News Release

St. Albert historic site location of unique Indigenous Archaeology Field School

May 26, 2023, St, Albert, Alberta – University students with a keen interest in Indigenous archaeology are examining historic Métis settlement land in St. Albert as part of a unique field school. The 2023 Indigenous Archaeology Field School is underway at the Historic River Lots 23 + 23 (4 Meadowview Drive) until June 23.

The university course, offered through the Department of Anthropology, is a collaboration between the University of Alberta's Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology (IPIA), the Arts and Heritage Foundation of St. Albert, and the Métis Nation of Alberta, Local 1904.

Led by IPIA Director/Professor Dr. Kisha Supernant, the students are exploring all aspects of archaeological work, including excavations, drone surveys and ground penetrating radar. In addition to archaeological field methods and excavation techniques, the students will also have opportunities to engage with Métis culture, language and history. As standard IPIA field school practice, the ground will be returned to its original state as much as possible after completion. Any unearthed historic artifacts will be sent to the Royal Alberta Museum, as per provincial regulations.

The Arts and Heritage Foundation of St. Albert has invited teachers to book special archaeological-themed field trips for their students on June 7 and 14. Students will be able to observe the field school dig at that time. (More information for teachers here: https://www.artsandheritage.ca/products/hidden-histories-1? pos=1& psg=hidden+histories& ss=e& v=1.0)

The general public is welcome to observe at no charge during the site's operating hours, Wednesday to Sunday from 10 am - 5 pm, but can also register for a special one-hour seminar at the site, to hear from Dr. Supernant and the field school students about the Métis archaeological footprint and what has been unearthed at the site.

When:

- Thurs. June 15 from 2-3 PM
- Wed. June 21 from 2-3 PM **National Indigenous Peoples Day**

Cost: \$5/person + GST

Register at https://www.artsandheritage.ca/products/metis-trash-talking-an-archaeologicalfootprint-in-st-albert

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