

HISTORIC

THE BEGINNING

Since December 2001, a reflection of the upcoming event was given to the municipal Council in the eventual celebration of the 150th of Buckland. The Council then votes to allot the amount of 1000\$ to a group of citizens that is interested in developing a variety of activities to celebrate the 150th of our town in 2007.

In June of 2002, our local newspaper *Le Vent du Sud* reports that the municipal Council brought together the population of Buckland to an assembly in our community Center on June 12th at 7h30 PM. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the importance of organizing festivities for the 150th anniversary of our town of Buckland. In launching this large scale project, the municipality wanted to pay homage to those who helped to form the history of Buckland.

At this time, it was ascertained that this celebration would reflect the spirit of the towns people. It was considered really important to come together and determine the extent of how much time to give to this event and also to determine the human and financial resources available.

THE SURVEY

The group of 6 counsel people signal a call to all in our local newspaper *Le Vent du Sud* for September 17th 2002. Eighteen people were interested in an evening of reflection for the 150th anniversary of Buckland. Several points were discussed during this crucial meeting.

- Objective of a grand scale festivity
- The scope of the reunion
- Activity type and role
- Necessary infrastructure for the celebration

In December 2002, to get an idea of what the townspeople want, we developed a survey. The objective of this survey was to get the people's expectations for such a reunion. The results would be compiled in early 2003 in the hope that it would help the future Central Committee for the 150th of Buckland. We hoped it would show the population's interest in the event and also the availability of volunteers, this would facilitate the work of the Central Committee. While it was not a scientific survey, it gave the committee members a better understanding of what the townspeople would be interested in.

The survey team was formed instantly; Michel Caron, Laurette Carrier, Rosaline Fontaine, Jean-Eudes Lemieux, Laurent Nolet and Marie-France Therrien accepted the challenge.

It was in a special edition of the *Le Vent du Sud* on the 20th of November 2002 that our survey was distributed to all the households of Buckland. Before completing the survey, we asked the population to follow the directions to help them answer the survey questions. The survey team was also available at all times to answer any questions that would come up. From about 20 questions, the survey allowed people to express their feelings about the 150th festivities of Buckland. You could answer the survey as an individual or as a family group.

A date was set for the survey to be completed by December 21st , 2002. The team got together on January 7th , 2003 to compile the results. Out of 353 surveys distributed by mail, 95 distributed by the team, for a total of 448, 133 surveys were completed. Statistically, the response was very good. Our objective was to collect about 100, which we thought was acceptable for this type of survey.

In conclusion, we have to say that the team's effort of the survey was rewarded by the population's participation. It was a good opportunity for the townspeople to contribute to the celebration.

The unveiling of the survey results was done in two stages. It was advertised in our newspaper *Le Vent du Sud* February 2003, then the survey results were given to a group of people who were interested in forming a Central Committee for the 150th of Buckland. The completed surveys were also available at the Town Hall for viewing.

Throughout the history of our town, it has been a rare occasion to have such group participation. We are grateful to those of you who put in the time and effort necessary to arm us with your wonderful suggestions. We have to mention the excellent collaboration of our municipal council and the office personnel in making the survey edition, and making the publication of the surveys results.

The survey team was very happy. It was a great accomplishment and a good way to advertise the 150th of Buckland. At the beginning, it was often mentioned that it was a little early to speak of the 150th in 2002. The results from the survey showed that the timing was right. To get to a credible compiling, the team spent a considerable amount of time going over the results from the survey. Much care was taken to ensure accurate results. The information gathered would be useful to all of the committees in making relevant decisions regarding the future event. All evidence points to a high level of interest in helping to celebrate the historic 150th anniversary of our great town of Buckland. The next step is to mobilize the necessary volunteers together, we should accomplish something good for the 150th.

FORMATION OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

In the March 2003 edition of *Le Vent du Sud*, the municipal Counsel invited the population to participate in the formation of a Central Committee for the 150th anniversary of Buckland (CCF-150). The meeting that was planned for March 10 th 2003 at 7h30 PM at the community Hall was moved to March 24th 2003 due to a parochial retreat that week.

The invitation took form as an offer of employment. 7 people were needed to administer this historic event. The principal tasks were described and even a profile of the needed people with particular qualities and skills required to accomplish this enormous task. During the meeting, a document from the municipal Council was distributed to the 46 people that attended. The mayor Mr. Jean-Eudes Lemieux went over the different tasks that the Central Committee would be involved with. He stressed the importance that the municipal Council would accord to this event for the 150th of Buckland. The mayor assured all of the people in attendance that they would have the full support of not only him, but also the members of the counsel throughout all of the stages of preparation for the big event. The mayor chose this time to reveal the results of the town survey. He was pleased to point out that the townspeople were in favour of celebrating the 150th of Buckland. He was equally pleased that they were ready to take the time, and put in the effort necessary to make it a memorable event.

The team for the survey answered all questions pertaining to the 150th of Buckland. At the end of the meeting, the mayor invited all present to express their interest in becoming a member of the Central Committee for the 150th. Seven people signed up to be a part of the activities for the 150th. Morally, each took the responsibility to do everything possible in advancing the cause for the 150th. At the end of the meeting, everyone was asked to sign the municipality's golden book so as to remember everyone that took time to show their interest in the upcoming event of the 150th of Buckland.

The newspaper *La Voix du Sud* of April 6, 2003 let everyone in Bellechasse and Etchemins know of the audacious that accepted to sit on the Central Committee for the 150th of

Buckland. Here are the people who were challenged, Mrs. Céline Corriveau, Rosaline Fontaine, Jocelyne Plante, Mr. Robert Lejeune, Roger Nadeau, Gaétan Turgeon and Laurent Nolet.

The mayor congratulated the group's acceptance to work on the Central Committee. He considers the team to be equipped with diversified experience who will bring to term the organisation of the 150th in keeping in mind the population's expectations for the 150th of Buckland.

We thank you for taking the time to visit our site for the 150th anniversary of Buckland, if you need more information, you can click on [Contact us](#) on the central committee at 150-2007@buckland.qc.ca, we will be happy to help you.