

# MUSEUM QUEST-ORY

OUTDOOR EDITION!



## Go on a Quest Outside the Canadian Museum of History!

Explore the Museum grounds and see if you can complete each step of our self-guided quest.



1

### Discuss: What activities do you like to enjoy on or in the water?

**FAST FACT:** The Ottawa River (Kichi Zibi, pronounced *ke chi sippi* – meaning “The Great River” in the Algonquin language) is one of the largest natural watersheds in eastern Canada, covering approximately 148,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It has been the home of the Algonquin Anishinabeg since time immemorial.

Hint: Look near the Panorama Café terrace.

### Can you find *Mythic Messengers* and identify the figures from Haida origin stories?



2

*Mythic Messengers* is a monumental bronze frieze by internationally recognized Haida artist Bill Reid (1920–1998). Reid’s design features intertwined human and supernatural figures.

**FAST FACT :** Reid said his work “was inspired by a device often used by Haida artists, an exchange of tongues, whereby power was communicated from one mythic creature to another.” Communication between humans and supernatural figures is a central theme in Haida origin stories and in Reid’s sculptural works.

From left to right, we see:

- The **Bear Mother**, a human woman who marries a bear prince and gives birth to twin cubs;
- The hero **Nanasinget**, who travels to the bottom of the ocean to save his wife after she is kidnapped by a killer whale;
- **Wasgo** or the **Sea Wolf**, who hunts killer whales to feed his family;
- The **Dogfish Woman**, a powerful figure shown with her dogfish abductor; and
- The **Eagle Prince**.

## How many Canadian flags can you see?

**FAST FACT:** The year 2020 marks the 55th anniversary of Canada's flag!

3



**Tip:** Don't forget to look across the river.

## Can you find the statue of Algonquin Chief Tessouat?

**Do:** Take a walk by the river to the bronze statue of Chief Tessouat.

**Look:** Read the accompanying panel.

**See:** The artist depicts Chief Tessouat stopping on his way home to Morrison Island after returning from a trading journey to the St. Lawrence River.

4



5

## I spy with my eagle eye...

Can you spot and take a photo of...?

< Canada's Parliament

Alexandra Bridge >



< Rideau Canal Locks



Château Laurier >



< Provincial Flags of Canada



6

## Can you spot the sculpture 'namaxsala ("to travel in a boat together")?

Take a photo in front of the sculpture and discuss: Have you ever had a special encounter with an animal?



**FAST FACT:** 'namaxsala is inspired by a story told to the artist, Mary Anne Barkhouse, by her grandfather Fred Cook. In the story, her grandfather helps a wolf cross a treacherous piece of water in a boat, on Canada's West Coast. "My grandfather's stories always offered an alternative view for considering the world around me," the artist remembers.

To learn more, visit: [historymuseum.ca/maryannebarkhouse](http://historymuseum.ca/maryannebarkhouse).

7

## Try a Word Search!

Look around you for things that start with the following letters:

H, I, S, T, O, R, Y