

8/1/02

ABERDEENSHIRE TOTEM POLE PROJECT

Outline of Project

To carve and erect 13 wooden poles in various locations around Scotland starting in August 2002 and completed in 2006.

In 2002, Dunkeld, Perthshire and Strathdon and Bennachie Aberdeenshire will be the three main areas where totem poles will be carved.

The project will enable local people to have a hands on understanding of how totem poles are designed, carved and the traditions behind them.

The project will be a great opportunity to exchange thoughts and ideas with first nation people.

There will be 3 carved themes on each pole. The poles (Dunkeld and Strathdon) will be approximately 40 ft high (approximately 4 ft of which will be in the ground). First Nation Canadians will carve the bottom 12 feet and have their unique designs on it, such as: crests, symbols or representations of Scottish symbols. The next 18-ft will be designs produced by local people with symbols representing stories and themes etc of the area in which the pole is to be erected. The top half of the pole (6-ft) would have one or two designs common to all poles.

ABERDEENSHIRE TOTEM POLES

A Douglas fir has been chosen from Deeside and been blessed by Xwa -lack -tun (First Nation wood Carver) in August 2002. The whole of this 60ft tree will be used: 40 ft will be for a Strathdon pole and 20 ft will be for sent to The Bennachie Centre to be carved as a token pole to publicise a larger pole for 2003

PROPOSED PROJECT PLAN - BENNACHIE

MARCH and JUNE 2002- Kenny Grieve (Brotus Rural Crafts), Ian Mitchell (Aberdeenshire Council Arts Specialist) and Fred Gordon (Head Aberdeenshire Council Ranger) will visit and talk to local school, local wood carvers and community groups in the area inspire them to create totem pole designs. The school and community groups will be encouraged to form e-mail links with first nation schools or groups.

JULY 2002 – Kenny, Ian and Fred will select designs for pole and Kenny will organise the felling and prepare the tree.

AUGUST

16 – 18 AUGUST 2002 –the pole will be carved at The Bennachie Centre involving local carvers and 2 first nation carvers. The centre will also put on music and guided drawing sessions over the weekend. The pole will be raised on Sunday 18 August 2002 at the Back O' Bennachie Car Park.

COSTS OF PROJECT (Strathdon and Bennachie)

Tutors: first nation carvers and storyteller's 10 days £200 per tutor	£4000.00
Kenny Grieve 20days £140/day (including co-ordination)	£2800.00
Transport of tutors 35 pence per mile	£200.00
Accommodation of tutors £20 per night (Tutors are willing to stay with participants to reduce costs)	£740.00
Transport of tree (Donside and Bennachie)	£500.00
Erection of poles	£500.00
Insurance	£200.00
Planning permission for poles	£400.00
TOTAL	£9340.00

Transport from Canada to Scotland is being paid for by British Columbia Arts Council Grant

Income

Sponsorship from The Lost Gallery	£2000.00
Duncan and Todd	£1000.00
Transport (timber haulage firm)	£500.00
Accommodation (provided by local residents) £740.00	
Forestry Commission	£1000.00
Aberdeenshire Council	£2500.00
TOTAL	£7740.00

For further information contact:

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