are encouraged to use a wide variety of information sources during their research. This can include information gathered in print from books, maps, photographs, the web, and interviews with an individual knowledgeable in their chosen area of research.

Potential sources may include the following:

- ◆ School Library
- ◆ Internet
- ◆ Museum
- ◆ Archives
- ◆ Local Community Groups (i.e. Legion, Métis Elders, Airplane Club, Retired Teachers Association, Track & Field Club, etc)
- ◆ Grandparents
- ◆ Neighbours
- ◆ Employees (i.e. CN Rail, Husky Oil, etc)
- ◆ Public Library
- ◆ College of New Caledonia
- ◆ University of Northern BC

A variety of prizes are awarded to participants of the Fair. For more information about recognition and prizes, please contact the Fair Coordinator.

### **Fair Guidelines**

- ◆ Please register your class/club in a timely manner so the local Fair Committee can allocate the number of students per class/club/school in a fair manner.
- ◆ Once the committee determines the students/class ratio, teachers decide which students to send to the Fair. We encourage teachers to send students with a genuine interest and/or demonstrated effort put into their projects. Sometimes the student who will benefit the most from participating in the Fair is the student who demonstrates high participation and produces low criteria.
- ◆ Please select students who have the ability to fully participate in this event:
  - The Fair is a full day for participants, from morning set-up to judging interviews, heritage activities and the evening showcase and awards ceremony.
  - There is a lot of activity and many new faces at the Fair; does your student have the maturity and willingness to deal with this new environment?
- ◆ This is a School District event with appropriate adult supervision; we do, however, welcome extra adult supervision from classroom teachers and parent volunteers.
- ◆ Participants must supply all audiovisual equipment that they require for their project.
- ◆ If your student prefers a French-speaking judge, please contact the Fairs Coordinator as soon as possible, and we will do our best to recruit one for your student.

### **For More Information Please Contact:**

Amanda Tisseur, Prince George Regional Heritage Fair Coordinator (The Exploration Place)  
(250) 562-1612 (ext. 221), amanda@theexplorationplace.com