

FORT CALGARY

FORT CALGARY TEACHER'S GUIDE-MUSEUM TOUR

Total Time: 1 ½ hrs Grades: 1-6

- Intro- approx. 5 minutes
- Ranks and Recruitments-approx. 20 minutes
- Train Story- approx. 30 minutes
- Scavenger Hunt- approx. 35 minutes

Purpose:

Introduce museum behavior and how to use a museum and its exhibits for learning. To introduce the historical timeline of Fort Calgary: NWMP (1875) - Calgary's Settlement (1914). To have fun through role-playing, observation, reading, writing, kinetic learning and listening! Museum Tour is designed as a companion program to our other programs or as an introduction to Fort Calgary and museum-going in general and is not specifically linked to any one curriculum component.

Program Overview:

Your class will travel into the museum with the facilitator and participate in the ranks and recruitment drills of a NWMP officer. They will learn to salute and march as well as take their oath of allegiance in order to receive their official uniform—a pillbox hat. This is a very kinetic activity that gives students a taste for the discipline required by NWMP in 1875.

(Note: If you have booked the Life and Times of Captain Deane, in addition to Museum Tour, this part will be eliminated and your class will watch our award winning film in the replica Palace Theatre.)*

The class will then move into the CP Rail exhibit and learn about the settlement of early Calgary as a result of the train expansion across Canada. They will dress in costume as real-life characters from Calgary's past and role-play as part of a reader's theatre. The story is very interactive and involves the entire class. It tells the true story of Ernest Cashel's escape from the CP Rail while in custody from the City of Calgary Police. It is written in such a way that even the shyest child can participate without feeling put on the spot. Lastly, the class will divide into four groups. They will be given an age-appropriate scavenger hunt to work on in pairs, *led by their adult leaders and the teachers*. The scavenger hunt is engaging and develops reading, problem-solving, listening and observation skills. Students will use the exhibits to search for answers and clues to questions, riddles and puzzles. The scavenger hunt allows for time to explore some of more interactive exhibits (such as the jail cell and the Ford Model A car) and makes for great photo opportunities! The facilitator will keep an eye on the time for you and make sure you make it back to your bus or the lunchroom in plenty of time.

*(*Note: The scavenger hunt is designed to be appropriate for your grade level, however there is a reading and writing component. Students will work in pairs and it is suggested that stronger readers and writers be paired with students who are less so)*

Post-Visit Activities:

Teachers will be given a Teacher's Answer Key to the Scavenger Hunt so that you may follow-up on the experience in the classroom. There are also bonus questions for the students at the back of the scavenger hunts which allow for deeper inquiry into their Fort Calgary experience. These are art-based questions and can be worked on in class if the students did not get to them during their visit.

Vocabulary:

Drill, salute, march, oath, North West Mounted Police, settler, train station, conductor, buffalo