



## Sacred Ground Tip Camp: Teaching native heritage

The Qu'Appelle Valley is a rich repository of First Nations culture and mystique, the evolution of thousands of years of communion with land, lake and sky.

Sacred Ground Tipi Camps gives both native and non-native peoples the chance to learn more about native heritage each summer at Crooked Lake.

Sacred Ground Tipi Camps features camping, hiking and learning on the north shore of Crooked Lake across from Melville Beach.

Gordon Lerat, owner and operator, started the venture in 1998. There's been a particular emphasis on youth but the camp is open to all ages.

"With the help of the elders I realized there was a need for our young people to learn about their native heritage and for us to pass on our values to the children," explains Lerat.

"It's important for the youth to know the keys to survival which include the value of life, living in harmony with Mother Earth and protecting the environment."



Have your event(s) listed FREE in this tourist guide for 2009-10, please submit it to us.

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He also wants to re-establish sacred beliefs and strengthen the ties between human life and the earth. The camps are as short as two days and as long as four or five days.

Those experiencing Sacred Ground will have the chance to sleep in a tipi and prepare their own meals — or have them prepared.

The beauty of the valley will be showcased on a guided hike with interpretation of the area's abundant wildlife and its many trees, shrubs and plants. Along the route hikers will be treated to majestic overviews of the lake and valley.

For more information on Sacred Ground Tipi Camps call 696-2996.



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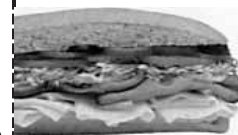
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