

KICKING OFF THE SIXTH EDITION OF THE RELIGIOUS HERITAGE DAYS!

215 heritage sites and circuits to discover on September 8, 9, and 10 2023

Montréal, August 28 2023 — The Québec Religious Heritage Council (CPRQ) is thrilled to announce that the activities for this year's Religious Heritage Days are now available for consultation on the event's website, journeesdupatrimoinereligieux.ca. With 215 sites and circuits to discover, from Gatineau to the Îles-de-la-Madeleine passing through Rouyn-Noranda in Abitibi-Témiscamingue, there's surely something on offer to pique your curiosity!

This sixth edition, which will take place on September 8, 9, and 10 septembre in 154 different administrative territories including Wendake and Kahnawake, includes many participants from past editions, a sign that the Religious Heritage Days constitute an essential annual event for actors in the milieu. Furthermore, several local circuits have been put together thanks to the contribution of volunteers and professionals in the cultural, municipal and community sectors. Guided tours of cemeteries and gardens are also planned.

Just like every year, participation in the event is on a voluntary basis, according to the capacity of the site to welcome visitors. Activities—tours, concerts, conferences, exhibitions and guided circuits—are offered free of charge, but participants can demonstrate their appreciation by leaving a donation onsite to support initiatives to preserve the sites and keep them open.

In parallel with these numerous activities, part of the Quebec Religious Heritage Council's team, joined by a delegation from Louisiana made up of the founders of the Nous Foundation and the director of the *West Baton Rouge Museum* will be participating in several activities of the Religious Heritage Days in the scope of a bilateral cooperation grant between Québec and Louisiana through the Ministry of International Relations and the French Language.

A constantly evolving heritage, rich and diverse

Of the 2,751 [inventoried places of worship](#) in 2003, 4 % now exist only in the archives and in memory (demolition/fire) and 18 % no longer belong to a religious institution or have closed, have been repurposed, or are preparing to be. The whole is far from static; of the approximately 125 closed sites, more than half of them are in the planning or construction phases en route to welcoming a new use. This heritage steeped with meaning, with works of art, and with countless stories evolves with the society that gives it life.

Among the activities on offer this year, ten religious traditions are represented in addition to sites no longer used for religious purposes such as museums, gardens, cemeteries, historic sites, archival centres communal spaces, and even cooperatives. While activities at Catholic sites predominate, many sites belong to the Anglican tradition, the United Church, and some represent evangelical, methodist, presbyterian, Jewish, Islamic, and indigenous traditions.

The Québec Religious Heritage Council wishes to highlight the value of this interconfessional representation and to thank all organizers for their participation. Your future participation is welcome and encouraged for all future editions.

Plan out your Days!

Filtering the activities online allows you to consult each page based on the date, the type of activity, the region or the map. Don't miss the chance to plan out your itinerary, and share your favorite experiences with the hashtags #journesdupatrimoine religieux, #jdpr and #cprq on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) !

The Religious Heritage Days are an annual event coordinated by the Québec Religious Heritage Council, a non-profit organisation operating across Québec whose mission is to support the conservation and promotion of Québec's religious heritage.

[Click here to see our promotional video!](#)

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Invitation to the media:

- Regional press releases have been prepared to allow you to learn more about the activities on offer in each region. This press release is also available in French. [Click here to view them](#)
- Please don't hesitate to contact us for an interview. Privileged access can be granted to participating sites.
- The Québec Religious Heritage Council (CPRQ) possesses an image bank that can be made available to media upon request.

Contact, sources and information:

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