



Turtle Island News

# Discover Six Nations

*Six Nations Powwow & Tourism Magazine*

Summer 2018

**Pow Wows**

**Festivals**

**Celebrations**

**Events**



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CONTENTS

PAGE 3  
Welcome ...

PAGE 5  
The Grand Entry...

PAGE 7  
Grass Dancers ...

PAGE 8  
Experience Life ...

PAGE 9  
Survival Skills...

PAGE 11  
Fancy Feathers...

PAGE 13  
Fancy Shawl ...

PAGE 14  
Jingle Dress...

PAGE 15  
Hoop...

PAGE 16  
Tiny Tots...

PAGE 17  
Protocols...

PAGE 19  
Arena Directors...

PAGE 20  
Crafters & Foods...

PAGE 22  
Speciality Cigars...

PAGE 24  
Canoe Museum...

PAGE 25  
PowWow Listings...

PAGE 26  
Map of Six Nations ...

# WELCOME

## *Shé:koh*

Welcome to our Discover Six Nations Edition. Our annual publication is now 15 years old and we are pleased to present it to you from the Grand River Territory of the Six Nations, the home base for Turtle Island News, Canada's number one national native weekly newspaper. Aboriginal communities across Canada have welcomed visitors to their homes for generations to share with you the treasures of their culture and customs and history. To walk with you through time. To introduce you to our languages, to the wonderful customs that make up our nations. At Six Nations, located just

south of Hamilton, Ontario along the Grand River, you will find the home of the Mohawk, Onondaga, Oneida, Cayuga, Seneca and Tuscaroras. It's the only place where you will find all six of the Haudenosaunee, the People of the Longhouse, or "Iroquois" peoples living. The Six Nations came together to form a Confederacy of Nations under the "Great Tree of Peace", following the messages brought by the "Peacemaker". Inside you will find stories of our culture, history and descriptions of powwows dances and our festivals. Not to mention the many crafters, art galleries and

businesses in our communities that welcome you to come and browse. Sharing and laughing and telling stories is as much a part of our communities as the air we breathe and the water we drink. We love to tell you all about us from all our different nations. The Six Nations Territory is located along the banks of the Grand River surrounded by the original Carolinian Forests of Southern Ontario. We hope you will get a chance to visit our communities and share with us the wonderful warmth of summer. Nia:weh, thank-you!  
**Lynda Powless - Editor**



Turtle Island News  
**Discover Six Nations**  
*Six Nations Powwow & Tourism Magazine*

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# The Grand Entry

**T**he Grand Entry signifies the start of the powwow dancing and singing.

All dancers participate in the Grand Entry, but none are allowed into the circle until after the Eagle Staff Bearers and flag bearers who lead the processions have entered the ring.

Dancing takes place in a clockwise direction following the path of the sun.

The Eagle Staff is the oldest of aboriginal symbols. Dog Soldiers of the Plains were given the honour of carrying the staff because of

their warrior status. Only the highest ranked among them were allowed to carry the eagle staff.

Even today, Eagle Staffs are carried by First Nation veterans and are considered the flags for First Nations receiving the same respect as Canadian and American flags.

The host drum offers a special song for the Grand Entry procession. Dancers carry themselves with pride and dignity during the Grand Entry.

Once the dancers

are all in the arena the flags are raised and the flag songs are sung.

A prayer is offered by an elder and the dancing begins.



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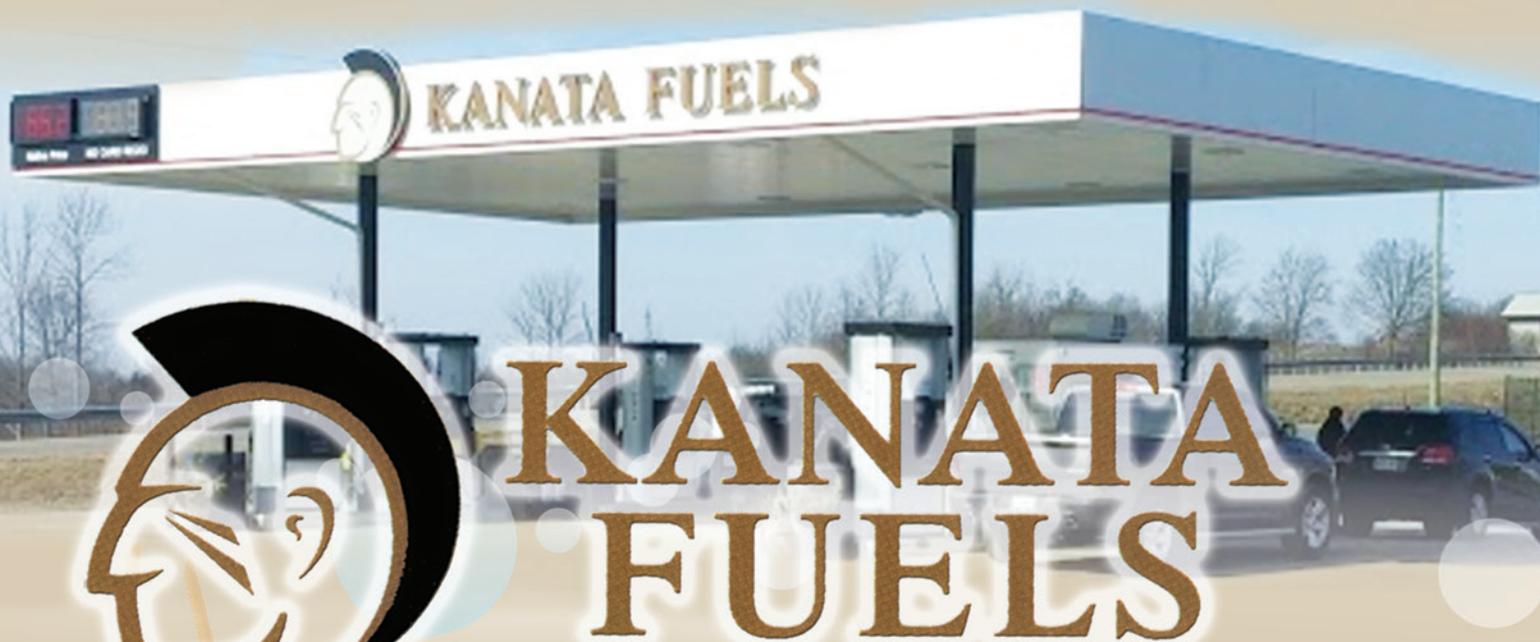
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# GRASS DANCERS

*lead the way*



The Grass Dance has been growing in popularity for almost a decade now.

And it's quickly attracting attention from young boys and teens.

The regalia is made with bright coloured yarn or ribbon fringe. Most dancers have stunning bead work but some are making the transition to coloured fabric.

The dancers require precise movements and

spectators get a chance to view footwork of dancers that they might not get a chance to see during some of the more elaborate dances.

Each Grass Dancer is able to develop his own technique, giving each dance a unique look and feel. The dance comes from the west.



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## **HOT POINTS**

### ***TERMS OF REFERENCE***

The HCCC have assigned certain individuals to provide a process and an institution to ensure that Haudenosaunee rights are protected. That process is currently called the HDI.

### ***NO AUTOMATIC APPROVAL***

Approval is not automatic. Currently where a project is recommended for approval by the HDI, final approval must be provided by the HCCC and its processes.

### ***NO SURRENDER***

No HDI land use agreement will ever surrender or relinquish Haudenosaunee title to the land.

### ***FUTURE DIRECTION***

The HDI is preparing to appoint a Community Advisory Board.

## **Understanding the**



## **Haudenosaunee Development Institute**

**OUR LAND    OUR LAW    OUR PEOPLE    OUR FUTURE**

In 2007 the Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council ('HCCC') was swamped with developers seeking approval of projects within areas of Haudenosaunee jurisdiction including the Haldimand Tract.

The developers were approaching the HCCC because of recent Canadian legal decisions and because the Crown has completely failed to deal with Haudenosaunee rights.

The problem of 'development' on Haudenosaunee lands is not a new problem for the Chiefs to address. Historically developers were simply called squatters – and the solution at that time was to ensure that lands were leased rather than sold. This was done for the perpetual care and maintenance of the Haudenosaunee people and consistent with one of the mandates of the HCCC which is to protect the interests of the Haudenosaunee people.

The HCCC have now decided that a process for dealing with the modern day squatters is necessary because of infringement on Haudenosaunee rights and damage to the environment caused by the squatters. The HCCC have assigned certain individuals to create a process and an institution to ensure that rights are protected. That process is currently called the Haudenosaunee Development Institute ('HDI'). It is understood that the HDI must function and operate in accordance with Haudenosaunee Law.

The HDI is not about any individuals – it is about establishing a process and structure that will protect Haudenosaunee rights long after any individuals are gone.

Currently the HDI process asks developers, individuals or governments to submit an application for a project to be considered for a land use agreement. The land use agreement is simply renewing the original intent of the Chiefs in terms of providing for the perpetual care and maintenance of the Haudenosaunee people. At no time will any land use agreement surrender or relinquish Haudenosaunee 'title' to the land.

Approval is not automatic. Currently where a project is recommended for approval by the HDI, final approval must be provided by the HCCC and its processes.

The HDI is not about past injustices or the current negotiations. The HDI is about protecting lands and resources going forward and allowing us to become self sufficient and truly independent.

We look forward to providing you with our next press release on our accomplishments to date and thank you for your understanding, patience and support as we work towards protecting the rights and interests of all Haudenosaunee people.



## *Traditional Dance, Mimics*

# SURVIVAL SKILLS

**T**he Men's Traditional Dance is an excitingly elaborate competition that brings out the best in male dancers bent on making an impression with judges with their style of dance and intricate regalia.

The regalia is often dripping with feathers, leather and beadwork and colour.

They dress in bone beaded breast plates, war shields and

some may even paint their faces in an array of colours and patterns that remind one of the excitement and anticipation for many warriors of days gone by celebrating in anticipation of the coming hunts.

Men wear a single feather bustle. Some spend years assembling their regalia, gathering different accessories to wear on their outfits.

A dancer's regalia is considered sacred to the dancer and is treated with respect by him or her and by others on the Powwow trail.

This applies to all regalia whether worn by male, female adult or child. Regalia is often brought together with sacred articles and are considered valuable possessions.

For many traditional dancers, the men portray hunting

methods of old or tell stories during their dances. Others try to imitate different animals indigenous to their area.

Some wear their regalia to represent their clan, that could be wolf, bear or turtle, or even Snipe or Eel to name a few. The dance steps exhibit the old style of dance when Powwow gatherings were still young.

# Cayuga

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# FANCY FEATHER DANCERS

*An explosion of colour*

**T**hese dancers are dressed in brightly coloured regalia almost covered in feathers.

You can tell these dancers apart from others because they wear two feather bustles.

Many use neon or very, very bright colour combinations to stand out in the sunshine and huge circle of dancers.

They combine it with beadwork ribbon, fabric and headdress.

Many boys and men begin their dancing careers as fancy dancers because the style requires a lot of energy, fast movement and stamina.

Fancy dancers begin their dancing at a very young age, perfecting their styles over the years. They are the ones you'll see come onto the arena grounds in a burst of energy almost exploding with style and speed.

Stamina and agility play a major role in their dancing and they have to be in excellent physical shape to withstand the dance that can, during summer months, be delivered in blistering temperatures.

Fancy dancing was introduced to the eastern provinces from the western tribes and is also recognized as a war dance because at one time the dancers used their elaborate regalia to psyche themselves up for the coming battle.



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I'm Terrylynn Brant and my path has sent me on a journey to honour, protect and keep seeds for the coming faces. I grow Haudenosaunee and heritage seeds using the agricultural practices of my ancestors. This journey of sustainable living allows me to engage in such activities as gardening, beekeeping, making maple syrup, preserving foods, saving heritage seeds, attending Longhouse ceremonies, dreaming, crafting and singing traditional seed songs.

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 Mohawk Seed Keepers



### Mohawk Seedkeepers is carrying on the tradition of Indigenous gardening and seed saving.

Terrylynn Brant a Mohawk of Six Nations supports gardening initiatives and shares traditional seedkeeping knowledge.

Terrylynn Brant

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# FANCY *Shawl* DANCE

**S**hawl dancing may be the beginning of powwow dancing for many young women.

It is fast, requires a lot of movement and stamina.

Don't be surprised to see a lot of high stepping, twirling and lifting and almost flowing of the shawls.

The shawl dance brings with it two teachings. One is that shawl dancers symbolize a butterfly and that is why she is supposed to move her arms

with her shawl draped over them in movements representative of a butterfly in flight.

The other teaching is that shawl dancers represent women warriors and they're dancing that of the women's warrior dance.

Women's shawl dancing came to the east from western tribes where the dancers are also called women's Fancy Shawl Dancers.

Traditions in the east say that shawl dancers are similar

to grass dancers in that their dances represent warriors. It is said that one of the reasons that women were given their right to dance a war dance is because long ago the women were runners who ran from village to village warning of danger which in return earned them the title of "warrior."

Shawl dancers' regalia is made of colourful fabric and ribbons, adorned with beads.

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# JINGLE DRESS ...a healing tradition



**T**he Women's Jingle Dress is a very special dance, because the dress itself is as much a focus as the dance.

The Jingle Dress is a Medicine Dress and when a woman takes on the responsibility of her dress it is treated with ceremony and a great deal of respect.

She fasts prior to putting on the dress to wear in public for the first time, and a feast follows the fast.

She is then prepared to take on the responsibility of being a Jingle Dress dancer.

Teachings tell us this dress came from a man from an

area now known as the Lake of the Woods area in Ontario whose daughter was ill.

In a vision he saw the Jingle Dress and was told how it was to be used to make his daughter well.

The vision told him to give this dress to his people to be used for the purpose of healing.

The "jingles" originally were made of shell then over time cones were made from the metal in European snuff tins and they replaced the shells.

Today the metal

cones are ready made just for the purpose of putting them on Jingle Dresses and giving them their unique sound.

There are two types of Jingle Dress dances, the side step and the higher stepping straight step.

Jingle Dress dancers are respected for the special status their dress and teaching gives them and they are given

tobacco at a gathering and asked to dance for a member of the community who may be ill or in need of healing.



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# TINY TOTS CARRYING ON A PROUD Tradition

**T**here is nothing cuter, or that brings more smiles to everyone's faces than when the Tiny Tots enter the arena for their competition.

You may see some looking around at the spectators more than dancing, or forgetting steps or checking out their regalia but remember they are at the beginning of a long dancing road and they like to look around to watch adult dancers and learn from them.

As each Tiny Tot goes from Powwow to Powwow, they learn from the dancers and before you know it, they're brave enough to show off their tiny steps.





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# PROTOCOL & Etiquette

**P**rotocol and etiquette at a powwow is a signal of ancient times, an ancient way to honour traditions and acknowledge the ancestors, animal spirits and the Creator.

While attending a Powwow, positive respectful behaviour is expected at all times.

There is zero tolerance for drugs or alcohol anywhere on the powwow grounds.

The powwow is an annual celebration of song, dance and ceremony that comes full circle each year after a whole year of careful planning and hard work.

With an eye to honouring Native tradition, part of that work and planning involves a deep regard and acknowledgement of the elaborate

etiquette and protocol that binds Aboriginal people together. There is a fine line between protocol at traditional and competitive powwows. The hospitality differs slightly and so do what is public and what is considered private ceremonies. Competitive powwow, by its nature, is fast paced and high pressured.

A marketplace gives aboriginal crafters and sculptors, designers and others a chance to show off their wares and participate in one of the oldest of aboriginal activities... trade.

Today's competitive powwows draw large crowds and boast commercial midways that include food, concessions, craft booths, some have bingos and handgames tents, and even helicopter rides.

The pressure of dealing  
(Continued on page 18)




**Best Wishes to Competitors and Spectators at the Pow Wow!**

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(Continued from page 17) with thousands of visitors, tourists, dancers and drum groups has created a need to separate sacred and public ceremonies.

Pipe ceremonies and prayers which used to be held in the public dancing arbor now take place in a separate lodge, keeping sacred objects like pipes and rattles away from crowds, children and women on their moon time.

A traditional powwow, on the other hand is more relaxed and family oriented.

The protocol of old time traditional powwows demand that guests, visitors and Elders be fed and looked after by the host community.

This includes honourariums to all drummers and

dancers to help with travel expenses and wood and food delivered right to the campfires.

Protocol and etiquette for a dancer is the same at both types of powwows.

From the moment you take on the role of an initiated dancer, a lot of pressure is on you. Not only to perform but to be a role model, to be honourable.

When you put on regalia, you take on the essence of the sacred animal, honour culture, teachings and the Creator.

Being humble should be the number one priority for any dancer, thankful that they are allowed to dance with the animals you wear, showing your respect because you represent them.

One of the unwritten

rules of the powwow is that no one should touch another's regalia without first being given permission by the maker or owner.

Eagle Feathers, which traditionally are earned and all feathers for that matter, should be treated with special care. It's necessary to be humble and respectful to each feather. The spirit of all animals being worn must be respected above all else.

Care and respect of the sacred circle extends not only to respecting the arbor, sacred objects and other dancers, but to the whole atmosphere, the grounds themselves and Mother Earth.

Etiquette and respect demands that we care for the earth, to do everything we can to be more self sufficient.

Take your own food build a fire, camp out using your own utensils and cups and don't relying on junk food.

In keeping with the true spirit of the ancient hunter-gather society, it's necessary to do away with European influences.

Powwow is a time to celebrate real traditions, who First Nations people really are. The whole world is watching. What do they see?

Elders are firmly footed in tradition and our source and inspiration. Correct protocol towards Elders and veterans includes shaking of hands as a sign of respect.

They are also given a place of honor, the best seats in the house. Permission should always be sought when photographing Elders.



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## THE ARENA DIRECTORS...

*keep the events moving...*

A powwow is usually organized by a powwow committee, a dedicated group of members of the hosting band. This involves bringing together the drums, dancers, entertainment, food, craft booths and the management of the powwow grounds.

Once the powwow begins, it is run by the master of ceremonies, and the

arena directors, who are sometimes called the Stickmen.

Different emcees have different styles, and the choice of emcee greatly influences the feel of the powwow. The emcee gives a running commentary on events, announcements and most importantly background information about the dances, ceremonies and

the spirit of the powwow. They also bring into the proceedings humour that is appropriate to the atmosphere and people.

The arena directors keep the events moving and manage the flow of activity in the arena. They may tell the drummers who will play next or what kind of song we will hear next.

The arena director also serves the judges or organizes the dancers. They are very busy and the job is very important to a smooth running powwow.

Judges are chosen for their knowledge of the dance style and drum songs. They judge dancers on their style and form, regalia and ability to stay in time with the drum and stop on the final beat.

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A pow-wow (also powwow or pow wow ) is a gathering of North America's Native people. The word derives from the Narragansett word powwaw, meaning "spiritual leader".



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# The place to go in Southern Ontario, for service, quality and Cigar selection

By Donna Duric  
Writer

There's nothing like punctuating a celebration or milestone in your life with a good cigar.

And for the longest time, Cuban cigars were considered the Rolls Royce of cigars.

But a new contender is emerging for the most desirable cigar of all - Nicaraguan-made cigars.

Middleport Cigars, which has been in operation since 2012 on Hwy. 54, now carries hand-rolled cigars from Nicaragua and is quickly becoming known as the place to go in southern Ontario for an amazing selection of high-quality cigars from all over the world.

Owner Allen MacNaughton recently hosted a free barbecue



at Middleport Cigars showcasing the time-honoured tradition of hand-rolling cigars for loyal customers, flying in talented cigar maker Elena Flores all the way from Nicaragua to demonstrate the fine art of making the perfect cigar.

Not all cigars are hand-made, he said. Some are rolled by machine and it does make a difference.

"It's better quality control," said MacNaughton.

Karen Robertson, a supplier and marketer, said hand-rolled cigars ensure continuity from one batch to the next.

"These will always be the same (hand-rolled cigars). They're always the same."

Cigar-rolling experts like Flores studies each leaf individually to determine its quality and suitability for going into a cigar.

"If there's a mark (on the leaf

she doesn't use it," said Robertson. "She feels it to see if it's right."

Cigars are made from a cultivar of the tobacco plant, which, said Robertson, would not be a cultivar you could grow very well in Canada or the United States.

The leaves are aged for a good year before they're blended with different parts of the tobacco to create a blended flavour.

Some leaves are aged up to a dozen years, in special factories with specific humidity and temperature controls to keep the leaf's flavour consistent.

"Different places have different processes, too," she said. "They're a family-kept secret."

Flores, a lawyer from Nicaragua, gave customers a behind-the-scenes look at how hand-made cigars are actually made,

using a time-honoured, family tradition.

The cigar-making process is quite intricate. The entire cigar is made from tobacco products - the binder, the filler, and the wrapper.

Middleport Cigars...a one stop shot for cigar aficionados

Flores and Robertson said Nicaragua has an ideal climate for producing the very high-quality tobacco needed to make exceptional cigars.

"Today, Nicaragua has the best tobacco and we're hearing that Cubans want to buy tobacco from Nicaragua," said Robertson. "They've got the greatest sun, soil, seeds, climate. It's grown in the mountains. In the States, I don't think they could make a good cigar quality."

MacNaughton agreed.

"Nicaraguan tobacco has come into its own."

Flores uses a hand held press to shape the cigars and then they're hung to dry for at least a day or two before they're ready to enjoy.

Robertson says cigar aficionados will appreciate hand-rolled cigars over machine-rolled cigars.

"Come to Middleport for the best selection," she said.

MacNaughton has had a life-long affinity for cigars.

"I wanted a cigar store for a long time," said the owner and proprietor of Middleport Tobacco and Newsstand.

Customers come to his store for expert service, quality, and selection.

There are dozens of cigar brands to choose from that are well-preserved in a specially-constructed humididor right on the premises.

Step into Middleport Cigars to celebrate that big promotion, new baby or, just to relax with friends around the barbecue or at the cottage this summer.



Elena Flores is shown here demonstrating how to roll a Nicaragua cigar at a special event.

# The Canadian Canoe Museum inspires connection, curiosity and new understanding

## Join us this summer

Visit our voyageur encampment and climb under an overturned 36-foot birch bark canoe du maître. Then, try a true-to-life 90-pound canoe pack. Or, pick up a paddle and try for 50 to 60 strokes per minute, the way the voyageurs did...

Gather around the faux fire in our birch bark winter wigwam and listen to a recorded story being told by a Mi'kmaq elder.

Bang on our canoe drum. Yes, a full-size canoe that's been turned into a drum!

These experiences, and more, await you at The Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, Ontario – home to the world's largest and most significant collection of canoes, kayaks and paddled watercraft.

The museum is just an hour's

drive from the Greater Toronto Area and here, we strive to share the stories of the watercraft in our collection in the best way possible – and with visitors of all ages. We invite you to join us this summer.

Once you arrive, you may choose to begin your experience in the Origins Gallery. You'll find more than 6,000 square-feet of exhibitions that explore ancient and contemporary Indigenous canoeing traditions and artefacts including skin-on-frame kayaks, and birch bark and dugout canoes. This gallery is one of more than a dozen that we share with visitors from coast to coast, and from around the world.

There's lots to see and do on site, including an array of hands-on activities for children. And

don't miss our Tumblehome Shop, which offers carefully curated products from local artisans and small businesses from across the country.

Having explored the museum, consider meeting us on the water. Experience the Trent-Severn Waterway at the Peterborough Lift Lock as you take part in paddling a 36-foot replica of a

voyageur canoe. This 90-minute guided paddle is a family-friendly activity, suitable for almost all ages and abilities. You can sign up for one of our scheduled tours, or plan one of your own!

There's so much more to share, but we would much prefer to do it in person. Please pay us a visit, or reach out via [canoemuseum.ca](http://canoemuseum.ca) or (705) 748-9153.



*Our newest exhibition, Just Add Water, explores the incredible scope of this world-class collection and features never-before-exhibited artefacts as part of what will feel like a behind-the-scenes tour.*

# Inspiring Canada - by canoe



**We have a unique opportunity, with the canoe as our lens, to tell Canadians' stories.**

The Canadian Canoe Museum stewards the world's largest collection of canoes, kayaks and paddled watercraft. This collection, with its more than 600 watercraft, inspires connection, curiosity and new understanding.

We're building this one-of-a-kind collection a new home alongside the Peterborough Lift Lock and the Trent-Severn Waterway in Peterborough, Ontario.

The new museum will offer extraordinary visitor experiences – in the building, on the land and on the water.



# 2018 POWWOW LISTINGS

**June 29 - July 1, 2018**  
 25th Annual Traditional  
 Couchiching First Nation  
 Pow Wow, Fort Frances  
**July 6 - July 8, 2018**  
 35th Annual Biigtigong  
 Nishnaabeg Traditional  
 Pow-Wow, Heron Bay

**July 7 - July 8, 2018**  
 Kettle and Stony Point  
 Annual Pow Wow  
 Kettle & Stony Point, ON  
**July 13 - July 15, 2018**  
 37th Annual Sault Ste.  
 Marie Tribe of Chippewa  
 Indians Traditional Pow  
 wow, Sault Ste. Marie, MI

**July 14 - July 15, 2018**  
 Echoes of Proud Nation  
 Pow Wow, Kahnawake  
 Mohawk Territory, Quebec,  
 Canada Kahnawake, QC  
**July 27 - July 29, 2018**  
 Naicatchewenin 41st An-  
 nual Pow Wow (2018)  
 Devlin, ON

**August 17 - August 19**  
 Neyaashiinigiing Annual  
 Traditional POW WOW  
 Neyaashiinigiing, ON  
**August 17th to 19th**  
 Cape Croker Park Chip-  
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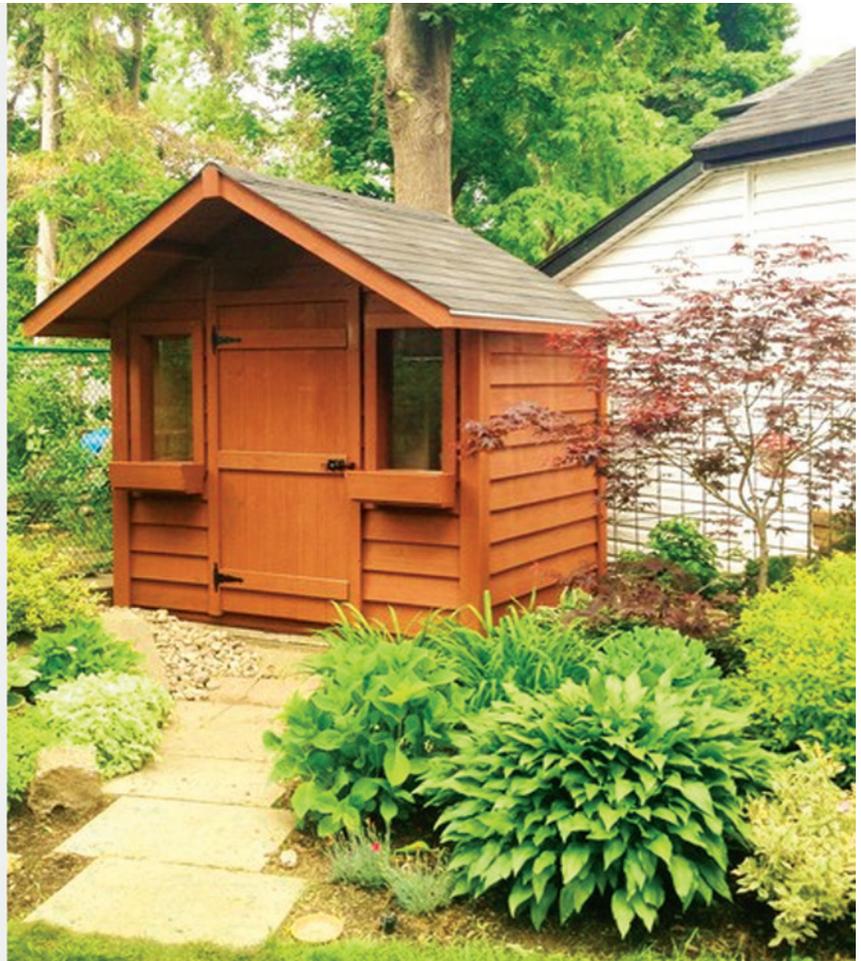


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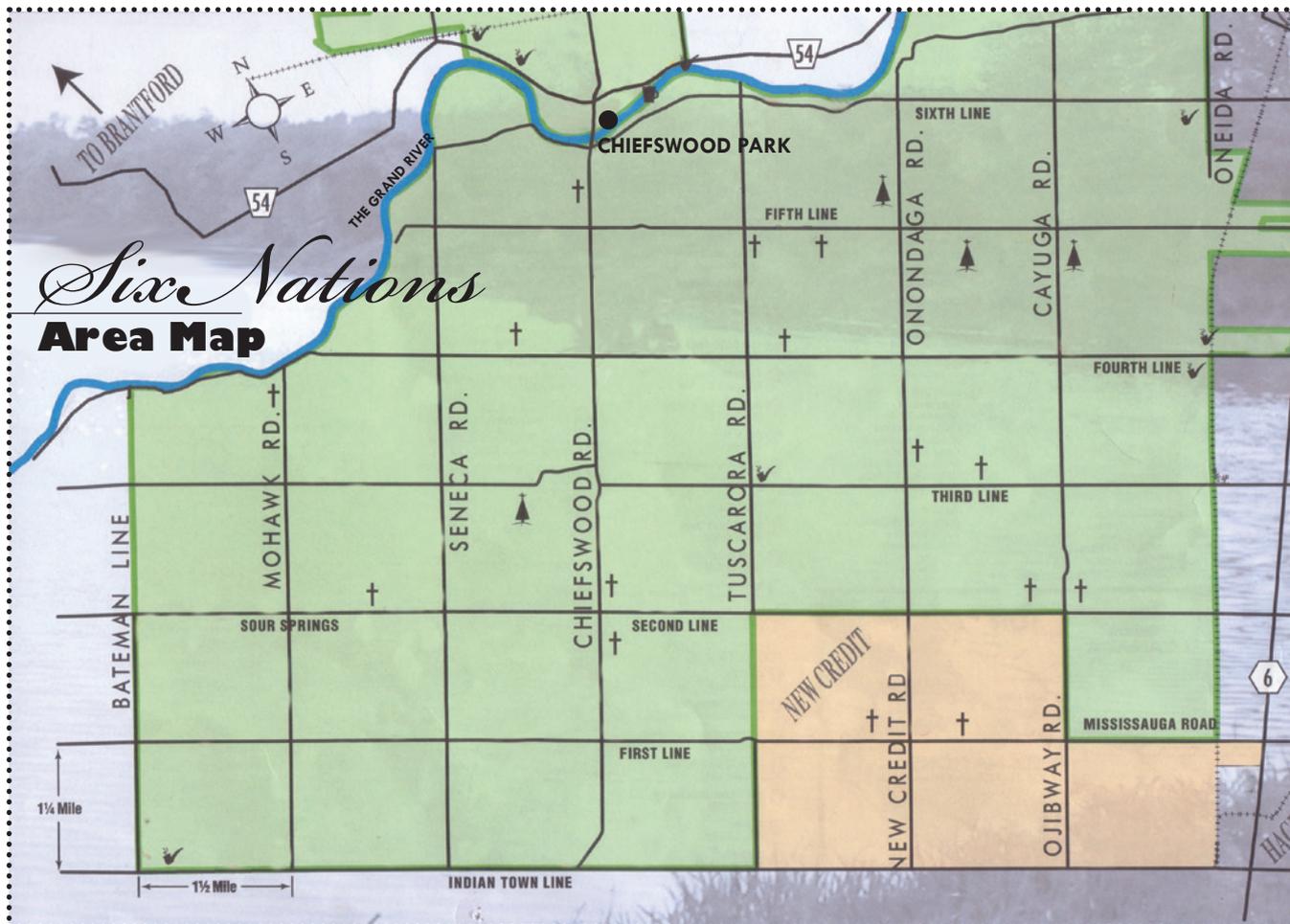
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