



# TRAILS OF 1885



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2010 is the 125th anniversary of the Northwest Resistance and it played a very significant role in Saskatchewan and Canadian history. It was the end of an era; the west would never be the same again. The buffalo were gone, the land was being plowed and settled, the railway was completed across Canada.

But before all that happened, there were a number of events leading to incredible stories that indeed defined our country. These stories, as a whole, need to be told, need to be seen and need to be conserved. A large part of our national history occurred right here in the prairie provinces. It has been said that you can not know the present or look to the future without understanding the past.

We are constantly updating our information about events, festivals and happenings across Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. We apologize if we have forgotten any in this email newsletter—please let us know any and all updates as they occur.

Watch for the launch of the website [www.trailsof1885.com](http://www.trailsof1885.com) that will be ready by late June/early July 2009.

Thank you for your interest and *WELCOME TO*

# TRAILS OF 1885



*Batoche National Historic Site*

*Photo: Tourism Saskatchewan/Hans-Gerhard Pfaff*



*“The Carlton Trail” One of 11 murals in Duck Lake*

## FORT PITT Update...

2010 will mark the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1885 Resistance. Fort Carlton was involved at the initial outbreak of the fighting, Fort Pitt was where hostages were taken and the fort burnt and Steele Narrows was the site of the last fighting and has a First Nations Burial place. To commemorate and celebrate this important time in Saskatchewan's history the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport (TPCS) is preparing to improve the public presentation and services at these three provincial parks in time for the 2010 visitors.

Work at Fort Pitt began in 2008 to begin the improvement. Currently the park only has two interpretive panels that tell the story of the fort's history, that includes 60 years as a fur trade post, Treaty #6 signing location and major 1885 event site. In order to upgrade the following activities have been done: Undertaken an archaeological survey of the fort buildings and marked each location. As well we have been working closely with the Frenchman Butte Museum Society, local residents and the Onion Lake First Nation to help determine further actions and collect information. Early in the 2009 season we will be constructing building outlines for the post buildings, stockade and fence lines. New interpretive signage will be researched, written and produced for late fall installation. The new signs will include individual building signs as well as a feature area at the newly developed river viewing area. Other major park themes, such as Treaty #6 will have specific signs.

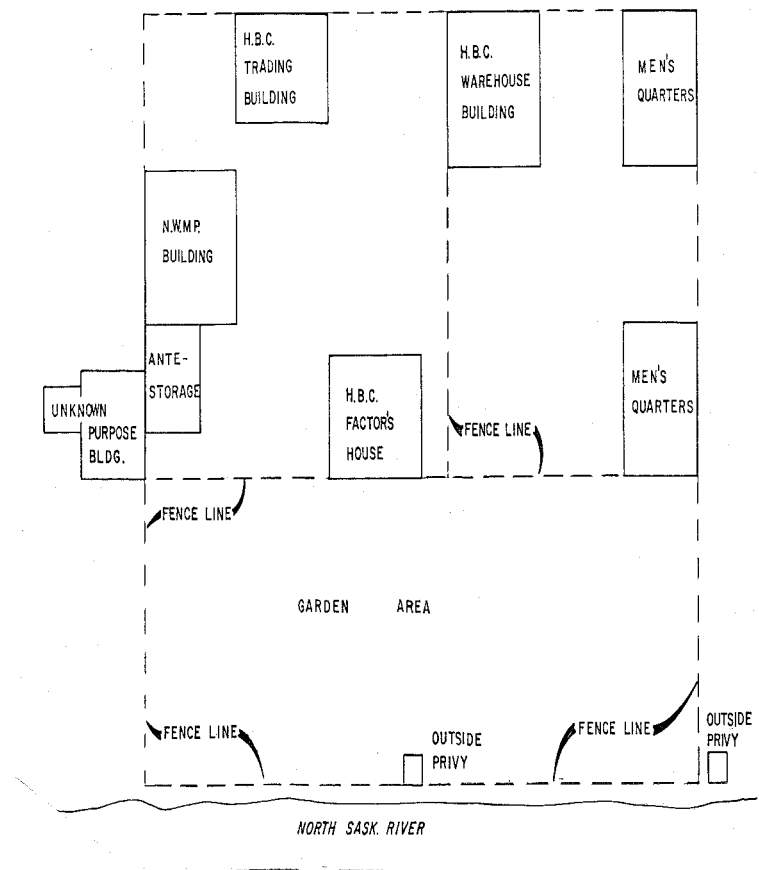
Other upgrades will be the improvement to park directional signage, a new brochure and upgrade website. There is also the option of a river landing area for non-motorized watercraft.

This next 18 months will be a very busy time for the Parks Service staff in TPCS as we work to finalize the developments for Fort Pitt's upgrades and prepare to complete the same types of changes at Steele Narrows and Fort Carlton Provincial Parks.



*Archaeological survey work done this past summer at Fort Pitt.*

APPROXIMATE DISTRIBUTION and DEFINITION OF BUILDINGS  
1873-1885 H.B.C. FORT PITT, TAKEN FROM 1885 PHOTOGRAPH  
and OBSERVATIONS AT FORT PITT HISTORIC SITE.



# Across the west...

## Manitoba

Did you know...

- The residence of Bishop Tache is still in use as the Bishop's Palace;
- Historique de Saint-Boniface contains the second largest collection of Riel papers, surpassed only by the National Archives in Ottawa;
- Riel is buried with his family across the street in the cemetery of the St. Boniface Cathedral.



*Saint Boniface Cathedral, Winnipeg*

Did you know...Manitoba will be celebrating "Homecoming" in 2010...starting with Louis Riel Day February 18th, 2010...Manitoba has chosen to name this civic holiday as Louis Riel Day instead. A number of winter festivals have been planned including Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg and the Trappers Festival in and around The Pas.



*St. Boniface Museum, Winnipeg*

## Alberta

New interpretive panels are being designed for Frog Lake Historic Site.



As well, Métis Crossing has recently installed a zip-line and will be doing upgrades to their location. Saddle Lake First Nations is working on developing lake-side camping. Cold Lake First Nations is looking at developing a cultural centre at their traditional winter campsite.



*Métis Crossing, Alberta*

## *Sites & Locations...*

- “Back to Batoche Days” Batoche July 23 to 26th, 2009
- Batoche National Historic Site: Expansion of facility, trails, programming and services starting 2009.
- Fort Carlton Provincial Historic Park: Regular programming all summer long—200th Anniversary in 2010
- Duck Lake—11 murals and regular programming all summer long. 50th Anniversary of Duck Lake Interpretive Centre in 2010
- Manitoba Homecoming 2010—happenings throughout the province
- Fort Battleford National Historic Site: events for 2009 to include “Siege of Battleford” July 6—August 15; Victorian Tea & Fashion Show July 12 & 26; Ghost Walk July 13 & August 24
- Onion Lake Powwow—July 17th to 19th
- Batoche—Fete Fransaskois July 3rd to 5th
- RCMP, Regina—Sunset Retreat Ceremonies start July—contact direct for dates

## *Events & Happenings...*

- St. Louis—The South Branch House Excavation Field School—July 18th to 21st
- Humboldt Telegraph Museum—Dominion Telegraph Archeology Project starting 2009
- Saskatoon Marr Residence—open house and demonstrations (laundry, nursing, field hospital) with regular programming starting 2009
- Frenchman Butte Museum—expanded program starting 2009
- Fort Pitt—reconstruction and site development starting 2009
- Steele Narrows Provincial Historic Park—regular programming and tours starting 2009
- Poundmaker First Nations—Annual Powwow and Ceremonies ongoing, starting 2009
- Wanuskewin National Historic Site—re-opening summer of 2009 after extensive renovations and upgrades
- Western Development Museums—Saskatoon & North Battleford: ongoing exhibits
- Cut Knife—Clayton McLean Museum opening June 2009 to August 30, 2009

***GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT YOUR 2009 AND 2010 EVENT OR FESTIVAL...***

**Just send all the detailed information to: Colleen Norrish at fax # 306-933-6250 OR email me at [colleen.norrish@sasktourism.com](mailto:colleen.norrish@sasktourism.com)**

**I will make sure it is included in all that is happening. Remember—the more detail the better...the sooner the better....**

**AND**

**Comments, suggestions or mail to: 102, 202—4th Avenue North, Saskatoon S7K 0K1**