

Aboriginal Northern Seminar - 4th édition

August 11 to 18, 2008 - George River Nitassinan

Organised by the Mushuau-nipi Friends and
Ashini Adventures

In partnership with



COMMISSION CANADIENNE POUR L'UNESCO
CANADIAN COMMISSION FOR UNESCO

www.unesco.ca

Co-chaired by
Roméo Saganash
Grand Council of the Crees
and
Marie Léger
Rights & Democracy

Starting at \$2995

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There was a time when Northern First Nations met here, in Mushuau-nipi,
waiting for the caribou to pass in the silence of tundra.

We have recreated a camp site of former times to maintain this meeting place
and to encourage shared thinking and exchanges on today's issues.

We invite you to a dialogue, exchanging ideas on the social, cultural and environmental
aspects of ancestral Innu lands... Drawing us closer together.

Invitation



Campement Ashini © Zoli Camorani

Info & reservations : www.ashini.com - 1.418.842.9797

Madam, Sir,

The year 2008 highlights the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To mark this event, we invite you to the 4th edition of the Aboriginal Northern Seminar, from August 11 to 18, 2008, which will have as its theme:

« Aboriginal Perspectives on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights »

The goal of this event open to all is to inform and stimulate discussions on the new ethical and social issues faced by Aboriginal communities and Quebec society, in a place encouraging genuine exchange and bringing together different cultures. As such, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO will be collaborating in the event through the participation of its Secretary-General, Mr. David A. Walden.

It is also in this perspective that Mr. Roméo Saganash and Ms. Marie Léger generously accepted to co-chair the Seminar. Mr. Saganash, from the Grand Council of the Crees, is one of the few First Nations specialists with more than 10 years of experience in governmental relations and international affairs. Ms. Léger is a sociologist and coordinator of Indigenous Peoples' Rights for Rights & Democracy, a Canadian organization with an international mandate. They have both worked closely with the United Nations towards its Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

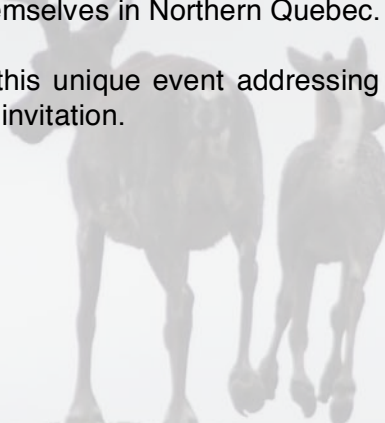
The Seminar will be held in the traditional and comfortable facilities of Ashini Adventures, near the George River (56th parallel). This timeless site has been a genuine cultural focal point for the Innu Nation for several hundred years, and hosts the migration of one of the biggest caribou herds on earth. The program consists in lectures and discussions, as well as many outdoor activities through which participants will discover the Innu ancestral way of life and immerse themselves in Northern Quebec.

We look forward to your participation to this unique event addressing critical issues in a human manner. Thank you in advance for considering this invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Serge Ashini Goupil
Aventures Ashini

Jean-Philippe L. Messier
*Corporation des Amis
du Mushuau-nipi*



Draft Program

4th Aboriginal Northern Seminar

August 11 to 18, 2008

George River – Nitassinan

Marie Léger, *Coordinator Indigenous Peoples' Rights, Rights & Democracy*

Lecture: How are First Nations Rights protected at the UN?

David A. Walden, *Secretary General, Canadian Commission for UNESCO*

Lecture: Heritage protection and UNESCO's role in the promotion of human rights

Nathalie Schneider, *Editor-in-Chief, Géo Plein Air*

Lecture: Eco-tourism and First Nations, viewpoints through different reports

Nicolas Mainville, *Conservation director, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)*

Lecture: The importance of sharing a vision for the protection of our natural heritage

Éric Tremblay, *Hydro-Québec*

Lecture: To be confirmed

Réal Mckenzie, *Chief, Matimekush Lac-John*

Lecture: Political situation of the Matimekush Lac-John Innus

Roméo Saganash, *Grand Council of the Crees*

Lecture: Main recognized concepts (self-determination, lands, territories and resources) in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Elisabeth Ashini, *Host and Speaker, Ashini Adventures*

Lecture: Innu Woman, traditionally rebellious

Serge Ashini Goupil, *Consultant in Sustainable Development, Ashini Goupil and Ashini Adventure*

Lecture: Sustainable Development Strategy and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Consultation Protocol

Nathalie Harvey, *Product leader – First Nations tourisme, Tourisme Québec*

Lecture: Tourisme Quebec and First Nations of Quebec: Current status

Jean-Philippe L. Messier, *Director, Manicouagan – Uapishka Biosphere Reserve*

Lecture: Consensus building between First Nations and other North Shore regional stakeholders : examples from a Biosphere Reserve

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Screening of a Film by Pierre Perrault:

*Le pays de la terre sans arbres ou le Mushuau-nipi (« The Treeless Land or Mushuau-nipi »)
(70s NFB's film featuring the George River and its evolution)*

Storytelling by Anne-Marie André, Innu from Matimekush Lake-John

Documentary Screening: Laisser couler le Nord ("Let the North Flow") by Jean-Philippe L. Messier

*Expedition in rabaska canoe
Exploration of the natural environment
Cooking of traditional meals*

*Visit and interpretation of the main campsite
Hike in the tundra
Setting up and experiencing the meteshan (sweat lodge)
Makusham (banquet and traditional outfits)*

Tour of Schefferville mining sites

Visit of Kawawachikamach and Matimekush Lac-John First Nations communities:

