

Algonquins of Ontario

Renewed Hope:

A Journey of Survival, Rebuilding and Self-Sufficiency



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Algonquins of Ontario. Who Are We?

There are approximately 10,000 people of Algonquin and Nipissing descent with about 7,000 living in the Algonquin Traditional Territory. Many Algonquins live in Ontario outside the Territory, as well as in other provinces and countries.



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Algonquins lived in present day Ontario before the Europeans arrived

The Algonquins were on the Kitchisibi River (now known as the Ottawa River) and its tributary valleys when the French moved into the area. Samuel de Champlain made contact with the Algonquins in 1603 shortly after he established the first permanent French settlement on the St. Lawrence at Tadoussac.



In 1610, Algonquin guides accompanied Étienne Brûlé on his voyages to the interior of Canada.

History of the Algonquin Peoples



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History of the Algonquin Peoples

- Algonquins lived in the Kitchisibi (Ottawa) Watershed for many centuries before Europeans came to present day Canada
- Samuel de Champlain made first contact with the Algonquins in 1603 after establishing the first permanent French settlement at Tadoussac
- Algonquins were the key French ally in the Upper Canada fur trade during 17th and 18th centuries
- Indian wars (1755-63) established British dominance (1760 Articles of Capitulation and 1763 Treaty of Paris gave British control over Upper and Lower Canada)
- Many British loyalists fled U.S. and settled in Algonquin territory after war of Independence ended in 1783
- 1783 and 1822 British purport to “purchase” Algonquin lands from Mississauga in now discredited transactions

“The Algonquins have never signed a treaty or taken treaty benefits for their territory.”

“The Algonquin land claim is unfinished business for the governments of Canada and Ontario”

*Robert J. Potts, Principal Negotiator and Senior Legal Counsel/
Algonquin (Treaty) Negotiating Team*

“...our Great Father George III, of glorious Memory, by his Royal Proclamation given at the Court of St. James the 17th Day of October 1763, promulgated to us ... did expressly declare and

The Algonquin land claim has its earliest foundation from the proclamation made by George III in 1763 requiring British officials in the Canadian colonies to respect ownership of Aboriginal “hunting grounds,” including those occupied by the Algonquins.

In 2005, an independent election process elected 16 Algonquin community leaders to conduct negotiations with governments.

- There are nine Algonquin Negotiating Representatives (or ANRs) chosen by Algonquin electors in nine communities throughout the Traditional Territory
- The Chief of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn and six democratically elected councillors participate as ANRs on the negotiating team.
- Further elections were held in 2008 in keeping with the democratic spirit of the Algonquins

Algonquins of Ontario

Cultural Awakening

Omâmiwinini Pimâdjwowin
Algonquin Way of Life Cultural Centre

**Our Mission: to revitalize,
reintegrate, enhance and protect
the cultural traditions, customs,
practices, heritage, language and
arts of the Algonquin Nation**

<http://www.thealgonquinway.ca>



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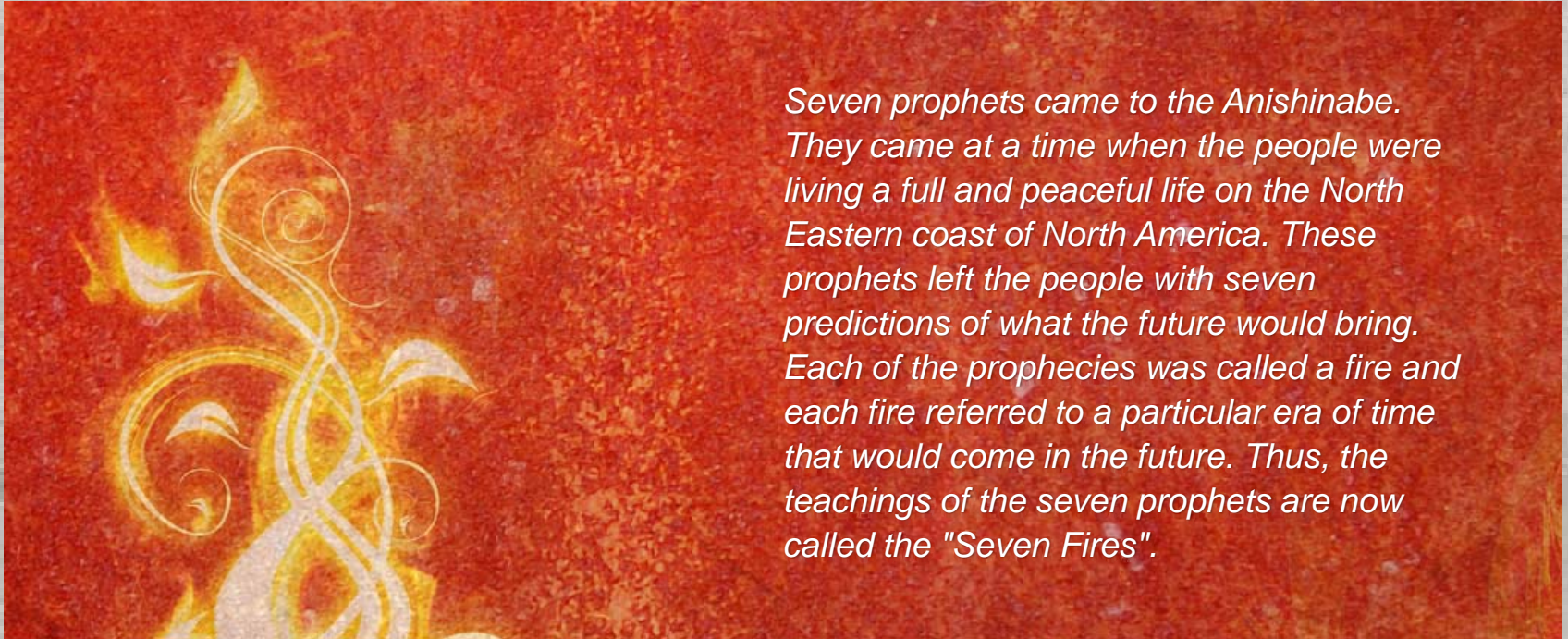
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Cultural Awakening

Philosophy & History:

Seven Fires Prophecy & the Kitchisibi (Ottawa) Watershed Anishnabe



Seven prophets came to the Anishinabe. They came at a time when the people were living a full and peaceful life on the North Eastern coast of North America. These prophets left the people with seven predictions of what the future would bring. Each of the prophecies was called a fire and each fire referred to a particular era of time that would come in the future. Thus, the teachings of the seven prophets are now called the "Seven Fires".

Reaching an Historic Settlement with Governments

Renewed Hope: A Journey of Survival, Rebuilding and Self-Sufficiency

- ANRs are leading this journey to lay a solid foundation for the Algonquin Nation in Ontario
- Algonquins have tabled an Economic Development Plan with governments
- Proposes a framework for reaching an historic settlement and Treaty
- Covers areas for Algonquin nationhood that include:
 - Cultural development
 - Natural resource management
 - Land and water
 - Socio-economic development
 - Algonquin Government

Key Objectives

“Win-Win” for all peoples in the Traditional Territory

- Reconciliation
- Expanded economic activity
- Algonquin cultural renaissance
- Mutual respect for all peoples
- Recognizing and affirming Algonquin rights under the Canadian constitution

Presence in the Algonquin Traditional Territory

Cultural Development

The Algonquin cultural way of life includes language, values, beliefs, and traditional practices and teachings.

Pre Treaty Activity

- Re-building culture
 - Community workshops
 - Nation gathering in July 2009
- Our people participate in public gatherings
 - Welcoming ceremonies, drumming and songs
 - Other traditional Algonquin ceremonies
 - Building awareness about Algonquin history, philosophy, culture and traditional medicines
- Preservation of historical and sacred sites throughout Traditional Territory

Post Treaty

- Ongoing nation building efforts bring the Algonquin people together as one Nation
- Protection and respectful treatment of Algonquin heritage resources
- Improved access to cultural education and training for Algonquins (e.g., language, history and archaeology)

Presence in the Algonquin Traditional Territory

Natural Resource Management

Natural resources have a deep cultural and spiritual importance to the Algonquins and are integral to the Algonquin way of life.

Pre Treaty Activity

- Regular consultations with Ministry of Natural Resources on harvesting issues (hunting, fishing, gathering, etc.)
- Engaged in dialogues with government of Ontario regarding “Lightening the Ecological Footprint of Forestry Operations in Algonquin Park”
- Addressing various mining issues in the Traditional Territory, including pressing for amendments to the *Mining Act*, to protect Algonquin and other interests
- Active consultation in green energy initiatives (wind energy, power and biofibre)

Post Treaty

- Successful reconciliation requires:
 - (i) the establishment of mechanisms that provide for real Algonquin influence over the management of, and access to, natural resources in the Traditional Territory; and
 - (ii) an equitable share for Algonquins in the economic benefits derived from the extraction and use of natural resources from the Traditional Territory.
- Meaningful Algonquin management and use of natural resources :
 - Forestry
 - Harvesting of flora and fauna
 - Mining and extraction activities
 - Water resources
 - Power generation
 - Management of Algonquin Park and other parks and protected lands

Presence in the Algonquin Traditional Territory

Land and Water

Land and water are fundamental for the Algonquins to engage in traditional practices and are seen as a central component in the development of economic opportunities and prosperity for the Algonquin Nation.

Pre Treaty Activity

- Meetings with governments to negotiate land selections to be included in the Treaty
- Engaging in many consultations about land dispositions by the Crown throughout the Traditional Territory where the Algonquins of Ontario have an interest

Post Treaty

- Algonquin Nation lands in the Traditional Territory that:
 - Ensure Algonquin survival by providing high profile and historically meaningful locations for the establishment of “signature” projects that support and enhance the rejuvenation of Algonquin history and culture
 - Provide significant opportunities/economic engines for sustainable economic development and win-win opportunities for both Algonquin and non-native communities in the immediate and long term
 - Be inalienable and not subject to expropriation
- Algonquin Community Lands
 - Protect Algonquin values
 - Provide for cultural, administrative, commercial, industrial, and recreational opportunities as well as Algonquin centered residential options
 - Enhance and support Algonquin economic development and provide job opportunities in the region

Presence in the Algonquin Traditional Territory

Socio-economic development

A key element is a solid foundation upon which the economic well-being of Algonquins can be improved.

Pre Treaty Activity

- Opening for a consultation/administration building office, to serve as a future base of operations
- Engaging in discussions with the Federal Public Works Department regarding initiating economic benefits/ training initiatives for the Algonquins of Ontario
- Engaging with the City of Ottawa on a number of issues relevant to the Algonquin interests, including the City's Official Plan Amendment, interprovincial bridges, CFB Rockcliffe, Chaudière and Victoria Islands, and the disposition of various public buildings

Post Treaty

Specific Algonquin socio-economic development initiatives that fall into four major categories:

- Workforce Development
 - Education, training, skill and entrepreneurial development and capacity building that are critical in enabling Algonquins to participate effectively in the modern economy
- Market Development
 - provide an environment in which economic opportunities can be generated
- Business Development
 - business development programs that facilitate the development of, and investment in Algonquin small businesses
- Government Procurement
 - considerations for Algonquin people with respect to government procurement

Presence in the Algonquin Traditional Territory

Algonquin Government

Well-defined control over Algonquin lands, assets, and matters is needed by Algonquins to practice their traditions, and maintain and enhance their cultural identity. Modern day reality requires any government structure recognize that Algonquins live shoulder-to-shoulder with non-Algonquin people.

Pre Treaty Activity

- Developing an Algonquin constitution to deal with citizenship, nation and community government, Algonquin law and enforcement
- Various initiatives underway or planned to recognize Algonquin lands, improve education opportunities for youth and rebuild culture

Post Treaty

- Algonquin Constitution that establishes a federal system of Algonquin government with one Nation government and local community governments
- Algonquin Tribunal administers Algonquin Law (such as laws relating to harvesting by Algonquins and other matters)
- Government structures for nation and community governments that are:
 - Democratic
 - Representative
 - Transparent
 - Just
 - Efficient

Algonquin Negotiation Representatives (ANRs)

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Mattawa/North Bay

Katherine CANNON
Bancroft

Lynn CLOUTHIER
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Whitney

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(Shabot Obaadjiwan)

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Antoine

Sherry KOHOKO
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