



CANADIAN  
MUSEUM  
OF HISTORY  
-  
MUSÉE  
CANADIEN  
DE L'HISTOIRE

A photograph of a museum exhibit. In the foreground, a glass display case contains various tools, including a long-handled axe, a smaller axe, and a bone tool. Behind the case, a large wooden canoe is displayed. In the background, there are informational panels with diagrams and a window showing a lake and trees. A large white magnifying glass icon is overlaid on the left side of the text.

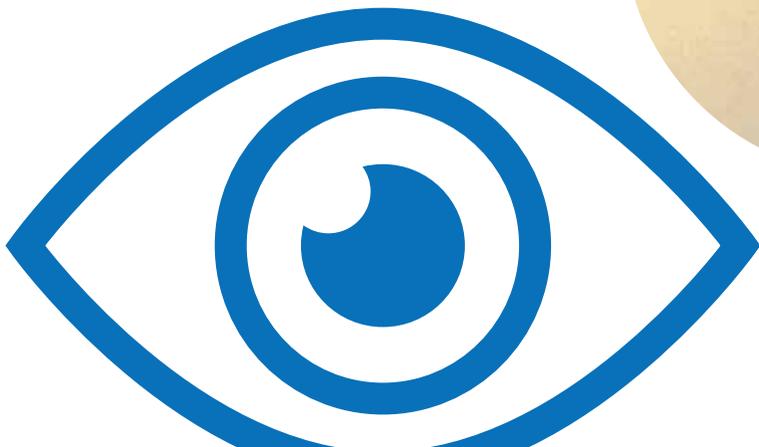
# MUSEUM QUEST-ORY

**CANADIAN HISTORY HALL  
- GALLERY 1**



Explore Gallery 1 of the  
**Canadian History Hall. See**  
if you can follow each step  
in the self-guided quest.

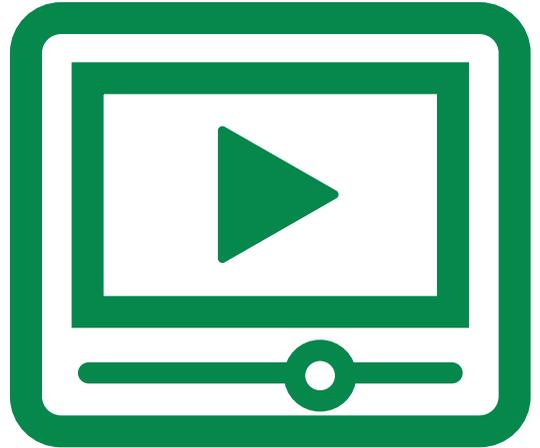
**In this gallery, you will**  
find **PEOPLE, ANIMALS**  
and **OBJECTS**. Keep  
your eyes and ears  
open – and get ready  
to explore!



As you enter the gallery, you will see a large screen with a video that tells an Algonquin Anishinabeg creation story.



**DO:** Watch and listen to the story, which is told in the Algonquin language. Can you tell from the images which animal helped the Anishinabe (Algonquin) people to live together peacefully?



**FAST FACT:** It is said when the Great Spirit created the earth, he called a meeting with all the spirits. Each spirit explained to the Great Spirit how they would help the people. Among them was the spirit of the Otter. He told the Great Spirit: "Because of my character and nature, I will help the people to work together in your creation."

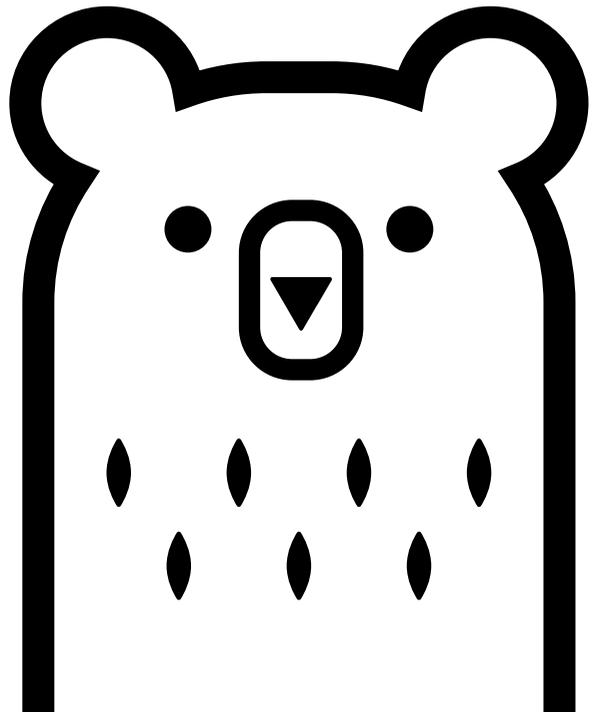
**On your left, you will see objects from the Clovis people, who lived 13,500 years ago. They hunted animals, like mammoths and giant beavers, as food and for their pelts.**



**DO:** Find the giant beaver tooth in the case.



**FAST FACT:** A giant beaver could weigh up to 125 kilograms (275 pounds), which is about the size of an adult black bear!



Your next stop is in front of the model of the bison hunt, on the other side of the large bison skull.

For Indigenous peoples on the northern plains, life was centred around the bison hunt.



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**DO:** Look at the model of the buffalo jump in the case. Count the number of hunters in disguise.\*



**FAST FACT:** “Buffalo runners” were hunters who disguised themselves as bison and wolves to lure the buffalo to the cliff edge. At a given signal, the runners and other hunters stampeded the herd over the cliff. At the bottom, people killed any bison that had survived the fall.

**EXTRA:** Listen to Elder Wilfred Yellow Wings of the Piikani Nation as he describes the buffalo jump.



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\* Answer: 5

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**Look at the wall ahead.**

**Do you see the whale in the ocean?**

**What other animals do you see?**

**Indigenous peoples on the East Coast developed tools to hunt and fish on the sea.**



**DO:** Find the shark tooth in the case.



**FAST FACT:** East Coast Indigenous peoples have a spiritual connection with the sea. They made pendants from shark teeth and carvings of killer whales to help and protect them while hunting.

Do you see a large case with only one object in it?

The First Face is one of the earliest depictions of a human face in North America. It is most likely a woman's face.



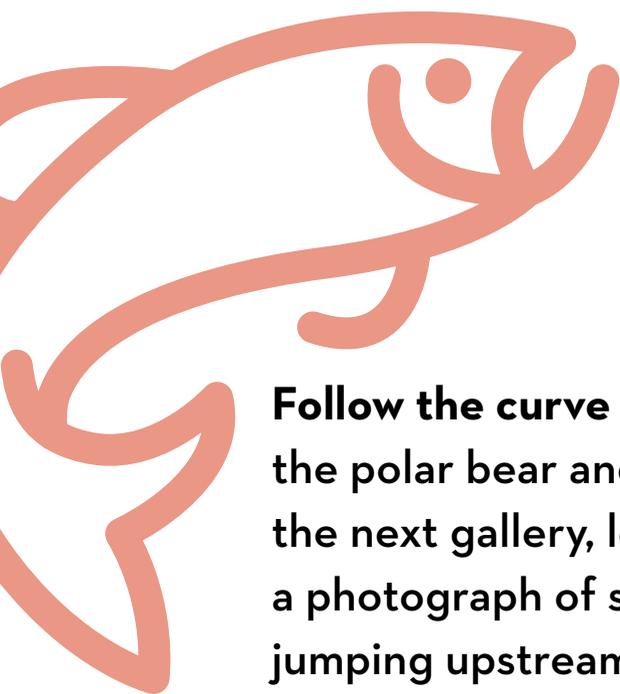
**DO:** Find the First Face.  
Is it big or small?



**FAST FACT:** The grooves in the face may represent tattoos. In Inuit culture, until recently, only women had facial tattoos.



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**Follow the curve around the polar bear and, in the next gallery, look for a photograph of salmon jumping upstream.**



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**The shísháhl Nation and the Canadian Museum of History worked together to produce a portrait of a family that lived over 4,000 years ago.**



**DO:** Find the portrait.

**Hint:** *Their faces are moving!*



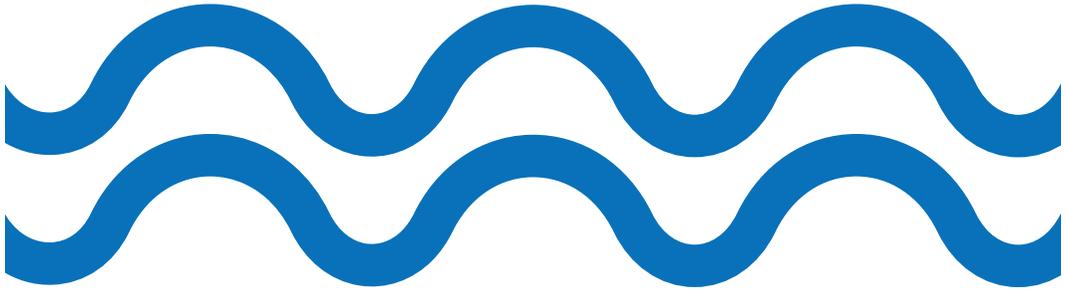
**FAST FACT:** This family of four was buried with more than 350,000 stone and shell beads. The beads may have been sewn onto clothing or blankets, and they tell us that the family were wealthy and had a high social status.

Look across the gallery. Do you see a large canoe?

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**DO:** Go over to the canoe. It has a design based on petroglyphs, or rock art. Looking at the petroglyphs, how do you think the canoe was used?



**FAST FACT:** This canoe was made by Todd Labrador, a Mi'kmaq Elder from Nova Scotia. Mi'kmaq people used large canoes like this one to travel, fish and hunt on the sea.

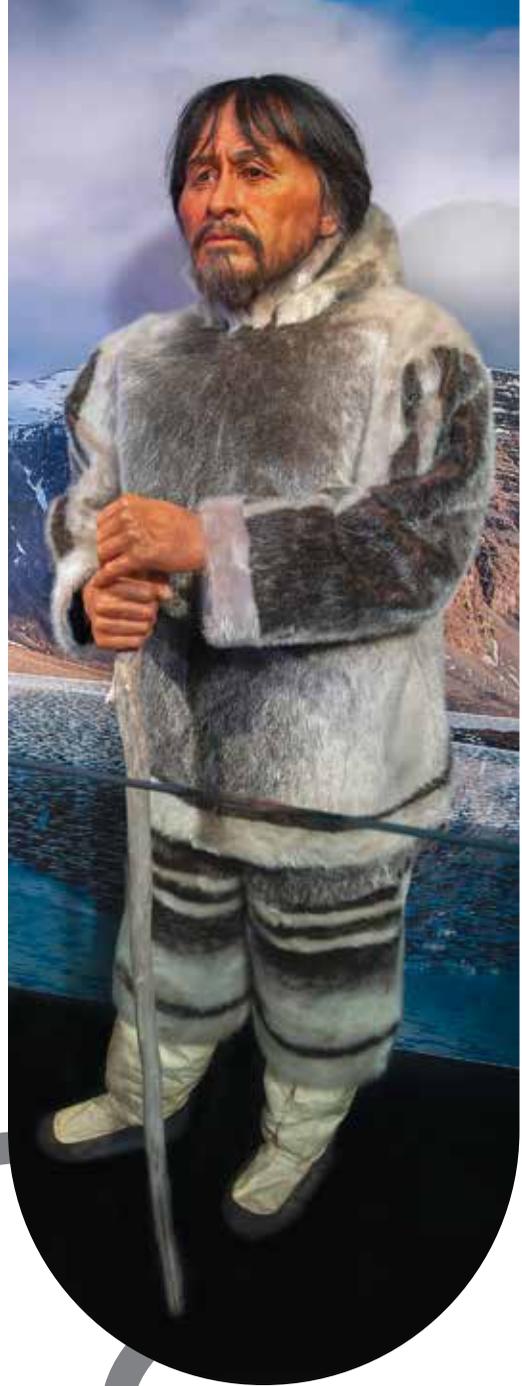
## Straight ahead, you will meet Nuvumiutaq, the Arctic Bay kayaker.



**DO:** Go over to the kayaker. What is he wearing? Do you think Arctic Bay was warm or cold?



**FAST FACT:** Inuit in the Arctic kept warm by wearing clothes made from caribou hides and sealskin. Caribou hair is hollow, so it traps the air inside it, making caribou hide clothing very warm.



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**Continue around the corner from the Arctic Bay kayaker to take a big leap ahead in time. About 1,000 years ago, Europeans began sailing to North America. Many hoped to find new trade routes to Asia.**



**DO:** Find the large model of the galleon, or giant ship, *San Juan de Pasajes*.



**FAST FACT:**

Europeans crossed the Atlantic Ocean in ships like these, to fish and hunt whales. Archaeologists have found proof of whaling expeditions in Red Bay, off the coast of southern Labrador.



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**Up ahead on your left, turn the corner into a small alcove. Here you will learn about another European explorer, Samuel de Champlain.**



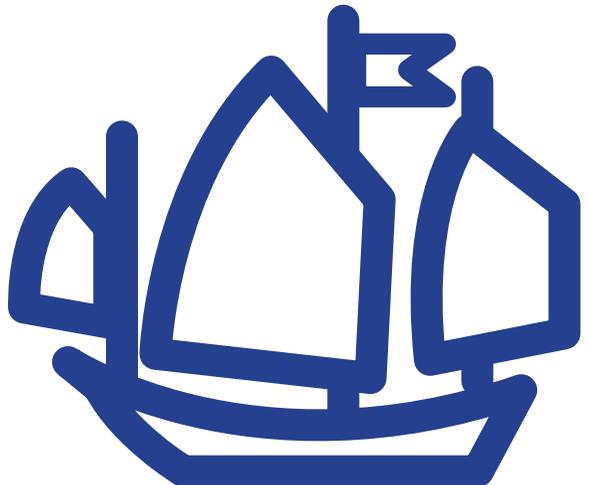
**Samuel de Champlain was an explorer and cartographer, or map-maker. He made detailed maps of the lands and waterways he travelled. He used an astrolabe to help him navigate.**



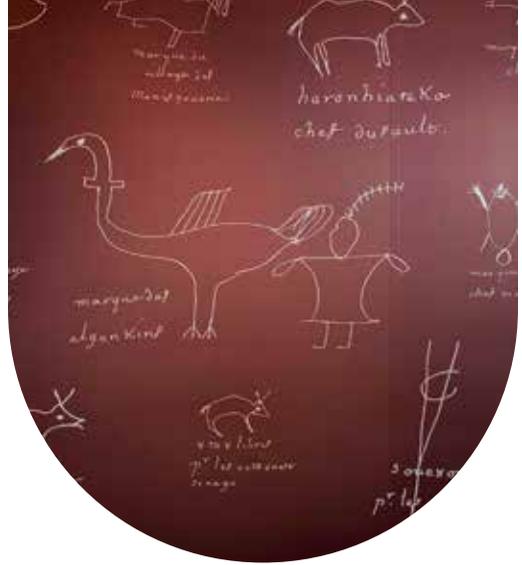
**DO:** Find the astrolabe. Can you imagine using this to find your way across an ocean in a boat? Think about the tools we use to find our way nowadays.



**FAST FACT:** Champlain crossed the Atlantic Ocean over 20 times during his explorations!



**Walk to the next section and look for drawings of animals on the wall. These drawings tell us about a peace treaty between Europeans and Indigenous nations.**



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**DO:** Go up to the wall with the animal drawings. What kinds of animals do you see? What sort of animal symbol would you choose to sign your own name?



**FAST FACT:** The Great Peace of Montréal was a treaty that New France and 40 Indigenous nations signed in 1701. They agreed to share access to resources and to respect each other's territories. The animals you see are the signatures, or symbols, representing each Indigenous nation that signed the treaty.



Keep going to the New France section. New France began as a trading outpost and grew into a large agricultural society in the 1700s. Here you will meet four women.



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**DO:** Find the four silhouettes.

**Hint:** Look in the middle and the corners of the section! What are the women's names? What did they do?



**FAST FACT:** The King of France sponsored some 800 young women to come to New France. They were known as *filles du roi*, or daughters of the king. The tree in the middle of this section shows the descendants of one *fille du roi*, Catherine Moitié. How many descendants do you think there are? \*

\* Answer: More than 600!



**Carry on to the next section, to learn more about trade in North America.**

**The Indigenous peoples who traded with the English and French were good at negotiating. They also knew how to adapt European trade goods to suit their own needs.**



**DO:** Go to the **Adapting Trade Goods** case on your left. Can you find the fish hook?



**FAST FACT:** Indigenous peoples soon adapted European trade goods for their own use. Metal knives were more durable than their traditional stone or bone knives and, for hunting, firearms were easier than bows and arrows. Old nails and glass bottles found new life as fish hooks and flaked hide scrapers.

From this section, walk to the end of the gallery.  
On the right-hand side, you will see four portraits.



**From left to right:**

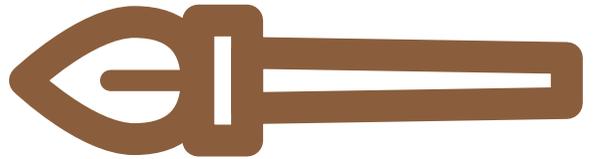
Portrait of Tejonihokarawa, Portrait of Etowaucun, Portrait of Sagayenkwaraton, Portrait of Onigoheriagio  
John Verelst, 1710

On loan from Library and Archives Canada

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**DO:** Find the four portraits.  
What colour do you see  
in all the portraits?



**FAST FACT:** Between 1600 and 1750, France and Britain were at war five times. Some Indigenous leaders tried to use the battle between Britain and France to regain control over their own land. In 1710, three Haudenosaunee and one Mohican leader travelled to London to meet Queen Anne. They wanted British support to drive the French out of North America. The leaders were given a very special welcome in London. They rode in royal carriages and had their portraits commissioned by Queen Anne. These are among the earliest accurate paintings of Indigenous peoples.



**Congratulations!** You have completed the quest and learned about some of the people, animals and objects from Canada's earliest times. **Carry on to Galleries 2 and 3 to learn more!**





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