

Questionnaire on the History of the *Fête fransaskoise*

“Timeline” Section

THE FIRST FESTIVALS

Background to the Beginnings of the Festival

What historic event in Quebec resulted in a sense among Saskatchewan Francophones of belonging to their land?

(The strengthening of nationalism in the 1960s)

On s’garoche à Batoche

Why do young people in the West decide to organize the historic festival *On s’garoche à Batoche*?

(They want to pass on historical knowledge to the young participants and pride in their cultural heritage.)

Let’s go further: in your opinion, why did the young Francophones in the West feel the need to meet?

The First Festival

Who are the three organizers of the first *Fête fransaskoise*?

(L’Association jeunesse fransaskoise [Fransaskois Youth Association], l’Association catholique franco-canadienne [French-Canadian Catholic Association] and la Commission culturelle fransaskoise [Fransaskois Cultural Commission])

The First Festivals at Saint Laurent

Who takes over the Festival from 1981?

(La Commission culturelle fransaskoise)

THE PROSPEROUS YEARS

A Nomadic Festival

The *Fête fransaskoise* becomes an itinerant festival from 1984. What is the advantage of a festival which travels around Saskatchewan?

(It includes all Fransaskois)

The Challenges

*Let’s go further: a challenge for the festival organizers is to get youth participation. In your opinion, what would attract young people to an event like the *Fête fransaskoise*?*

THE UNEASY YEARS

Withdrawal of the CCF

What prompts the CCF to withdraw from organizing the festival in 1998?

(A cut in its budget)

An Attempt at a Consortium

Why is an attempt made to create a consortium for the festival?

(To ensure its survival)

Communities Out of Breath

According to the chair of the organizing committee for the festival at Zenon Park (2000), who is really responsible for the festival?

(The entire Fransaskois community)

La Fête fransaskoise inc.

Why does the *Conseil culturel fransaskois* decide to incorporate the festival?

(They were afraid of seeing the festival spirit disappear but also because they considered that the ACF was getting too closely involved in the file)

THE FESTIVAL ON ITS DEATHBED

The Renaud Report

What are the shortcomings in the festival condemned in the Renaud Report?

(Repetitive programming from one year to another, a constant drop in attendance, a lack of expertise among organizers, inadequate funding)

The Festival, Mirror of the Community

What is the thesis of the study by Karine Laviolette?

(The festival's problems reflect the difficulty for the Fransaskois in defining themselves)

Let's go further: do you think the disappearance of the Fête fransaskoise is due to an identity crisis among the Fransaskois?

The “People” Section

THE ARTISTS

Fransaskois Music

According to artist Annette Campagne, what distinguishes Fransaskois music from other music?

(It expresses the space of the Prairies)

“Activities” Section

Go further: of all the festival activities, which seem to you the most interesting? Why?

“Meaning of the Festival” Section

Expressing the Fransaskois Identity

What adds to the pleasure of the gathering at the *Fête fransaskoise*?

(The pleasure of living without compromising your francophone identity)

Will the Festival Come Back?

What is the prediction of Annette Labelle?

(The young people will bring back the Fête fransaskoise)