



Heritage Fair 2012

"2 Rivers, 2 Peoples 200 Years"

The Kamloops Bicentennial 1812-2012

Attention teachers! Are your students struggling to think of a theme for their Heritage Fair Project? 2012 is Kamloops' bicentennial and we are encouraging students to celebrate this event by focussing their projects on some aspect of Kamloops history. The Kamloops Museum & Archives are able to help your students with their research through the Archives where we have historical articles, old newspapers, photographs, books, research materials and more.

What is a BICENTENNIAL?

"Bicentennial" simply means a 200th anniversary of a significant event or moment in history. The year 2012 marks the 200th anniversary of the first permanent European settlement in Kamloops and the start of shared history between the Secwepemc First Nations and Europeans.

Did you know??

In September of 1812, David Stuart of the Pacific Fur Company arrived at the site of present day Kamloops to build a trading post. This was not Stuart's first visit to Kamloops, for he had spent the previous winter in the Secwepemc village located across the South Thompson River. Stuart had decided from this earlier visit that Kamloops was an excellent spot to build a permanent post and develop a trading relationship with the Secwepemc. The year before, in 1811, David Stuart, Alexander Ross and a small number of French-Canadian voyageurs had started their journey into the interior of what is now British Columbia from Astoria, on the Oregon coast. Astoria had been established as a trading post by the Pacific Fur Company, which was determined to establish a commercial presence on the Pacific coast. The Pacific Fur Company was founded by John Jacob Astor, a wealthy American fur trader and business man. Eventually, Stuart and three voyageurs arrived at Kamloops, and spent the winter with the hospitable Secwepemc people. Alexander Ross had stayed behind in the newly constructed Fort Okanagan, at the junction of the Okanagan and

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Columbia Rivers. David Stuart returned the next year with a valuable load of trade goods, and built a small post or fort to conduct his trading business. This post was the first permanent European presence in the region, and the beginning of the modern day city of Kamloops. Shortly after Stuart built his post, fur traders from the Northwest Company arrived and built a competing post, across the South Thompson River on the site of the current Tk'emlups Reserve. The European presence in the region was now a fact.

Bicentennial - Heritage Fair Themed Project Suggestions

- Who is David Stuart?
- Place Names
- The Pacific Fur Company in Kamloops
- The Hudson's Bay Company in Kamloops
- Secwepemc and the Fur Traders
- Who was Jean Baptiste Lolo?
- The Harper Brothers
- History of Cowboys in Kamloops
- First Fire Department in Kamloops
- Who was the first school teacher?
- 200 years of fashions in Kamloops
- Street Names
- Early Sports in Kamloops
- Early ranches
- Paddlewheelers
- Important women
- First fire department
- first police station
- Kamloops architecture
- History of Riverside Park

Need more assistance? The Kamloops Museum & Archives are here to help! Don't forget to check out our website for more information! www.kamloops.ca/museum

The Kamloops Museum & Archives will be hosting a number of events to commemorate this anniversary, including adult lecture series, a logo competition, a book called "A Children's History of Kamloops" and more! Why not get your students involved in their history?!

"A Children's History of Kamloops" is a book the Kamloops Museum & Archives is putting together using research based on elementary student's research on the history of Kamloops. Some Heritage Fair projects may be asked to become part of this book—how exciting to actually become part of history! If your students are struggling to think of an idea, this might be great incentive!

Book your class visit and archives orientation by calling the Kamloops Museum today.

Questions?

Call us 250-828-3576