



Aurore! The Mystery of the Martyred Child

A young girl died a cruel death in a quiet Quebec village in 1920. What is the story behind this tragic case and why does it still haunt the collective memory of the Québécois?

Explosion on the Kettle Valley Line:

The Death of Peter Verigin

An explosion on a train killed the leader of the pacifist Doukhobor religious community in Castlegar, BC in 1924. Investigate the many theories about who did it. Accident or murder?

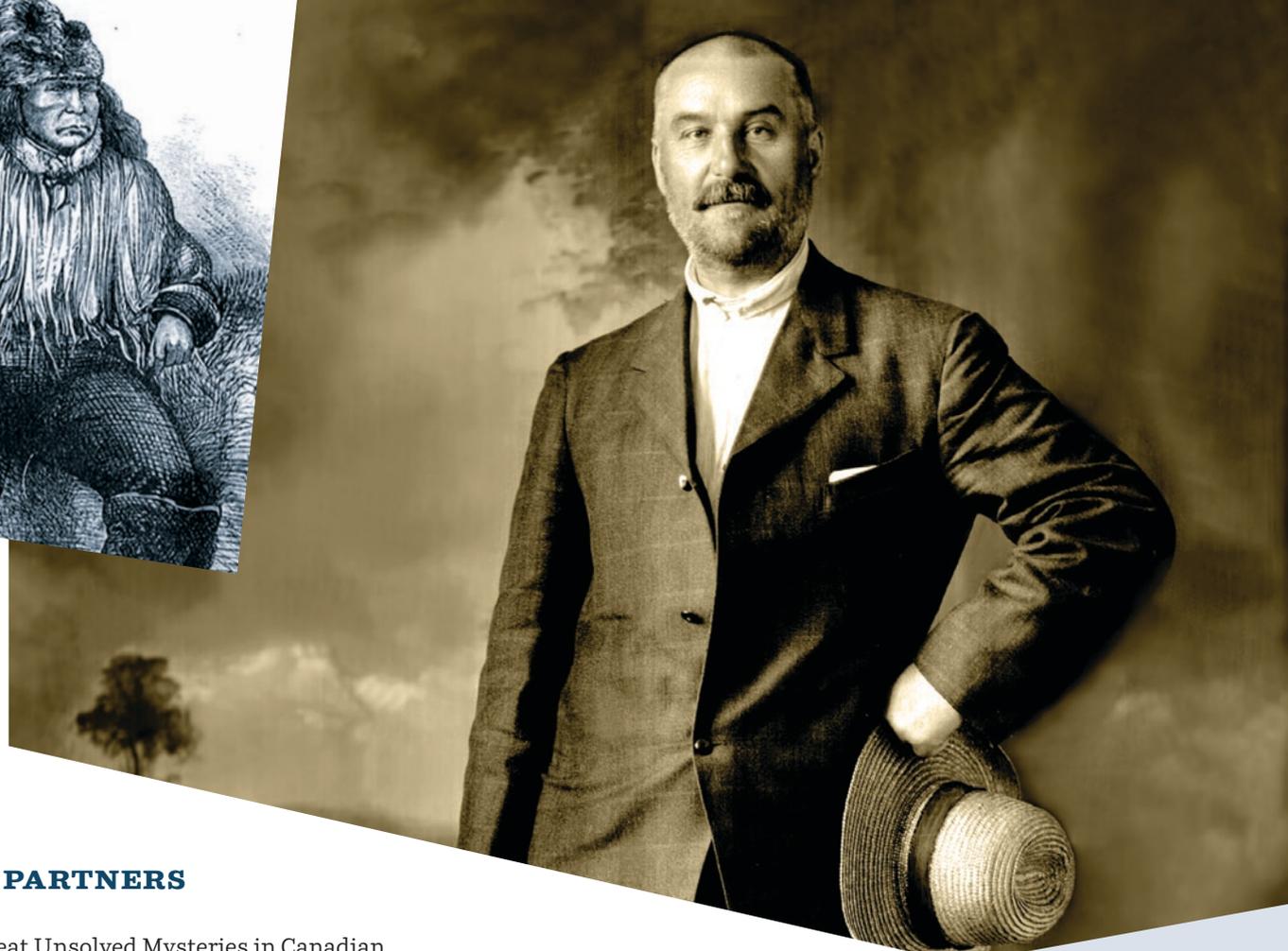
Death of a Diplomat:

Herbert Norman & the Cold War

What would persuade the Canadian ambassador to Egypt to jump from a Cairo building in 1957?

THE MYSTERY QUESTS

This MysteryQuests.ca website includes short, focused, age-specific, single-lesson MysteryQuests lesson plans related to one or more of the mysteries. Each of the MysteryQuest lessons employs the popular and student-friendly WebQuest format to present a lesson that uses The Critical Thinking Consortium's "Critical Challenge" approach and a small selection of primary documents from the sites to create short but powerful lessons involving students in thinking critically about history. The website includes material suitable for ages 11-14, 14-16, and 16-18 plus Teachers' Notes providing detailed support for teachers.



OUR PARTNERS

The Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History project was made possible in part through the Canadian Culture Online Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage. Our partners included the University of Sherbrooke, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Queen's University, Mount Royal College, the University of Waterloo, McGill University, Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies at York University, The Critical Thinking Consortium, Arius 3D and Hot House Design and Marketing. We have also received contributions from dozens of museums, archives, federal government departments, independent researchers, broadcasters, and various cultural institutions in Canada and abroad.

Ce site est disponible en français à l'adresse suivante: www.mysterescanadiens.ca

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.canadianmysteries.ca
www.mysteryquests.ca

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The Great Unsolved Mysteries in

Canadian History project provides high quality materials to universities and schools for the teaching of Canadian History. The project, based in the History Department at the University of Victoria, has completed a series of instructional websites based on the premise that students can be drawn into Canadian history, critical thinking and archival research through the enticement of solving historical cold crimes. Each mystery can be used in one class period or as a complete unit over many classes. All the material is provided free as a public service.

The project is the winner of the 2008 Pierre Berton Award, the most prestigious award in Canada for popularizing Canadian history, as well as several international awards including the MERLOT Award for the best history education website in 2008.

FEATURES

- Twelve real historical mysteries with the primary documents to solve them. Each site has an average of 100,000 words, 100 images plus maps (the equivalent of a substantial book), and is available in English and French.
- A teachers guide with lesson plans for each mystery, incorporating the latest pedagogical strategies aimed at critical thinking and bringing students into a community of inquiry/research. The lesson plans include one or more grade-specific units for elementary or secondary students and suggestions for college and university classes.
- Teacher support such as activities and briefing sheets to introduce students to key concepts in historical thinking
- Historical interpretations of each mystery, developed by experts
- Webquest-style 'Mystery Quests'
- Posters

THE MYSTERIES

Where is Vinland?

Use archaeological, historical, climatic and environmental clues with a new 3-D reconstruction to solve one of the most intriguing mysteries in world history: where did Europe first meet America?

Torture & the Truth: Angélique & the Burning of Montreal

When Montreal caught fire in April 1734, suspicion fell on a Black slave called Marie Angélique. But did she really start the fire?

Jerome: The Mystery Man of Baie Sainte-Marie

On September 8th, 1863 a stranger was found on the beach of Sandy Cove in Nova Scotia, alive but with no legs and unable to speak. Who was this "mystery man"?

Who Killed William Robinson? Race, Justice & Settling the Land

When three Black men were murdered in the space of 18 months around 1868 on bucolic Salt Spring Island in BC, alarm bells went off. An aboriginal man was hanged, but was he guilty?

We Do Not Know His Name: Klatsassin & the Chilcotin War

As dawn broke on April 30, 1864, some 25 Tsilhqot'in men surprised the sleeping camp of a crew building a road to the Cariboo gold mines, killing fourteen. Was this war?

Heaven & Hell on Earth:

The Massacre of the "Black" Donnellys

In 1880 the Donnelly farm in Ontario was burned to the ground and five family members were murdered. No one was ever found guilty of the crimes despite considerable evidence. Why?

Who Discovered Klondike Gold?

For a century, controversy has swirled around the question of who deserves credit for the discovery that set off the greatest gold rush in the history of the world. You be the judge!

The Redpath Mansion Mystery

Who killed Ada Redpath and her son in their Montreal mansion in 1901? Find out what really happened as you look into the lives of the rich and famous in their elite neighbourhood.

Death on a Painted Lake:

The Tom Thomson Tragedy

Investigate the mysterious death of artist Tom Thomson. Was his drowning accidental?