

Here's the project: The 4 Winds sesquicentennial Brigades.

The concept is simple: 4 brigades, one from the west, one from the north, one from the east, and one from the South, each with Victoria Island (Asinabke) in the Ottawa River at the foot of the parliament buildings as its final destination. The date of arrival: July 1, Canada Day

Traditionally, voyageur canoes carried cargo of furs and trade goods. But these canoes will carry a different kind of payload – ideas, hopes and dreams. Our mission is to draw attention to the need for everyone, , from citizen advocacy to the highest political echelons to the spirit of reconciliation - we want to see a Canada where all cultures can work and live together in peace and harmony and justice, and to also highlight reconciliation with the ecosystems that support us.

To symbolize this idea, we will bring bottles of water from the beginnings of the journey each brigade will follow to the foot of Canada's parliament. The brigades will be carried out in honour of Elder William Commanda and his vision for a Circle of all Nations, with the canoe as a symbol of how people, water, and nature combine and work together to animate peace, healing, and understanding.

The brigades will end at Victoria Island, at the foot of Parliament Hill in Ottawa We have picked the Ottawa site because of its 5,000 year-long tradition in Algonquin history as a place of political evolution and cultural convergence that continued with the choice of Ottawa by Queen Victoria as the capital of Canada.

The route of each of the four brigades is as follows:

North Wind Brigade: the Gatineau River from Kitigan Zibi to Victoria Island in Ottawa (one week) .

Organizer: Celine Whiteduck (chilli1717@hotmail.cop)

South Brigade: Kingston to Ottawa (9 days).

Organizer: Max Finkelstein (dowfink@gmail.com)

East Wind Brigade: Up the; Ottawa from the Fur Trade Museum in Lachine. (1 week)

Organizer; Jean Castonguay jcastonguay @.cegep-heritage qc.ca 818-921-9025

West Wind Brigade: Mattawa to Ottawa on the mighty Ottawa River (eight days).

Organizer: Don Stoneman (don.stoneman55@gmail.com)