

Gouvernement du Canada

Commission des champs de bataille nationaux

PRESS RELEASE For immediate release

<u>Québec Winter Carnival</u> The Plains of Abraham: much more than a playground

Québec, **January 17**, **2011** – From January 28 to February 13, the Québec Winter Carnival will be going full swing in all of Québec City. A host of activities for children and adults will take place behind the Discovery Pavilion of the Plains of Abraham, on the major events site. The National Battlefields Commission invites carnivalgoers to take this opportunity to visit, for a small cost, the Odyssey exhibition, to follow a



friendly guide from last century wearing snowshoes, or to enjoy the numerous leisure activities fit for the occasion: cross-country skiing, walking and snowshoeing.

An Odyssey unique to Québec City

Set course for the Odyssey, a multimedia exhibition going back over 400 years of history from the birth of New France to the creation of the park, through the accounts of different characters, animated presentations, and an outstanding uniform collection. When you show your Carnival effigy you can obtain a \$1 discount on the admission fee. Multimedia technology, special effects, scale models and animatronics, will let you discover the Plains as you have never done before.

Regular fare: \$10/18-64 years old, \$8/13-17 years old and 65 years and over, free for children 12 and under.

What is more, every Saturday and Sunday in January and February, residents of the Greater Québec City area will be admitted free to the Odyssey exhibition, with proof of residence.

Winter fun

In the company of colourful Amédée Fournier, a snowshoer directly springing from the past, you will learn about the history of the winter sports and leisure activities of the early 20th century. Relive the "Belle Époque" of winter strolls by taking part in a guided tour on the Plains of Abraham: The Snowshoer's Walk. Traditional snowshoes, lantern, arrow sash and hot chocolate included. *In English at 4:00 p.m.: February 12.*

In French, at 7:00 p.m.: January 15 and 29, February 4, 11, 26 (full) and March 5. Reservations required. \$17/13-64 years old, \$15/8-12 years old, and 65 years and over.

The Plains of Abraham also offer visitors and sports enthusiasts a chance to appreciate the unique panorama of the snow covered park. In the very heart of the city it is now possible to enjoy the great outdoors totally free of charge by stretching your legs on the walking, cross-country or snowshoeing trails as soon as weather conditions permit. Beginner and intermediate cross-country skiers have

access to a waxing room and can ski across 12.6 km of laid out trails (classic cross-country skiing and skating). A 3.8 km round trip trail running along Cap Diamant is set aside for snowshoeing, as well as 5.6 km of walking trails. Two heated rest stops are available, one at the pavilion near the Edwin-Bélanger Bandstand, the other at the Discovery Pavilion of the Plains of Abraham, where a cross-country ski and snowshoe rental service is also available for children and adults *(Thursday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).* A \$1 rental discount is also offered on presentation of the Carnival effigy.

Information

Discovery Pavilion of the Plains of Abraham 835, Wilfrid-Laurier Avenue, level 0, Québec City (the same address as the tourist information office) 418 649-6157 www.theplainsofabraham.ca

Cross-country ski trail conditions: 418 648-4212 Equipment rental (skis and snowshoes): 418 648-2586 Old-time guided snowshoe tours: 418 649-6157





Carnival effigy on sale for \$12 at the Discovery Pavilion.











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