



## **School Programs: The Art of Assisting Discovery**

Fort Whoop-Up National Historic Site provides curriculum related programs to school groups of all ages, offering children an opportunity to look back in time into what life was like in Southern Alberta, over 130 years ago. Fort Whoop-Up National Historic Site is a replica of the original trading fort, which was built at the junction of the Belly River and St. Mary's River in 1870. It is an excellent environment in which to discover and discuss the effects of trade and white settlement upon the culture of the Blackfoot people native to this area.

Programs are available throughout the school year. Major aims for school groups visiting include:

- To enable students to gain knowledge of how Southern Alberta was established and developed.
- To provide students with first hand observations of the past.
- To provide students with the opportunity to become involved in their heritage.

### **The Programs:**

#### **HISTORY AND ME: E.C.S. & Grade 1**

Experience the history of the Fort and discover some of the unique people – the traders, the North West Mounted Police, the Blackfoot people – and how they all belonged to life in the 1800's. Explore the historical significance of the buffalo. Share special stories of the past and the opportunity for hands on learning.

#### **Curriculum Connections:**

Outcome K.1 – I Am Unique

Outcome K.2 – I Belong

Outcome 1.1 – Moving Forward with the Past

#### **CONNECTING WITH THE PAST: Grades 2 & 3**

Learn how the Fort and fur trade influenced the settlement of Southern Alberta. Discover some of the cultural changes experienced by the Blackfoot people. Students will enrich their awareness and appreciate how trade goods as well as the traders and the North West Mounted Police came from places throughout Canada, the United States and Europe.

#### **Curriculum Connections:**

Outcome 2.1 – Canada's Dynamic Communities

Outcome 2.2 – A Community in the Past

Outcome 3.1 – Communities



## LIFE AT THE FORT: Grades 4 & 5

Discover some of the people who worked and lived around the Fort in the 1870's. Enjoy sharing some of the stories and historical events that have been passed on and contributed to the location and establishment of Fort Whoop Up. Learn more about the Aboriginal cultures that have shared in the historical past of Fort Whoop Up.

### Curriculum Connections:

Outcome 4.1 – Alberta: A Sense of the Land

Outcome 4.2 – The Stories, Histories and People of Alberta

Outcome 5.2 – Stories and Historic Ways of Life in Canada.

## PROFIT AND ADVENTURE: Grades 6 & 7

An exploration of what life was like prior to the arrival of the North West mounted Police at Fort Whoop Up, who came here and why and what dramatic changes their arrival had on the establishment of Fort Whoop Up. This program is full of information about how law and order was established and the origins of the first citizens and the effect all this had on the First Nations people.

### Curriculum Connection:

Outcome 6.1 – Citizens Participating in Decision Making

Outcome 7.1 – Toward Confederation

## ABOVE AND BEYOND: Grades 8 – 12

Explore the Fort and discover its historical significance and the part it shared in influencing the settlement of Southern Alberta and its relationship to Canadian History. According to Alberta Learning, students are encouraged to examine their corresponding Grade Title to build the connection between that title and the relationship to the establishment of Fort Whoop Up.

### Curriculum Connection:

Grade 8 – Historical World Views Examined

Grade 9 – Canada: Opportunities and Challenges

Grade 10 – Perspectives on Globalization

Grade 11 - Perspectives on Nationalism  
Nationalism in Canada and the World

Grade 12 - Perspectives on Citizenship in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



## **PROGRAM OPTIONS AND COSTS:**

### **Self-Guided Program – \$3.25/Student**

This basic package includes admission to the fort, brief orientation to the site by one of our interpretive guides, and the use of our “Voices from the Past” audio tour. As the instructors or adult chaperones take the students from room to room in the period fort, they are given the opportunity to listen to the historical characters of the fort, tell them about each individual room and its significance in the fort. (Varying levels of the program exist, catered to different grade levels and curriculum outcomes).

Program Length – 60-90 Minutes

### **Guided Tour - \$50 per guide and \$4.00/Student**

This program covers the same material as the Self Guided Program presented by an interpretive guide throughout the tour. The maximum size of the group is thirty students per guide. Guides are not available at all times and bookings must be made in advance to determine tour guide availability.

Program Length – 60-90 Minutes

### **Horse Drawn Wagon Rides – \$3.50 per person**

A brief 15-minute wagon ride that takes the group around the fort with brief interpretation on the river valley and the Last Great Indian Battle.

### **Hot Dog Lunch Program - \$4.00 per person**

Take a break from the tour and enjoy a hot dog lunch cooked and provided by the volunteers of Fort Whoop Up. Each person receives a hot dog with ketchup, mustard and relish, juice box, bag of chips, and an ice cream treat, eaten around the campfire or in the bunkhouse.

### **Christmas Programs – No Additional Fees**

Although there is no additional cost there are some differences to the Christmas Programs. Fires are maintained in all outdoor rooms to help keep the group warm, and the tour ends with the service of complimentary hot chocolate in the Bunkhouse.



## **GENERAL BOOKING INFORMATION:**

Bookings are required for all of our programs. Early booking is recommended as program times fill up quickly. To enhance the quality of your visit, Fort Whoop-Up National Historic Site suggests that classes be no larger than 25 students.

Adult supervision is encouraged and for all programs one adult for every five students will be admitted to the fort free of charge. Additional adults must pay seasonal admission fees.

Tour guides are only available seasonally, call ahead to check availability of guides for your program.

To make a booking call Fort Whoop-Up National Historic Site at 403.329.0444 or e-mail [dgabert@fortwhoopup.com](mailto:dgabert@fortwhoopup.com).