



PRESS RELEASE

At the Heart of Manitoba's Francophone Community

VIEW / PARTICIPATE / WIN

April 28, 2020

The COVID-19 crisis affects us all with physical distancing, home schooling, closing of businesses, and empty streets. For our tourism industry, it means the cancellation of school groups, tourists, tours and events. But just because we are apart physically, it does not mean we cannot get together in other ways, as we have seen with the creative use of social media and other technology. Entreprises Riel and Tourisme Riel wish to maintain contact with the local community and take this opportunity to share Manitoba's rich culture and history.

On Manitoba Day, May 12, we will be sharing the film *At the Heart of Manitoba's Francophone Community* on-line for this one-time viewing.

This 40-minute film, produced in 2018, tells of 200 years of Francophone and Métis history in Manitoba, the struggles, success and perseverance of a community who has not only persevered but is thriving today and makes up an important part of the fabric of our province. As primarily a tourism product, the film is generally only available for viewing at the Tourisme Riel Information Center at 219 Provencher. However, in light of the current situation with social distancing, we are making it available on-line exclusively for one day only. The link to the film (available in French or in English) will be posted on the Passion et Histoire Saint-Boniface Facebook page and website.

This is a great way to mark Manitoba Day on May 12 as we lead into the 150th anniversary celebration. We also hope that by viewing the film, people will be inspired by the history and motivated to visit the many attractions and businesses in the area once social distancing is over. All these attractions and businesses need our support, now more than ever.

To further encourage visitation, we have an added incentive. After viewing the documentary, we encourage people to answer a short quiz on our Facebook page, which will make them eligible for major prizes including gift certificates at various businesses and admissions to area attractions. The complete list of prizes will be published and updated on Facebook as well as on our website listed below.

We invite everyone to share this event. Whether you wish to view it personally, use it as a teaching tool for your students or children, or make it a family event, we hope to entertain you on May 12th as we celebrate Manitoba Day ... physically apart but together in our hearts.

Contact person: Michelle Gervais, Director, Tourisme Riel – 204-997-3170
100 - 219, Provencher Blvd., St-Boniface MB R2H 0G4

Facebook: Passion et Histoire Saint-Boniface www.passionethistoire.ca

