



11. TABASKÀ ZÌBÌ - RIDEAU RIVER INFORMATION CARD

Geographic Information

The Rideau River (Tabaskà Zib) drains an area of over 4,000 square kilometers of Eastern Ontario. The main stem of the river flows in a northerly direction from Upper Rideau Lake near Newboro to the City of Ottawa where it tumbles over Rideau Falls into the Ottawa River. Total length of the longest part of the watershed is about 180 kilometers. From the highest point in the valley (Carnahan Lake in the Tay sub-watershed) to the Ottawa River is a drop of 204 meters in elevation. About 620,000 people live in the watershed including a large part of the City of Ottawa, the fourth largest metropolitan area in Canada. There are 18 municipalities within the valley and most people, outside of Ottawa, draw their drinking water from the river or from groundwater.

Anishinabe Algonquin History

Members of the Algonquin Nation have called the land within the Rideau River watershed home since time immemorial. These people speak the Algonquin language and are culturally closely related to the Odawa, Potawatomi, Objjwe, Mississauga, and Nipissing, making up the majority of the Anishinaabeg. The groups here cultivate corn, sunflower, and other crops to supplement their diet that is largely from their hunting and fishing based culture. The many waterways through this region were used as high-speed travel routes as the Algonquin are expert canoe makers.

Kabeshinàn Sites and Activity Instructions

1. Use the blue rope to outline your river on the map.
 2. Use the arrow cards to show the direction of flow of your river.
 3. There are no documented Kabeshinan sites along your river on this map.
- Kabeshinàn is the Algonquin word for a campsite or gathering place along a body of water, usually at the meeting place of two rivers.
 - These sites hold significance because they are archeological sites that contain artifacts from pre-contact Algonquin Aki land, these sites have been used since time immemorial.