

## **Re-enactment of the Relief of Fort Mackinac 1814**

Nottawasaga River – Edenvale, ON (Glengarry Landing) to the mouth of the Nottawasaga River (Nancy Island Historic Site) – 25 – 30 km River Run

Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Starting at 9:00am to 1:00pm – Edenvale to Jacks Lake

Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Starting at 9:00am to 1:00pm – Jacks Lake to Nancy Island

Wasaga under Siege 2011 is excited to announce that a re-enactment of a portion of the Relief of Fort Mackinac, February to April 1814 will be added to the list of great activities taking place in 2011.

The Upper Nottawasaga River is basically the same way it looked like in 1814 and is a great opportunity for those hearty re-enactors to experience the environment and hardships soldiers and sailors experienced firsthand on this historical journey. This river excursion will not be a leisurely float down the river as all participants will be expected to pull their weight on an oar, potentially cut paths through fallen trees and log jams and getting your feet wet as low fast running water may dictate guiding the boat by hand and feet.

For those naval groups who would like to get some real first hand river negotiating experience this is your opportunity. To date we have three bateaux that have confirmed to take part in this great historical re-enactment and we are looking for more boats and crews to take part. We are also looking for voyageur canoes and crews to take part in this great event as well. If you or your group is interested in participating as many boats/canoes will need extra rowers and crew, please contact me anytime at [wasagaundersiege1812@rogers.com](mailto:wasagaundersiege1812@rogers.com). More information will be forthcoming as we confirm the river schedule and boats attending.



Look forward to hearing from you!!

David Brunelle

Co-ordinator

Wasaga under Siege 2011

### **Historical Information**

#### **1814, February to April - Relief of Fort Mackinac**

Six officers and 130 men of the RNR (virtually all who remained fit for service) accompanied by 11 artillerymen, and a naval party of 21, marched overland with supplies during the winter from Kingston to the Nottawasaga River. Moving to re-supply the starving garrison at Fort Mackinac, in a remarkable operation that demonstrated their capability and determination both ashore, and on the water, they felled trees to build 29 bateaux, and then rowed from the Nottawasaga River across Lake Huron to the fort at Michilimackinac (some 360 miles) losing only one boat crushed in the ice choked waters.

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