

The Three-Part Plan

The scope of topics to demonstrate and discuss in the Bicentennial Commemoration of the Establishment of Hudson's Bay Fort Colvile in 1825 goes beyond what can be accomplished in a one-day or one-weekend event. To expand the opportunities for education and entertainment we are planning to arrange events at 3 different times and places near the Spring Equinox, the Summer Solstice, and the Fall Equinox of 2025. These correspond to annual periods in the Salish language translated as a time-of-gathering, a time-of-fishing, and a time-of-waiting. Currently these times and locations are anticipated but not confirmed. This is a working document that will be updated as plans evolve.

1. The **Spring of 2025** event will focus on what tools and traditions were brought to the fort by the fur trade. We hope to call on the Northwest Fur Trade Historians (Formerly Friends of Spokane House) to set up their encampment wearing historic clothing and demonstrating fur trade crafts and skills at the day use area of the National Park Service Kettle Falls Campground on the shore of Lake Roosevelt on March 22, 2025. This time frame might be expanded since the group annually camps between St. Paul's Mission and the Kettle Falls Historic Center where they are visited by students from nearby schools.
2. The **Solstice 2025** event will feature the culture and knowledge that local tribes used to sustain the fishery at Kettle Falls for thousands of years and contribute to the function of the fort. The annual Salmon Ceremony is held near the Solstice each year. Hoping not to interfere with that sacred occasion but perhaps benefit from the presence of canoes and people from distant tribes, a tentative date is the weekend of June 28th. The Kettle Falls Campground may still be the preferred site. It has ample parking, restrooms, an acre or two of lawn and proximity to the lake. A part of Indigenous and fur trade culture is music. There is a bandstand at Happy Dell Park, a few miles away in the town of Kettle Falls with nearby restrooms, parking and lighting for a nighttime concert which could include drumming, Metis fiddle playing, Native flutes, Bagpipes, dancing and singing. They would be a welcome addition to the weekend.
3. Near the **Fall Equinox**, on the weekend of September 20-21, 2025, we feel it is appropriate to host speakers at an indoor event to recount the memories of those descended from and affected by the presence of Fort Colvile and to hear about their visions of what lies ahead. There are venues at Woodland Theater in Kettle Falls, the

Event Center and the Ag Trade Centers in Colville and the new Misteqqua Casino Hotel near Chewelah.

We have more detailed expectations for all three of these dates and sites. They are being expanded and tracked as contacts are made and commitments confirmed in separate documents on our website. The links to those documents are:

- [Fur Trade Weekend:](https://crossroadsarchive.net/HeritageNetwork/Documents/Fur%20Trade%20Weekend.pdf)
<https://crossroadsarchive.net/HeritageNetwork/Documents/Fur%20Trade%20Weekend.pdf>
- [Native Culture Weekend:](https://crossroadsarchive.net/HeritageNetwork/Documents/Native%20Culture%20Weekend.pdf)
<https://crossroadsarchive.net/HeritageNetwork/Documents/Native%20Culture%20Weekend.pdf>
- [Historians Seminar:](https://crossroadsarchive.net/HeritageNetwork/Documents/Historians%20Seminar.pdf)
<https://crossroadsarchive.net/HeritageNetwork/Documents/Historians%20Seminar.pdf>

Each of these events could benefit from the presence of a small bookstore with a collection based on this commemoration. Also, food vendors could fit into the theme and keep people in attendance.