

Weelihk Thupeekw Heritage Journal

November 1st, 2023

TIMELINE



An Introduction to the Journal

Koolamalsi!

What you are reading is the brand new Weelihk Thupeekw Heritage Journal. Inside you can find intriguing stories from our past — footprints, if you will, of our journey from our homeland in Lenapehoking to Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewiit. Keep an eye out for it in the Community Newsletter!

Let this first printing be an introduction. Firstly, you will notice the TIMELINE on the left side of the page. This is a permanent feature that will be in all publications of the Journal. The timeline will help keep things straight, as we will be covering stories that span hundreds of years or more. The red arrow next to the timeline marks the point in history that is in focus.

You will also notice that the timeline continues onto the back of this page. It is broken up into two segments. This first page covers our journey northward from our homeland and so starts with our first contact with colonizers. On the back of this page the timeline stretches much further—all the way back to Creation—where you can find cultural content and stories, or an interactive cultural activity.

Weelihk Thupeekw is a term in our language meaning "Beautiful Place." The name was applied to all of our communities we established along rivers between Manahatta and Eelūnaapéewi Lahkéewiit. The Journal is meant to offer a space for Community Members to share knowledge and create a Lenape history program that seeks out the beating heart of our past in the form of stories. Short, educational, enlightening, stories — OUR story, told in our voice with our unique perspective of history.

TIMELINE CONTINUED



Update from Fairfield Museum



Signing over of Fairfield Museum, May 10th, 2019.

Fairfield museum has been owned and operated by the United Church of Canada for 74 years, from its opening in 1945 until its return to the Delaware Nation on May 10th, 2019. Fairfield Museum has always told the history of the Lenape, but the Lenape had no say in how that history was told... Until now.

The signing of the Museum over to the Lenape marks the moment in our history where we reclaim control of our story. With this development, we can tell the truth of our heritage. Our history is long and, since our first contact with colonists, approximately May of 1524, it has many dark chapters. We have endured many hardships and despite all of the attempts to suppress our culture, we are still here. We are honouring our beliefs, sharing our stories, and relearning our traditions.

Join us on this journey as we challenge the colonial view!


Call For Contributions

We are looking for content!

Do you have knowledge of our culture or a heritage story you'd like to share? Or perhaps you have a historical photo...

Send it in!

Contact the Culture & Heritage Communications Developer to be added into the Weelihk Thupeekw Heritage Journal.

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or visit us at the Eelūnaapēewi Lahkēewiit Library to have a chat!
22830 Centre Rd, Bothwell, ON.