



JESUITS[®] English Canada Province

43 Queen's Park Cres. E.
Toronto, ON M5S 2C3

tel. 416.962.4500
tel. 1.855.962.4500

fax 416.962.4501

www.jesuits.ca

647 850 5411

ERIC

Solomon

Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage 2017

Preamble

The *Canadian Canoe Pilgrimage 2017* is a project of the Jesuits in English Canada, that wishes to promote reconciliation between the First Nations, French and English peoples of Canada. We hope to work for reconciliation by recreating a historic canoe voyage between Midland, Ontario and Montreal, Quebec in July and August 2017. This canoe route is a traditional Wendat trading route that would have been traveled by Samuel de Champlain and St. Jean de Brébeuf. We do not want to solely re-enact this historic event but we want promote a deeper intercultural dialogue and understanding. The pilgrimage will occur during the year-long celebration of Canada's 150th anniversary of confederation; this context will help frame the historic nature of this pilgrimage.

During the last five years, Canada has been engaged in uncovering the tragic history of residential schools through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We are hoping to continue the work of reconciliation through this practical experience of canoeing together. It is our desire that those people who participate in this canoe pilgrimage will have a deep experience of reconciliation, through structured and unstructured experiences of intercultural dialogue. Additionally, we have envisioned sharing this project with a wider audience by developing a documentary of our experiences. We are hoping that through an effective media presence we can raise awareness, on a national level, about the process of reconciliation.

Description of the Pilgrimage

The paddlers will begin the pilgrimage at Sainte-Marie among the Hurons in Midland, Ontario on July 20, 2017 at the historical site of the Jesuit mission to the Wendat First Nation dating back to 1638.

The core group of paddlers will include Jesuits representing both the French and English Jesuit Provinces in Canada in addition to First Nations Peoples and Jesuit collaborators. The group will then be expanded through an open invitation to people to join the paddlers at various key sites such as the French River, the Ottawa River, and the St. Lawrence River. By including representatives of French and English Canada and the First Nations, this pilgrimage will echo the original route made by St. Jean de Brébeuf and other Jesuits alongside the First Nations in Canada's formative years.

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<http://www.jesuitescf.org/Kateri.html>

<http://www.kateritekakwitha.org/mainsite.htm>

[http://www.diocese-edmundston.ca/patrimoine-et-tourisme-religieux
.de.chez-nous/kateri.tekakwitha.htm](http://www.diocese-edmundston.ca/patrimoine-et-tourisme-religieux/de.chez-nous/kateri.tekakwitha.htm)

<http://www.zetat.demon.co.uk/portraiture/22.htm>

<http://www.wowpages.com/bbi/narr/ekt.html>

<http://www.chcn.org/kateri/>

<http://history.cc.ukans.edu/kansas/wn/kateri.htm>

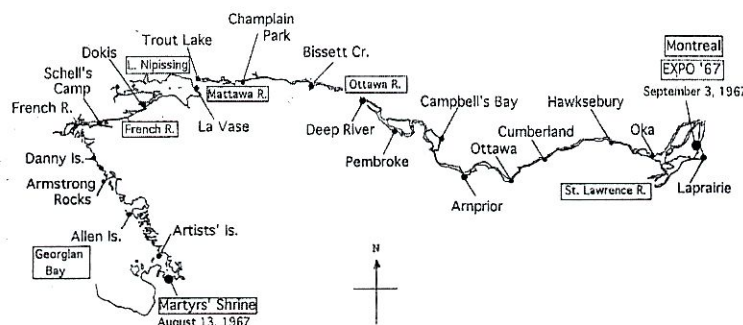
http://magnificat.qc.ca/fran/im_stes.htm

The voyage will follow the shores of Georgian Bay to the French River, which will then move along the French River to Lake Nipissing. From Lake Nipissing, the pilgrimage will proceed along the Matawa River to the Ottawa River. Paddlers will then travel down the Ottawa River to the St. Lawrence River and to their final destination in the Montreal area on August 15, 2017.

Due to the difficult and isolated nature of the terrain, the first leg of the pilgrimage in Georgian Bay will be completed by the core group of paddlers.

After reaching the French River, supply vehicles will follow the pilgrims to resupply and provide support. It is at this point that others will be invited to join the pilgrimage. This voyage covers about 900 kilometres and follows the historical route of the first Jesuit missionaries to Canada. This was also the route followed by the 1967 Jesuit paddlers, 24 of whom paddled the route into Expo in Montreal.

Route of the Jesuit Canoe Trip: Midland to Montreal: 1967



Outreach Considerations

- Developing an educational resource that can be used to teach grade school students about this moment in Canadian history and tie this historical event to the ongoing process of reconciliation that has been started by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
 - This may include developing a documentary that elaborates on the project's key themes of the importance and the need for deeper reconciliation between aboriginal and non-aboriginal peoples in Canada;
- Engage youth around the pilgrimage. This may include:
 - Exploring educational opportunities with schools;
 - Partnerships with other Jesuit Apostolates;
 - Engaging First Nation's youth.
- We will engage with the local communities that we travel through during the pilgrimage. These communities include: dioceses, native reserves, city councils,

Kateri Residence

150 Riverside Drive New York, New York 10024-2201 Telephone: (212) 769-0744

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Directions

Kateri Residence is located at the corner of Riverside Drive and West 87th Street and is conveniently accessible by car or public transportation.

By Subway:

The #1 and #9 subway stops at Broadway and West 86th Street. Kateri Residence is just 1 block uptown (West 87th Street) and 2 blocks west to Riverside Drive. The #2 and #3 subways can be used to transfer easily to the #1 and #9 train.

By Bus:

The M5 bus which runs uptown/downtown is ideal and stops at Kateri Residence (Riverside Drive and West 87th Street).

The M86 is a great way to get from the East Side to the West Side. The M86 stops at West End Avenue and West 87th Street.

The M104 is another convenient option as it runs along Broadway and stops at Broadway and West 86th Street.

By Car:

Adjacent to the Henry Hudson Parkway, exist at 95-96th Street. Public Parking garages are located on West 87th Street between Broadway and West End Avenue. For directions from your area call (212) 769-0744.

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150 Riverside Drive, New York, New York 10024-2201
Telephone: (212)769-0744
Admissions: (212)595-0374

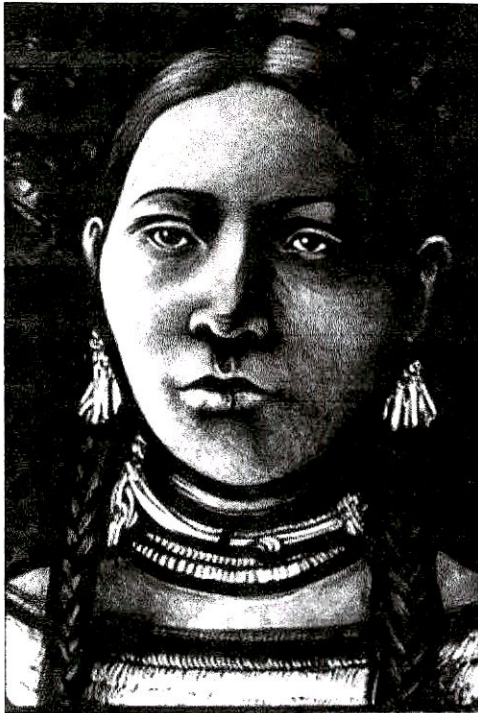


ecumenical organizations and dioceses and Chambers of Commerce. It is hoped that the local communities will plan events for each of the pilgrimage stops (e.g. a communal meal, a liturgical celebration, etc.). In the spirit of our early Jesuit founders, these opportunities will encourage interfaith and intercultural engagements.

- The participants will be engaged in on going dialogue and reflection throughout the pilgrimage. This retreat aspect of the journey will be designed to encourage a deep appropriation of our collective history and will have moments of dialogue and sharing that will encourage the process of reconciliation.

KATERI TEKAKWITHA

Une sainte parmi les indiens !



Kateri naît en 1656 dans la tribu des Iroquois. Toute petite, elle est victime d'une maladie qui la laisse défigurée et à demi aveugle. On la nomme ainsi Tekakwitha, ce qui signifie «celle qui avance en hésitant», à cause de la faiblesse de sa vue. Sa mère, étant jeune, a assisté au discours d'évangélisation d'un missionnaire et a cru en sa parole ; elle lui transmet depuis lors le peu qu'elle-même a reçu. Ces quelques grains tombés en terre fertile seront suffisants pour faire éclore une foi extraordinaire dans le coeur de la petite fille.

Depuis sa plus tendre enfance, Kateri a le désir de se consacrer à Dieu, même si elle ignore qu'il est possible de le faire. Elle reçoit le baptême à 19 ans. Persécutée par sa tribu, elle doit se réfugier dans une mission catholique. Elle a dès lors la possibilité de vivre plus intensément les sacrements ; elle profite pour rester des heures en adoration devant le tabernacle de la chapelle. À la mission, Kateri découvre l'existence des ordres religieux : elle peut maintenant saisir d'où provenait son désir de rester vierge. Victime de racisme, finalement elle peut faire ses vœux définitifs le 25 mars 1679. Une année plus tard, elle allait rejoindre le Christ son bien-aimé : elle avait 24 ans. Son visage fut transfiguré, plus une seule trace de sa maladie mais la seule trace de la grâce du Seigneur s'y paraissait. La lumière de la foi, de l'espérance et de l'amour fut reflétée par une amérindienne qui avait entendu et répondu à la voix du seigneur ; son nom Kateri Tekakwitha.

