

**BATTLEFIELDS PARK**

***FAMILY WALKING RALLY  
1908: A YEAR TO REMEMBER  
Approximative distance: 3.5 km***

***THE JOURNÉES DE LA CULTURE 2008***

**Reminder:** If you do the rally by bicycle, make sure you respect the road signs.

## ***Family rally “1908 : a year to remember ”***

### **Summary**

*In 1906, a working party was looking for an extraordinary way to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of Quebec City. The group in charge of this project put forward the idea of creating a national park with the Plains of Abraham, propriety of the City of Quebec then, and annexing to them the grounds where the famous battles of the Plains of Abraham and Sainte-Foy happened (1759 and 1760). The idea was materialized on March 17 1908 with the creation of the National Battlefields Commission.*

*The Commission’s first assignment was to organize the celebrations of Quebec City’s tricentennial. One of the climaxes of these celebrations was the presentation of historical reconstructions, the Pageants, on the Plains of Abraham. Through this magic, the public could revisit the feats accomplished by the pionneers of New France first and then Canada. The very show required the participation of 4,500 extras, musicians, artists and historians.*

*Fund-raisers, taking place even outside the country, were organized in order to allow the Commission to fulfil its second assignment which was first, to purchase the grounds necessary to the creation of the park and second, to develop them through appropriate layouts.*

*In 1908, the area was for the most part the propriety of the National Defence and served military purposes more than recreation ones; its proximity to the Citadel of Quebec and Drill Hall along with the presence of the Martello Towers, Ross Rifle Factory and Arsenal Laboratory on it proved that fact. The area was at that time a wide open treeless space with uninhabited zones to give way to military drill.*

**Warning : *The texts in italics take you back in 1908.* However, the reference points are contemporary to make the rally easier for you.**

**Have a great and fun rally!!**

## POINTS OF INTEREST

Departure: Discovery Pavilion of the Plains of Abraham, 835 Wilfrid-Laurier Avenue.

Optional: Visit of Odyssey to learn about the Plains' history.

### 1. The Cross of Sacrifice

(Corner of Grande Allée and George VI)

*The Skating Pavilion was built in 1877 and first located north of Grande Allée to be moved south of the same avenue in 1889. The building served as a skating rink in the winter and premises for the industrial, agricultural and horticultural fairs in the summer. It was also the place where masked balls were thrown during the Winter Carnival.*

Question: The Cross standing on this spot today commemorates the bravery of the soldiers who perished in how many conflicts? \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. The Citadel of Quebec

(Take George VI Avenue)

*The walls that you see on your left as you go along are part of the Citadel. The latter was built between 1820 and 1831 according to the plans drawn by military engineer E.W. Durnford for the same purpose as the Martello Towers, which was to fend off a possible attack from the United States. But the Citadel, just like the towers, was never used since it was never attacked. The British troops left the Citadel in 1871 as they withdrew from Quebec City.*

Question: According to you, is the Citadel part of the territory administered by the National Battlefields Commission?

TRUE or FALSE

### 3. The Cove Fields

(Walk down George VI and turn left on Cap Diamant Avenue – interpretation pannel)

*The picture on the interpretation pannel gives a good idea of the Cove Fields' general aspect and occupation by the Ross Rifle Factory and Arsenal Laboratory.*

Question : Who owned the Cove Fields in 1908? \_\_\_\_\_

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ Avenue**

(Go back to George VI and head west up to the next street corner- plan of the park)

*During the fund-raiser in 1908 to purchase the grounds to create the Battlefields Park, the government of the province of Ontario made a \$100,000 donation.*

Fill in the blank: To express their gratitude, the commissioners decided to name the artery stretching across the south part of the park \_\_\_\_\_ Avenue.

**5. Cap Blanc Stairs**

(Walk down \_\_\_\_\_ Avenue all the way to the top of the Cap Blanc Stairs)

*Dozens of workers pass each other everyday on the Cap Blanc Stairs that count nearly 400 steps and link the lower and upper towns.*

Fill in the blank: The Nature Trail on your right stretches 1.5 km along the cape and initiates you to the discovery of the country's \_\_\_\_\_ ..

**6. Drill Hall**

(Take the paved footpath and go back to George VI)

*The building located at the end of the footpath, a little bit on your right, was built between 1885 and 1888 according to the plans of Eugène-Étienne Taché. The hall was meant to serve civilian and military purposes.*

Question : In your opinion, does the Drill Hall come under the ministry of Defence?  
TRUE or FALSE

**7. O Canada**

(Go west on George VI until you get right in front of the Joan of Arc statue- commemorative plaque)

*The Canadian National anthem was performed here for the first time on June 24 for Saint-Jean-Baptiste Day in 1880.*

Question: In your opinion, was the O Canada originally written in French or English?

\_\_\_\_\_

**8. Quebec \_ \_ \_ \_ Club**

(On George VI right across the street)

*The Quebec \_ \_ \_ \_ Club's members have been playing their favourite sport (originally comes from Scotland) here since 1874, that is three years after the British troops left.*

Question: What's that sport which now moved to Boischatel? \_\_\_\_\_

**9. The Temporary Citadel**

(Head down south and catch the footpath up to the southeast corner of the boardwalk-interpretation panel)

*The present-day Citadel was built on the remains of the former Citadel erected by the British in 1779.*

Question: What was the main reason for the British to want new territories so badly?

- a) timber
- b) fur
- c) spices

**10. Martello Tower 1**

(Walk west down the footpath- welcome sign)

*At the turn of the century, the roof of the Martello Tower 1 was used to support the Ross Rifle Factory's water reservoir.*

Question: What is the theme of the exhibition presented now in this Martello Tower?

\_\_\_\_\_

**11. Montcalm mortally wounded**

(Head north on the footpath up to the commemorative plaque just before reaching the street on your left)

*This is where the Marquis de Montcalm was mortally wounded during his last battle.*

Question: What was the date of this battle? \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**12. Taché Street**

(Cross de Bernières Street and head north on Taché Street)

*This street was named after Eugène-Étienne Taché, chartered surveyor, architect and civil engineer. He was minister of the Lands and Forests of the province of Quebec. We owe him Quebec's motto.*

What is this motto? “\_ \_ \_ \_ \_” (If you can’t remember it, the motto is written on the Cross of Sacrifice).

### 13. Artillery Pieces

(Keep going towards Grande Allée- interpretation panel)

*These artillery pieces were originally located on the roof of the Martello Tower 2.*

Question: Which one of these artillery pieces was used on board ships? \_\_\_\_\_

### 14. Laurier Avenue

(Keep going towards Grande Allée)

According to you, what are the missing words in the following sentence?

*Avenue named after Sir Wilfrid Laurier, first \_\_\_\_\_ to act as Prime Minister of Canada. Through his support, Sir Wilfrid Laurier contributed a lot to the creation of the Battlefields Park and success of the Tricentennial’s Celebrations.*

### 15. Martello Tower 2

(At the corner of Taché and Laurier Streets)

*In the aftermath of the failed American invasion in 1775, the British authorities set out to construct four Martello towers in order to prevent the United States from a second attempt to annex Canada to its territory.*

What is presented now in the Martello Tower 2? \_\_\_\_\_

### 16. Garneau Monument

(Go back to George VI and head west, make a stop in front of a bronze bust)

*Sir George Garneau was one of the Battlefields Park’s founding members and first president of the Commission. He acted at the same time as president of the Commission and mayor of Quebec City.*

Question: Who sculpted the Garneau Monument?

First name: non-cooked meat \_ \_ \_  
old spelling of “all” \_ \_ \_

Last name: who chases, tracks down and kills \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Answer: This monument is the work of a Quebec sculptor who is better known as a former caricaturist of the daily newspaper *Le Soleil*. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

**17. Wolfe mortally wounded**

(On the left of the mortar, before Garneau's west junction- commemorative plaque)

*This is where General Wolfe was mortally wounded during his last battle.*

Question: What is the emblem flower of General Wolfe's native land? \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**18. Battle of the Plains of Abraham**

*You are now standing right in the heart of one of the National Battlefields Commission's raisons d'être: the battle of the Plains of Abraham. The very ground that you are walking on is the place where the armies of the Marquis de Montcalm and General Wolfe fought precisely \_ \_ \_ years ago in a clash that changed the course of history. These are the grounds that the Commission is assigned to purchase, lay out and develop so that the future generations may know and remember...*

**19. Quebec Astronomical Observatory**

(At the intersection of the path leading to the Services Pavilion- interpretation panel)

*These premises have sheltered the Quebec Astronomical Observatory since 1850. They constitute the only residence located in the park.*

Question: Name the two functions of the Astronomical Observatory :

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_

**20. Prison of Quebec**

(Keep going on George VI, first building to the left)

*Architect Charles Baillaigé drew the plans of this prison, operating since 1867, to replace the old one located within the walls on Saint-Stanislas Street and whose plans were drawn by his father François Baillaigé. The work was carried out exactly according to Baillaigé's plans except for the west wing which was never built. This jail can accommodate up to 250 prisoners; most of them are males.*

Question: According to you, who owns this building today?

\_\_\_\_\_ .



#### **24. Grey Terrace**

(Terrace overlooking the river with a Canadian flag – commemorative plaque)

*Named after English diplomat and politician Earl Albert George Grey who participated in the project of the creation of the National Battlefields Park. Sports aficionado, we owe him the Grey Cup, Canadian professional football trophée.*

Fill in the blanks: Earl Grey was the Governor-General of Canada from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **25. Gilmour Hill**

(At the crossroads of Montcalm Avenue – in front of the police station)

*The Gilmour Hill was named after an important family of timber merchants. The last Gilmour, John, lived nearby the hill now carrying his name at the turn of the century. It is also the place where General Wolfe's British troops climbed up the cliff to take General Montcalm's French troops by surprise on the Plains of Abraham.*

Question: What type of vehicle is not allowed on the hill nowadays?

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**The rally ends here. Thanks for your participation at “Les journées de la culture 2008” in the occasion of the Centenary of the National Battlefields Park. Hoping you appreciate the experience. See you next year to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham!!**