



Grey Roots' first Arbour Day at the Schoolhouse

For Immediate Release – May 13, 2009

There will be much excitement at replica SS#1 Derby Schoolhouse this **Friday** as the first Arbour Day at Grey Roots will be celebrated.

Two classes from Derby Community School and their teachers will join with many Schoolhouse Project volunteers, retired teachers of Grey County, and Grey Roots staff to begin the new story of the almost-ready schoolhouse. Starting at 10:00 a.m., they will engage in rock painting which will be used round the base of the flag pole. They will be trimming the garden, planting trees and shrubs in the front yard, preparing and planting flower beds, and tidying up the new school yard.

The classes will be toured through the museum and will be given a sneak peak of *Alien Earths: Are We Alone* – our astronomy based summer blockbuster exhibit. After an outdoor lunch, the time capsule, which will include children's stories about a school day at Derby, will be presented for the site, a museum tour will be enjoyed, and the students will be challenged to an old-fashioned ball game by the volunteers. As the students leave at 2:30, they will leave behind a new page in the history of replica SS#1 Derby, that of taking part in its *first Arbour Day 2009*.

During the time of one-room schoolhouses, Arbour Day was held on the first of May, or the first Friday of May. Students and teachers worked together to clean the schoolyard, and often the school inside, do spring planting, have lunch together, and then spend the remainder of the day in organized play activities. Due to illness and inclement weather Arbour Day 2009 was postponed to May 13th.

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About Grey Roots Museum & Archives: Grey Roots Museum & Archives has grown and developed into a unique facility from the County Museum's beginning in 1955 and the later establishment of a County Archives in 2000 in order to promote and preserve the heritage of Grey County. With the consolidation of the Grey County Museum, Grey County Archives, and Tourism in 2004, Grey Roots has become a multi-faceted attraction. Innovative and informative interpretive programs and demonstrations, rotating exhibits, a heritage village, archival resources and superior customer service come together to create an exciting and educational visitor experience.

Grey Roots Museum & Archives
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