











Message from the ROBINSON HURON WAAWIINDAMAAGEWIN



Aanii, Boozhoo, Nindinawaymaaginidook,

This year marks the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Robinson Huron Treaty (RHT) of 1850, a time to commemorate, honour, and move forward collectively as Anishinaabe of the RHT territory.

This September, our First Nation communities will gather in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, to reflect on the Treaty's signing, honour its ongoing meaning and responsibilities, and reaffirm the relationships it represents, not only between Treaty partners, but also with Creation itself.

Through these Gatherings, we assert our sovereignty over our traditional lands, G'daakiimnaan, draw strength and guidance from our Ancestors, and deepen collective understanding of the Treaty across both First Nation and settler communities. Our programming, activities, and engagement are rooted in Anishinaabe governance and are guided by ceremonial practices that ground us in our identity and ways of being.

The Gathering is made possible through the collaborative efforts of Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin (RHW) and the Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund (RHTLF), who work together to plan and deliver this meaningful event each year.

We welcome you to join us in celebration, reflection, and learning. May these next few days offer you new insight into the lasting importance of Treaties and the strength of our Nation.

Earl Commanda

Lal Consa

Executive Director, Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin

OUR PROGRAMMING, ACTIVITIES, AND ENGAGEMENT ARE ROOTED IN ANISHINAABE GOVERNANCE AND ARE **GUIDED BY CEREMONIAL PRACTICES** THAT GROUND US IN OUR IDENTITY AND WAYS OF BFING.







ROBINSON HURON TREATY LITIGATION FUND



On behalf of the Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund (RHTLF), I am so happy to welcome everyone to this year's commemorative event recognizing 175 years since the signing of the Robinson Huron Treaty (RHT) of 1850.

I am proud to be with each and every person here at the RHT of 1850 Gathering in Baawaating (Sault Ste. Marie), where our Treaty was signed by our ancestors.

Since the signing of the Treaty, our Anishinaabek of the RHT territory have lived on these lands alongside the non-

Anishinaabek. We shared, gave and lived in a manner respective of our Treaty partnership. However, as we all know, our Treaty partners, did not.

WITH THIS, WE ALSO REMEMBER AND PAY HONOUR AND RESPECT TO OUR ANCESTORS WHO STARTED THIS PATH FOR US 175 YEARS AGO.

It was only over the past few decades that our people stood up and raised our voices calling on the Crown — federal and provincial — to live up to what was promised by them in the RHT of 1850. And as we all know, we achieved major success two years ago with the Robinson Huron Treaty Settlement Agreement whereby both federal and provincial governments paid the Anishinaabek of the RHT \$5 billion each in past annuity compensation; that was a \$10 billion settlement.

RHT leadership is now ready to move ahead on to the next phase on augmentation of the annuities clause of the Treaty.

Our RHTLF Legal Team, Litigation Management Committee members and Communications Manager travelled across our territory this summer, meeting with leadership and band members to provide information on the annuity augmentation process along with other key priorities we are moving forward on.

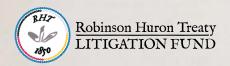
This is what our annual RHT of 1850 Gathering this year celebrates. We celebrate our hard work and achievements as the Anishinaabek of the RHT territory. With this, we also remember and pay honour and respect to our ancestors who started this path for us 175 years ago. Our people have walked this path — together — and will continue to do so. Along the way, we will continue to clear and strengthen this path for our future Anishinaabek so they can walk on solid ground, and further clear and strengthen it for generations to come.

We were once the future for our ancestors — and one day WE will be the ancestors... in the future.

Nahaw. Miigwech.

Mike Restoule

Chair, Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund





Message from BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION



Aanii,

On behalf of the people of Batchewana First Nation, I extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all who have gathered on our territory for the 175th Anniversary of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850.

It is an honour to co-host this historic Gathering in Sault Ste. Marie our home is a place of deep cultural and spiritual significance to the Anishinaabe, and a meeting point for generations of our people.

This commemoration is more than a celebration; it is a reaffirmation of our rights, our responsibilities, and our enduring relationship with the land, the waters, and with one another.

At this year's gathering, we mark the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Robinson Huron Treaty. Together, we will honour this historic moment by viewing the original Treaty and sacred pipes, hearing from Crown representatives and Anishinaabe leadership, and coming together in reflection and ceremony.

We are also looking forward to a powerful lineup of panels with our wonderful speakers, including "Gathering of Clans," "Why We Gather," and "Carrying the Treaty Forward." These conversations are vital to our shared understanding and continued advocacy. And don't miss the exciting entertainment planned for the evening, I personally can't wait for "A Drone Story of Treaty and Tomorrow," a truly unforgettable event for the Gathering, guiding us toward vision, light and hope.

As we share this day in unity, may we draw strength from our Ancestors, renew our sacred treaty commitments, and chart a path forward for our children and grandchildren.

Welcome to our homeland, may your time here be meaningful, respectful, and filled with the spirit of Anishinaabe resilience.

Miigwech,

Chief Mark McCoy Batchewana First Nation



Like other Ojibwe in the Upper Great Lakes, Batchewana First Nation (BFN) has exercised its responsibility to use, possess, and protect the waters, lands, and resources since time immemorial. The Creator placed our people at Bawahting — what is now called Sault Ste. Marie — with laws and responsibilities to live in harmony with all Creation. Our Elders tell of the time when the Creator instructed the crane to choose a homeland; the crane flew and settled at Bawahting, where fish were abundant. They say our original territory stretched from Bawahting up the Lake Superior coast to what is now Pukaskwa National Park, including its islands, and north and northeast beyond the height of land. In 1849, government agents Vidal and Anderson confirmed this territory when they documented the traditional lands of First Nations in the region. Today, BFN continues to uphold and assert its rights and interests in this original territory, as it has since before any treaty with the Crown.



Aanii,

On behalf of Ketegaunseebee Anishinaabeg — Garden River First Nation — I extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to all who have traveled from near and far to Baawaating, also known as Sault Ste. Marie, for the 175th Anniversary Gathering of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850.

This milestone is a time for reflection, renewal, and unity, bringing together the 21 First Nations and their citizens within the Treaty Territory. For 175 years, our Nations have upheld the spirit and intent of the Robinson Huron Treaty. Grounded in principles of mutual respect and sharing, this sacred

agreement was never a surrender. It was, and remains, a living promise between the Crown and our Nations: to coexist in peace, partnership, and harmony, with ongoing obligations that must continue to be honoured.

From September 7th to the 9th, 2025, we will gather at Roberta Bondar Pavilion in Sault Ste. Marie to share stories, teachings, and traditions passed down through generations. This event is not only a celebration of resilience and culture, but also a powerful reminder to all Canadians that the Robinson Huron Treaty is a legally binding agreement that endures to this day.

We invite all visitors to participate with open hearts and minds. Watch, listen, and feel the passion. Witness the beauty of our ceremonies, learn from our knowledge keepers, and stand with us in unity, guided by the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation.

The Robinson Huron Treaty Gathering began as a way for our communities to assert sovereignty, honour our ancestors, and raise awareness among both Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. As we mark this 175th anniversary, we celebrate the strength of our Nations and the enduring spirit of the Treaty.

Miigwech and welcome to this historic gathering.

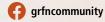
Ogimaa Kwe (Chief) Karen Bell Garden River First Nation



Garden River was a place where our people could farm and hunt "The Creator's Garden." The name takes one back to the fur trade. The people living in this area were well known for their vegetable growing along the route the voyagers and explorers followed. Charles Church, established a store on Sugar Island next to the St. Mary's River. Church purchased vegetables from the First Nations and sold them to the voyagers as they passed through.

In the spirit of our ancestors and our Treaty, we endeavour to conduct ourselves in a manner that is consistent with the Seven Grandfather Teachings given to us by the Creator. We envision a harmonious community that is built on mutual respect that maintains a healthy balance through prosperity and well-being. Through these actions we intend to create a self-sustaining community that fulfills the emotional, physical, mental and spiritual well-being of all members.

gardenriver.org



ANISHINAABE RELATIONSHIP and RESPONSIBILITY to CREATION

This year's theme is provided to us by the ancestors through ceremony by our Cultural Advisor and Knowledge Keeper, Leroy Bennett:

"As a Nation of Anishinaabek, we need to explore, understand, rekindle and retain our relationship with ourselves, and by extension, our relationship to nature and Creation. Creation was here first, and we must start with Creation to truly understand ourselves as individuals and how we relate and exist with Creation and ultimately, how we relate and exist in unity with our people — Anishinaabek.

A JOURNEY CAN BE INDIVIDUAL OR TOGETHER WITH OTHERS. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE WE WELCOME, HOLD, AND USE OUR SACRED MEDICINES AND ITEMS IN WAYS THAT RESPECT THEIR ROLES IN ALL OUR RELATIONSHIPS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO CREATION.

In rekindling our relationship with ourselves, we must realize, understand, respect and fulfill our individual roles and gifts and share them with our people in our collective efforts to protect, regain and bring forward what had to go underground to survive until now and always for the future.

With these more solid relationships, we can see what needs to be done for our people and what will be required to accomplish our vision.

Now, let's turn to our responsibility to Creation. It is up to each one of us, again as individuals and then as a united people, to ensure that, as we tend to our relationships amongst ourselves and others, we include our language and traditional practices.

It is our responsibility to speak our language — Anishinaabemowin. The Creator provided us with this language so we could always say, share, and learn the meanings and teachings of life and well-being for all. Even if we speak just a little, we must do our best to say it daily. Anishinaabemowin helps us understand, relate to, and be one with Creation. Our language helps keep Creation protected and alive.

Lastly, as we progress through all of our relationship and responsibility roles, we must always do so through traditional ceremony and prayer. This is what starts a journey, keeps us going through a journey, and ends a journey. A journey can be individual or together with others. It is our responsibility to ensure we welcome, hold, and use our sacred medicines and items in ways that respect their roles in all our relationships and responsibilities to Creation."





Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering COMMEMORATING 175 YEARS of TREATY

AGENDA for SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

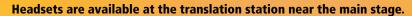
LOCATION: Roberta Bondar Park, 65 Foster Drive, Sault Ste. Marie **MASTERS OF CEREMONIES:** Barbara Nolan (Garden River First Nation) and Joel Syrette (Batchewana First Nation) **LODGE FACILITATOR:** Nelson Toulouse (Sagamok Anishnawbek)

TIME	EVENT		
5:45 a.m.	 Sunrise Ceremony in the Teaching Lodge Pipe Ceremony by Leroy Bennett Water Ceremony by Nokomis Martina Osawamick 		
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast at the Delta Hotel (served until 9:00 a.m.)		
9:00 a.m.	Opening Protocols • Grand Entry, Posting of Flags and Staffs, Opening Miigwechwin		
9:30 a.m.	 Welcoming and Overview of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering Welcoming by Host Ogimaak Chief Mark McCoy, Batchewana First Nation Chief Karen Bell, Garden River First Nation Opening Remarks Mike Restoule, Chair, Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund Earl Commanda, Executive Director, Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin Agenda Overview 		
10:00 a.m.	Why We Gather: Honouring 175 Years and the Path Ahead This panel will reflect on the origins and purpose of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering. Presenters will speak to the spirit and intent behind the gathering, the significance of 175 years since the Treaty was signed, and share visions for the future of this important annual tradition.		
11:00 a.m.	Council Fire to Treaty: Anishinaabe Governance and Responsibility to Creation Panelists: Dr. Heidi Bohaker and Dr. Alan Corbiere This panel will explore the history of the Robinson Huron Treaty through an Anishinaabe lens, highlighting our original systems of governance through the council fire and how our relationship and responsibilities to creation have guided us then and now.		

12:00 p.m.	Lunch		
1:00 p.m.	Gathering of the Clans: Teachings, Treaty and Responsibilities Facilitated by Chop Waindubence and Richard Assinewai For the first time, we will sit in our clans to reflect on their roles, responsibilities, and teachings. This session links ancestral governance to the spirit of the Robinson Huron Treaty, exploring how clan knowledge guides our responsibilities to creation, each other, and the land.		
4:30 p.m.	Break		
5:30 p.m.	Doors to The Machine Shop Open (83 Huron Street)		
6:00 p.m.	Feast for the Pipes: Honouring the Spirit of Treaty We come together in ceremony to feast the Bond Head Pipe and Chief Shingwauk's Pipe, sacred bundles that carry the spirit and intent of our treaties. This is a time to honour the ancestors, the promises made, and our responsibilities as Anishinaabe to uphold our treaties in a good way.		
7:15 p.m.	Robinson Huron Treaty Documentary: Waawiindamaagewin – The Spirit of Treaty This documentary explores the history, meaning, and annuities of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850. Featuring voices of leaders, legal experts, and knowledge keepers, it highlights our responsibility to uphold the Treaty, strengthen Anishinaabe identity, and work Nation-to-Nation with the Crown.		
8:00 p.m.	Comedy and Musical Performances Performers: Clint Couchie, Roger Daybutch, Open Mic		
9:30 p.m.	We Are Still Here: A Drone Story of Treaty and Tomorrow As night falls, the sky becomes our storyteller. This drone show brings to life the history, spirit, and future of the RHT, honouring our ancestors, challenges, and responsibilities. A story of resilience and relationship, it affirms the enduring presence of the Anishinaabe people — we are still here.		

>> HEAR IT IN ANISHINAABEMOWIN!

Throughout the main stage events at the Roberta Bondar Pavilion, you can listen to live Anishinaabemowin translation with our headset service. Whether you're a fluent speaker or just beginning to learn, it's a great way to connect with the language and hear our stories and presentations in the words of our ancestors.







Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering COMMEMORATING 175 YEARS of TREATY

AGENDA for MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

LOCATION: Roberta Bondar Park, 65 Foster Drive, and Delta Hotel, 208 St Mary's River Drive, Sault Ste. Marie **MASTERS OF CEREMONIES:** Barbara Nolan (Garden River First Nation) and Joel Syrette (Batchewana First Nation) **LODGE FACILITATOR:** Nelson Toulouse (Sagamok Anishnawbek)

TIME	EVENT			
5:45 a.m.	 Sunrise Ceremony in the Teaching Lodge Pipe Ceremony by Leroy Bennett Water Ceremony by Nokomis Martina Osawamick 			
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast at the Delta Hotel (served until 9:00 a.m.)			
9:00 a.m.	Day 1 Recap and Day 2 Overview			
TIME	MAIN STAGE	TIME	TEACHING LODGE	
9:15 a.m.	Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation Fund (RHTLF) Update: Advancing Our Treaty Rights Presenters: Kerry Assiniwe, Roger Jones and Loretta Assinewai Representatives of the RHTLF will provide an update on RHTLF priorities and key activities of the Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy and RHTLF Communications. Carrying the Treaty Forward: An Update from Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin (RHW)	9:20 a.m.	Fire Teachings in the Lodge Held within the Anishinaabe Teaching Lodge, these teachings will explore the sacred role of fire in our way of life. Fire is more than warmth and light — it is a source of spirit, a witness to truth, and a centre for governance. This space invites reflection on how the fire brings us together in ceremony, decision-making, and Nationhood.	
	Presenter: Earl Commanda RHW will provide an update on its work supporting the vision and responsibilities of the Robinson Huron Treaty. This session will highlight key areas of progress and ongoing efforts to uphold the spirit and intent of the Treaty in a good way, grounded in Anishinaabe values and direction from leadership.			

> HISTORICAL ITEMS EXHIBIT AT THE DELTA HOTEL

Attendees are invited to view the original signed Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850, which will be on special exhibition throughout the gathering at the Delta Hotel in the David Thompson Room within the Conference Centre. This rare public showing offers a unique opportunity to connect directly with this historic document.



11:00 a.m.

Anishinaabemowin Nbwaachjidiwn

Facilitated by: Loretta Fox-Assinewai

This panel will highlight the work underway to develop a Robinson Huron Treaty
Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy in collaboration with the 21 RHT First Nations.
Community language champions will share reflections from recent engagement sessions and offer guidance on how we can strengthen the transmission of Anishinaabemowin to future generations.

10:40 a.m.

Pipe Teachings: The Spirit of Our Agreements

These teachings share the sacred meaning of the pipe in Anishinaabe life — how it carries our prayers, seals commitments, and connects us to spirit. Central to our governance, treaties, and relationships with one another and the land, the pipe invites us to listen, learn, and honour its teachings.

12:00 p.m.

Lunch

TIME

MAIN STAGE

DELTA HOTEL MEETING ROOMS

TEACHING LODGE

1:00 p.m.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Elders: Stop the Spray

Elders leading the campaign to end glyphosate spraying share updates on their advocacy, teachings, and efforts to protect the land, water, and all living beings for future generations.

Youth Circle: Voices for the Future

Facilitators: Hannah Sewell and Jackson Zack-Coneybear

This session will create space for youth to gather, share, and reflect on their roles as future leaders and knowledge carriers. Centered in Anishinaabe values, the Youth Circle offers a chance to listen, speak, and strengthen the connection between generations.

Elders Circle: Carriers of Knowledge

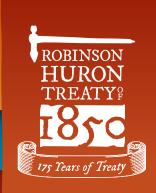
Elders gather to share teachings, experiences, and reflections rooted in Anishinaabe ways of knowing. This circle offers a space for wisdom, stories, and guidance to support the path forward for our people and future generations.

TIME	MAIN STAGE	DELTA HOTEL MEETING ROOMS	TEACHING LODGE
2:30 p.m.	Protecting Our Place: Defending Treaty Territory and Nationhood Panelists: Dr. Josh Manitowabi, Dr. Celeste Pedri-Spade, Stacy Tijerina This panel brings together leaders, researchers, and advocates to discuss the growing challenges to Anishinaabe rights, jurisdiction, and land. Together, they will share insights on the ongoing work to protect the integrity of the Robinson Huron Treaty and the responsibilities we hold to our ancestors, our territory, and future generations.	Youth Circle: Voices for the Future (continued)	Elders Circle: Carriers of Knowledge (continued)
4:00 p.m.	Break		
5:30 p.m.	Doors to The Machine Shop Open (83 Huron Street)		
6:00 p.m.	Feast for the Treaty: Honouring Sacred Promises In ceremony, we gather to feast the Robinson Huron Treaty, to honour the sacred promises made, the ancestors who witnessed them, and our ongoing responsibilities as Treaty people. This is a time to reflect, give thanks, and reaffirm our connection to the spirit and intent of the Treaty.		
7:00 p.m.	Sounding Thunder A musical journey into the life of the renowned Ojibwe WWI sniper, decorated officer of the Canadian military and Indigenous political activist, Francis Pegahmagabow. Sounding Thunder is a complex work divided into three acts, exploring Pegahmagabow's early years immersed in the world of the Anishinaabe spirits, his extraordinary accomplishments in the trenches of WWI, and finally his political life as Chief of the Wasauksing Ojibwe and founder of the early Indigenous political moment in Canada.		

Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering COMMEMORATING 175 YEARS of TREATY

AGENDA for TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

On this final day of the Gathering, we mark the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Robinson Huron Treaty. Together, we will honour this historic moment by viewing the original Treaty and sacred pipes, hearing from Crown representatives and Anishinaabe leadership, and coming together in ceremony, reflection, and feast. This is a time to recognize the strength of our Treaty, the responsibilities it carries, and the path we walk forward — together.



TIME	EVENT		
5:45 a.m.	 Sunrise Ceremony in the Teaching Lodge Pipe Ceremony by Leroy Bennett Water Ceremony by Nokomis Martina Osawamick 		
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast at the Delta Hotel (served until 9:00 a.m.)		
9:00 a.m.	Opening Ceremony • Grand Entry, Posting of Flags and Staffs, Namewin		
9:15 a.m.	 Welcoming and Overview of the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering Welcoming by Host Ogimaak Opening Remarks Agenda Overview 		
9:30 a.m.	Pipe Ceremony		
10:00 a.m.	 Honouring Words Crown Representatives Spokesperson for the Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 First Nation Communities Visiting Regional Leadership 		
	Honouring through Gifting		
11:45 a.m.	Closing Comments and Thanksgiving		
12:00 p.m.	Feast		
1:00 p.m.	End of Gathering — Safe travels home, everyone!		

Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering ELDERS, SPEAKERS and PRESENTERS

Martina Osawamick

Martina Osawamick is Nokomis for the Robinson Huron Treaty territory. She helps guide Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin leadership and members through traditional ceremonies and teachings to stay on the path forward — together — grounded in the principles of Anishinaabe Aadiziwin.

Leroy Bennett

Leroy Bennett is Cultural Advisor for the leadership and the Anishinaabek of the Robinson Huron Treaty territory. He reminds us of the importance of our connections within ourselves and with all Anishinaabek — this will help build a stronger foundation on our path together toward a united future for our people.

Earl Commanda

Earl Commanda is an Anishinaabek Nation member from Serpent River First Nation, within the Robinson Huron Treaty territory. He is currently serving his sixth year (since 2019) as Executive Director of the Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin (RHW) Secretariat. Previously, he spent ten years with the First Nations Market Housing Fund (AFN Housing Trust Fund) as Program Manager for Credit Enhancement and Capacity Building. Prior to that, Earl served as Director of Housing and Infrastructure at the Assembly of First Nations from 2004 to 2009. Earl has a deep passion for improving the lives of our people, which he has pursued through roles in health, community development, economic development, and now through his work with the RHW Treaty organization.



Nelson Toulouse

Nelson Toulouse serves on the Elder advisory council for the Robinson Huron Treaty territory. He provides his insights to leadership and the Anishinaabek of the Robinson Huron Waawiindamaagewin on issues of priority for the territory. Nelson carries with him, years of experience having worked with/for numerous First Nation political, language and development organizations in our territory, Ontario and Canada.

Doreen Lesage and Cole Nolan

The great-granddaughter of Chief Shingwaukonse, Doreen Lesage, and her grandson, Cole Nolan, a historian who works with Garden River First Nation, will be in attendance to discuss the history and significance of the Treaty medals and other sacred items such as the original 1850 Treaty and sacred pipes which will be on loan from the Royal Ontario Museum and on public display at this Gathering.

Heidi Bohaker

Heidi Bohaker investigates on the history of Indigenous-Crown relations, treaties and federal and provincial government policies toward Indigenous peoples in Canada. She is a Director of the Osgoode Society for Canadian Legal History, and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in treaty history, the history of residential schools in Canada and Canadian legal history.

Dr. Alan Ojiig Corbiere

Dr. Alan Ojiig Corbiere, Bne doodem (Ruffed Grouse clan), is Anishinaabe from M'Chigeeng First Nation. His research is focused on Anishinaabe language revitalization, narrative, material culture and history. Dr. Corbiere is investigating ways to incorporate Anishinaabe knowledge into educational settings in a more effective manner. He is an Assistant Professor in the History Department at York University and holds a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Indigenous History of North America.

Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering ELDERS, SPEAKERS and PRESENTERS

Gordon "Chop" Waindubence

Gordon "Chop" Waindubence is the Aboriginal Support Worker at Manitoulin Secondary School and Espanola High School. Chop is an Algonquin and Ojibwe Anishinaabe, from Sheguiandah First Nation. Chop has been a grass dancer since he was 4 years old, a drummer and singer since he was 7 years old, and is currently involved in many drum groups.

Richard Assinewai

Richard Assinewai, from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, currently serves as Mishomis — Head Getzit of the Anishinabek Nation Getzidjig Advisory Council, which acts in an advisory capacity to Anishinabek Nation Leadership, providing direction for consideration by elected leaders. Richard has and continues to conduct traditional ceremonies, teachings and guidance. He visits communities across Ontario to share his teachings, ceremonies and guidance.

Andrew "Stitch" Manitowabi

Andrew "Stitch" Manitowabi is a member of Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. He is an avid land user, hunter and fisherman. A traditional dancer, Stitch offers cultural and traditional support to many community programs and treaty events. He enjoys spending time with his family.

Loretta Fox-Assinewai

Loretta Fox-Assinewai is from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory. She is Gashi (Mother) to three daughters and Nokomis (Grandmother) to 11 grandchildren and one greatgrandchild. She has 29 years of service in the education realm as Enaadmaaged and Ekinomaage kwe at the post-secondary and elementary school levels, where she taught Anishinaabemowin and Anishinaabe Aadziwin. She joined the Robinson Huron Treaty Anishinaabemowin Revitalization Strategy Group in 2024, as the Anishinaabemowin Strategy Coordinator. As a lifelong learner, Loretta is in pursuit of her doctorate through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto.



Joel Syrette

Joel Syrette is an Ojibwe Anishinaabe from Batchewana First Nation. He has worked in Indigenous education across both the public and university sectors and continues to teach as a part-time professor. Joel was raised in the cultural and ceremonial life ways of his people, where he learned the importance of humility, service, and walking in a good way. He is a lifelong learner of Anishinaabemowin and has been involved in efforts to support language and cultural revitalization in his community and beyond. As a musician and powwow MC, Joel has been honoured to help host cultural celebrations and gatherings across Turtle Island. He brings with him a heart for the people and offers his voice in support of the spirit and intent of the Robinson Huron Treaty.

Barbara Nolan

Barbara Nolan is grateful to have survived the attempts by Canada's Indian residential schools system to take her Anishinaabe language from her. As a vibrant first-speaker of Anishinaabemowin, Barbara has spent several decades working with a variety of organizations to revitalize the Ojibwe/Odawa language, her most passionate method is through storytelling. Barbara was acknowledged for her passion and dedication with language and culture by the City of Sault Ste. Marie and was presented with the Medal of Merit Award. She was also appointed by the Anishinabek Nation as the Anishinaabemowin Commissioner in December 2020. Barbara is a proud Anishinaabe kwe, formerly from Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, who now resides in Garden River First Nation.

Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering COMMEMORATING 175 YEARS of TREATY

The HISTORY and IMPORTANCE of the ROBINSON HURON TREATY

The Robinson Huron Treaty was signed on
September 9, 1850. This sacred Treaty was signed
between 17 Ogimaak, representing Anishinaabek
along the northern shore of Lake Huron and eastern
Lake Superior, and the British Crown. It outlines critical
roles and responsibilities for both Treaty partners:

ONE

The Treaty guarantees that each Anishinaabek community will continue to occupy the land in their territory and that it will be available for their exclusive use. The Treaty also shared the land and allowed British settlement and some resource development.

TWO

The Treaty guarantees traditional harvesting rights and unrestricted access. It acknowledges the full extent of reserved jurisdictions, title, and inherent rights, including but not limited to lands, water, air, education, language and culture, jurisdiction, health, citizenship, and justice.

THREE

Finally, to partially compensate for the sharing of land and resources with the British, the Treaty promises an annual annuity (initially set at £600 for the collective Robinson Huron Treaty Anishinaabek, then raised to \$4 per person) as an ongoing payment to Treaty annuitants. The amount of that annuity was tied to the productivity of the land that was the subject of the Treaty. The annuity has not been increased since 1875.

JOURNEY of the RHT



After its signing on September 9, 1850, the Robinson Huron Treaty traveled with Commissioner William Benjamin Robinson aboard the steamer Gore while he visited various locations in the territory to distribute payments to the Chiefs and their tribes. At the final stop in Penetanguishene on September 16th, the Treaty was signed on behalf of Shawanaga First Nation and Wasauksing First Nation.



After its signing, the Treaty was brought to Toronto where it was presented to the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs and the Governor General in Council. It was registered in the office of the Provincial Registrar in November 1850.



In 1907, the Indian Affairs Department transferred its records to the Public Archives of Canada (now Library and Archives Canada). The Robinson Huron Treaty was relocated to 330 Sussex Drive in Ottawa, now known as the Former Archives Building National Historic Site of Canada.



In 1967, the records in the Public Archives of Canada were moved to its new building at 395 Wellington Street, just west of Parliament Hill.



After the Gatineau Preservation Centre (GPC) was built in 1997, the Treaty was moved into one of the building's vaults, where it still resides today. Within the GPC, the Treaty is protected within a contaminant-free space that provides optimum environmental conditions for its long-term preservation and safekeeping.



In 2016, the Treaty travelled to Winnipeg, Manitoba for display at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights between December 2016 and May 2017.



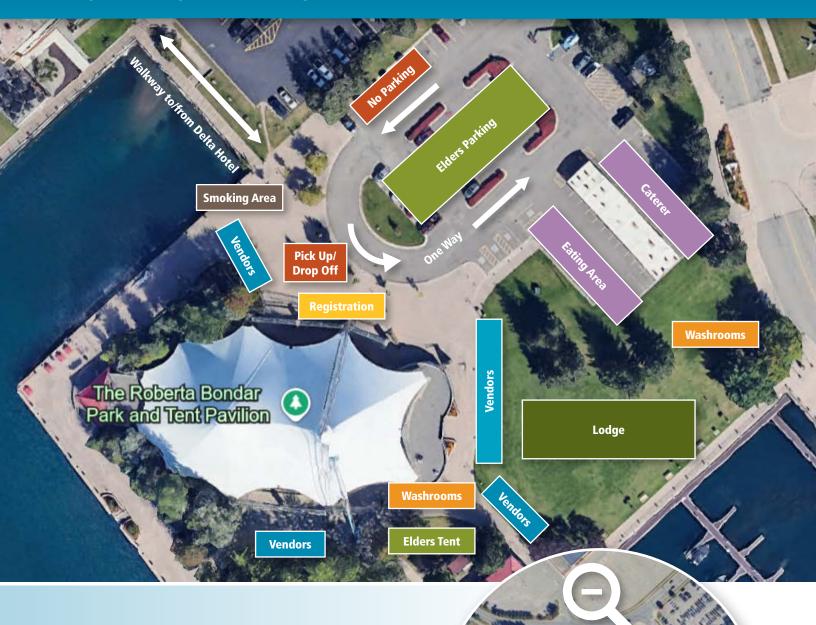
The Treaty underwent conservation treatment between 2019 to 2022 by paper conservators in the GPC laboratory. This conservation care was done to preserve its current condition and to mitigate further age deterioration.



In early September 2025, the Treaty departed the GPC for the journey to its home territory. To protect it during its travel and visit, it was placed in a custom-made micro-environment (or "micro"). The micro is a protective frame that reduces the risk of damage caused by humidity, light, and pollutants.

RHT Knowledge Keepers and representatives travelled to Gatineau to smoke pipe with and pray for the Treaty for its safe journey back home for the Gathering and journey back to Gatineau.

ROBERTA BONDAR PARK SITE MAP



ROBERTA BONDAR PARK to DELTA HOTEL

The Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering takes place at Roberta Bondar Park, only a 6-minute walk from the Delta Hotel, which also hosts additional presentations and the Historical Items Exhibit.

RECOGNITION WEEK 25

Save the date

seed to individuals or **NOVEMBER 3** *to* **7, 2025**

In partnership with Laurentian University and Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig, join us for a week of learning and dialogue exploring **Anishinaabe Relationships and Responsibilities to Creation** — a theme carried forward from the 2025 Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Gathering, commemorating 175 years of Treaty.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- November 3-4: In-person events at Laurentian University in Sudbury
- Novvember 5: Classroom visits, online learning, and travel day
- November 6–7: In-person programming at Shingwauk Kinoomaage Gamig in Sault Ste. Marie

Engage with Elders, Knowledge Holders, educators, and youth as we honour our living responsibilities as Anishinaabe and Treaty Peoples. Details and registration coming soon — stay tuned!

Show us your
TREATY phide

Robinson Huron Treaty of 1850 Apparel Store offers hoodies, T-shirts, and long sleeves in a variety of sizes and colours.



Shop tax-free in-store or online at treaty1850store.ca Hosted by Traditional Medicine in Nipissing First Nation





Representing the Sovereign Treaty Lake Huron First Nations of the Robinson Huron Treaty.







