

How To Develop A Historica Fair Project

There are two parts to every Historica Fair project:

1. The research process where you learn about your topic
2. The product that you produce to tell others about what you have learned

Your project will be judged on how difficult it was to do and how much information you were able to find.

For example, if your project was about a historical building, such as an old Hudson Bay building, here is the work you could do to make it an excellent project.

Topic: A Historical Building

Level 1

You produce a map or photo of the original location of the building (i.e. an old Hudson Bay building), a model or a report based on material found in the library or from your grandparents, etc. That is all you do and it would only be a level one project.

Level 2

You read everything you can find about the building and decide how it has made a difference to the development of the community.

Level 3

You add to the information collected in Level 2 by interviews with builders, descendants of the original owners and Elders in the community, archival materials and other sources. After study of the data, you compare the state of the building today with when it was built, its use today as compared to when it was built and how alterations may have affected it.

Level 4

You collect information from a wide variety of sources. After you study and think about the data, you offer your own explanation of the importance of the building to the economic development of the community. Your ideas may agree or disagree with other people who think that the building should be torn down or preserved. To do all this for a project takes a lot of work and the judges will see that you have thought about your project very seriously.

Possible Topics for Historica Fair Projects

PERSONAL MEMORIES

Tell your own story, tell about your names
Narrative histories
Family's heritage, your family's story

SYMBOLS (SYMBOLISM) OF CANADA/NUNAVUT

Flag
RCMP
Money
Inukshuk
F-numbers

GOVERNMENT

Inuit or Nunavut politicians

TOOLS/EQUIPMENT

Harpoons, seal hooks, floats
Snow goggles, clothing
Ulus, knives, needles
Sleds, dog harness

CELEBRATIONS

Family traditions
Skidoo races, dog team races
Nunavut Day
Fish derby
Sports, Arctic Winter Games
Drum dancing
Events at the community hall

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUR COMMUNITY

Graveyard/cemeteries
Sea lift/barge
Newspaper
Electricity
Paved roads, where do roads go, how far
Transportation, vehicles
Important part of community
Buildings: schools, churches, businesses, arenas
Diocese: cathedral, bishop's residence
Important person's residence

MINING

Coal Zinc

FADS

Hairdos
Sayings, Slang
Clothing
Music, Dances

HOUSING/BUILDINGS

Architectural characteristics - HAP houses, Access houses, government housing
Furnishings - traditional and now
Historic buildings – churches, schools, Hudson Bay buildings, old camping places
Land use – parks/bird sanctuaries/whale sanctuaries
Tools for building - snow knife
Types of buildings – snow houses, tents, sheds, camps
Building materials

GEOGRAPHY & CLIMATE

Influences on settlement and development
Comparisons of our climate with others
Weather extremes and challenges
Plants and how people use them
Hunting trails
Animal/bird migration habits

FOOD

Traditional, preservation
Cooking, food preparation
Utensils
Berry picking
Meat skinning, cutting

CATASTROPHES

Fires
Landslides, avalanches
Blizzards

BUSINESS

Occupations and professions
Economy (tourism, etc.)
Hunting, fishing (technology, laws)
Importance of the water
General stores
Fast food places

ARTISTS

Famous Inuit/Canadian artists
Inuit literature/authors/illustrators
Local authors (poets)
Local artists (carvers, printmakers, weavers, sewers)
Musicians, Dancers

SOCIAL STRUCTURES - FAMILIES

Values
Historical figures, heroes
Traditional men's/women's roles
Childhood responsibilities
Children's work
Family trees
Arctic relocations

COMMUNICATION

Radio/TV
Telephone
Media (history and growth)
CBC North/IBC/APTN
Mail
Electronic media
Famous figures

RECREATION

Sports clubs
Dances
Water sports, boating, qajaqing
Hockey, baseball, soccer
Traditional toys and games
Entertainment (Inuit games, dog sledding)

