



Government of Canada

The National Battlefields
Commission

Gouvernement du Canada

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Heritage Days **Free Activities on the Plains of Abraham, September 10 & 11**

Québec, September 1, 2011 – As a reminder of the legacy linked to the Seven Years War, the National Battlefields Commission invites the public to two free outdoor events at the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand, on the Plains of Abraham. Presented for the first time in 2009, the historical review ***Witnesses Tell Their Stories*** is back September 10 and will set the stage for more than one hundred characters linked to the battles of Québec City. Following on Sunday will be a ***historical thematic day***, including costumed presentations, demonstrations, conference and much more.

1759-1760 : Witnesses Tell Their Stories

Through animated lectures by period protagonists, walk-on actors will bring life to a hundred characters who, through diverse scenes, will portray the conditions at the time of the siege of Québec City and of the battles.

A crucial period of the Seven Years War in America, from the unofficial beginning of the hostilities in 1754 until September 1760. Through the population, the tension is palpable. Inhabitants fear for their safety, the social climate is deteriorating at the same rate as criminality and poverty are rising. It has become a state of war.



Inspired by sources at the time, this historical presentation, although partial, is intended to be an authentic testimony, living and moving of what the population lived through. Presented on Saturday September 10, at 7 P.M. (approximately 90 minutes). Spectators are invited to bring their own chair.

Historical Thematic Day

During the afternoon, meet typical characters from the Seven Years War; French, British and Militia alike; and observe diverse demonstrations: bagpipes, rifle and canon firing, sword fights and much more.



Maybe visitors will have a chance to meet the Seigneur Jean Mauvide, who will gladly tell about his dazzling upward social mobility, or the Marquis Pierre de Rigaud de Vaudreuil de Cavagnial, governor-general of New France, immersed in the plans elaborated during the 1759-1760 winter to retake Québec City and the ultimate defense of the colony. In charge of a mobile aid station, an Augustine sister will gladly share her great

devotion for the injured and the sick, and attest to the reassurance provided to the citizens subjected to bombardments. Fleur-Ange and Marie-Louise are part of those, those who lost everything and desperately seek firewood and food. Their heart lies with France but if no help comes to them, they will have no choice but to swear allegiance to King George...

Also presented, a conference from historian and writer Yves Hébert, about the creation of the city of Lévis (1861), its context and the toponimic origins.

Activities taking place all day on September 11, from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. The conference is presented at 2 P.M. at the Pavilion, near the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand.

Information

Activities will be held, independent of the weather. Parking will be allowed only on September 10, near the Bandstand for \$7. Take the Wolfe Avenue entrance, facing the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, towards the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand. A parking attendant will be waiting at the green tent.

In collaboration with:



For information :

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www.theplainsofabraham.ca



To learn more, consult the website section addressing the Battles of 1759 et 1760 at www.theplainsofabraham.ca

- 30 -

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