

## Themes Identified for 1812 Bicentennial Celebrations

At the conclusion of a June exercise for the 2012 Celebrations Group, we reviewed the input of participants, looking for themes. We found a great many instance when 'learning, education and teacher/curriculum development' were identified along with numerous ideas and projects needed to do a great job of connecting with public interest in celebrating the Bicentennial of the War of 1812.

We have pulled those from the grand manuscript and set them out here – in no order of priority or importance. We hope, that as visitors to the website review them, they are inspired to offer more ideas; to offer suggestions around the ideas and concepts listed here; to offer to get involved in making some of these ideas come to life.

Remember – this is raw information – it is not refined – nor is it reshaped by the facilitator. It is the input of participants from the 2012 Celebrations Group.

### Learning, education and teacher/curriculum development

- ❑ Leadership/co-ordination
- ❑ Cross border mechanism/group/bi-national leadership model
- ❑ Volunteers and volunteer education
- ❑ Documentaries – showcase history, heritage, archives, libraries
  - Documentary series – mini-series (1812, 1813, 1814)
  - Timing of documentaries
  - WNED documentary – slated for airing in 2009
  - Outside the Niagara cluster – WNEP, WETA, Smithsonian, Library of Congress
  - Timeline of history
  - Craft persons to show skills of time
- ❑ Further website development – links to other web portals
  - Internet access to historical documents
  - Set up genealogical website
  - Identify existing sources of info
- ❑ Balls Falls (and any other venue) re-enact daily life for one full year
- ❑ Cemetery tours
- ❑ Become more aware of other initiatives
- ❑ Peace message
- ❑ Indigenous peoples
- ❑ Legacy – broaden out celebration of peace multi-culturally
- ❑ 100 miles of history – may require a 'rebrand'
- ❑ Art galleries (in Niagara and Erie Counties) celebrate 2011 Biennial
- ❑ Civil – place to have fun – NotL – Simcoe Ball (teaching dance steps)
- ❑ Brock Advisory Committee – exhibition
- ❑ Monographs and conferences
- ❑ Training of undergrads – possibly with communities' historical series

### Learning, education and teacher/curriculum development

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- ❑ Connection to youth – education – diversity
- ❑ Display of artefacts from Techumseh and other key native leaders
- ❑ Twinning of towns – cross border
- ❑ Major International Peace Conference
- ❑ Brock University partnerships with the community – museums, heritage organizations
  - Niagara University has/could have a similar objective
- ❑ Create database to co-ordinate events/contacts for all groups
  - Sharing of experiences (methodology)
  - Outreach to seniors (Elderhostel)
- ❑ Celebrate 200 years of peace
- ❑ International Peace Conference – Chatauqua, Forts George and Niagara
- ❑ Celebration of future – looking forward
- ❑ Rolling museum
- ❑ History fair
- ❑ ‘Liven” up history
- ❑ Academic conference
- ❑ Focus on women of war – focus on social history – what did civilians do
- ❑ Bi-national legacy festival
- ❑ Co-ordinate all events – pacing of events
- ❑ Re-affirm Treaty of Ghent
- ❑ University history series
  - Royal Niagara Military Institute & Royal Canadian Military Institute host historical talks
  - Historians – forts group
- ❑ Archaeological digs
- ❑ Cross border teaching sessions – start information in school systems on both sides early
  - Portable course materials – NY-Grade 4; Ont-Grade 7/8
  - NPC living history at schools
  - Educational programming
  - Connect local events to nearby schools
  - Multi-disciplinary focus
  - Distance learning
- ❑ Niagara College computer design facility
- ❑ Augmented reality labs
- ❑ Canadian Scholars Grant
- ❑ Books aimed at specific school levels – comic books – elementary
- ❑ Professional development for teachers
- ❑ Conference for teachers
  - Materials for teachers
  - Bi-national curriculum using existing institutions

### Learning, education and teacher/curriculum development

- ❑ Battlefields book (planned)
- ❑ Cross border exchanges/travel (real or virtual) – Ont/NY school twinning
  - Student/teacher exchanges

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- Moving classrooms
- Identify/awareness of economic benefits of heritage
- Geocache tour
- Lobbying for schooling
- Bi-national funding group
- Provincial/state curricular focus
- Student/faculty project clearinghouse
- International legal conference on the 'Caroline Incident'
- Historical development of water power – hydro
- Bi-national “Scourge” (ship) event
- Canadians taking cannons up escarpment – aerial navy gun run – interesting logistics of battles
- Masonic link
- Peace institute – war, peace, freedom, future, next 200 years
- “What If” book
- Official connection to UK
- Treaty of Ghent tour
- Bi-national scholarships
- Heritage moments – Brock’s birthday – this day in 1812 - culinary