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# SECTION D

## The National Heritage Fair

The National Heritage Fair is a six day cultural exchange, hosted in mid-July by a different community in Canada each year. Its objectives are:

- to provide a showcase for students' work from each of the provinces;
- to provide a selection of students from each of the provinces and territories with an opportunity to meet each other face to face; and,
- to enable students to participate in a weeklong exploration of a part of the country they might otherwise never have a chance to visit.

### The National Fair Exhibition

The one-day public exhibition allows participants the chance to showcase their heritage project at the National Heritage Fair alongside their peers. There are exhibits from program sponsors, national heritage organizations, government agencies, and the host community. Local, provincial and national visiting dignitaries bring greetings to the students at the official opening ceremony and tour the exhibition.

### Cultural Exchange and Social Events

Throughout the week, local organizers provide activities including theatre groups, musicians, and artistic performances. Every effort is made to ensure that all activities provide a balance of French and English. The exchange is an occasion to highlight the multicultural traditions that are unique to the host community.

### Sightseeing and Historic Tours

Local organizers and volunteers organize events so participants can explore their host community. Host communities are encouraged to identify activities that offer interactivity for students, and present them with an unconventional approach to typical historical tours.

### Village Workshop Program

Delegates participate in a variety of workshops that allow them to express their National Heritage Fair experience with different mediums. Skilled artists and artisans will lead the workshops, providing participants with guidance, instruction and assistance.

### Provincial Delegation Requirements

Each provincial delegation includes up to a maximum of 15 students and must include three adult counselors and one Head of Delegation. At least 1 adult member of the delegation must be bilingual. At the time of selection, eligible students must be studying in Grades 4-9.

### Project Criteria

Projects must meet the parameters and guidelines of the Heritage Fairs Program. Students who are selected to attend the National Heritage Fair must comply with all criteria established by Historica.

### Parent and Student Criteria

Parents must have provided written consent for their child to participate in the Regional Heritage Fair and for consideration for selection to participate in the National Heritage Fair. Students and their parents must agree to adhere to the Code of Conduct established by the Heritage Fairs Program. Parents *must* accept that their child is to be a member of a large group of participants at the National Fair site and agree to not interfere with the schedule of events, including lodging and visitations during the National Fair week.

**Students who enter group projects *must* accept that *only one* student is selected to represent the group if their project is selected for the National Heritage Fair.**

Historica has established criteria around a student's participation in the heritage fair program during their school career. The following criteria apply to the student as he/she progresses through the heritage fair program:

- A student may attend only one national heritage fair while in grades 4-9.
- A student may attend only one national heritage fair as an alumnus (grade 10 and CEGEP 1).
- A student may participate only once in the exchange program during their heritage fair experience.