

UNESCO World Heritage

at Wanuskewin Heritage Park



What is UNESCO World Heritage?

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was formed in 1972 through the World Heritage Convention, and seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.



Combined UNESCO Logo and World Heritage Emblem

The World Heritage Emblem (right half) symbolizes the interdependence of cultural and natural properties: the central square is a form created by humans and the circle represents nature, the two being intimately linked.



<https://whc.unesco.org/en/about/>



Wanuskewin Heritage Park's UNESCO submission timeline



2017

Parks Canada adds Wanuskewin to Canada's UNESCO Tentative List

2018-
2020

Wanuskewin completes Thundering Ahead capital renewal project

2021-
2022

Wanuskewin compiles UNESCO nomination dossier and creates Stewardship Circle of engaged stakeholders

2023

Wanuskewin submits final UNESCO nomination dossier to Parks Canada for review

2024

Parks Canada approves Wanuskewin's dossier and takes to Paris for UNESCO World Heritage Committee review; ICOMOS advisory body reviews dossier and performs site visit

2025

UNESCO World Heritage Committee selects Wanuskewin for World Heritage Site inscription



Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The statement of outstanding universal value (OUV) describes why a site has exceptional cultural significance that benefits all of humanity. There are additional statements of authenticity and integrity which address the credibility and the intactness of the cultural heritage of a property, respectfully.



Management Plan

A robust management plan is compiled to identify the condition of the heritage assets, identify risks (immediate, future, direct, indirect), and lay out conservation strategies that will be employed to continually address the integrity of the heritage assets.



Annexes

Many documents will be referenced throughout the Statement of OUV and management plans, and will be appended as reference material. Writing-On-Stone/Áísínai'pi had over 3,000 pages of annexes in their nomination dossier (inscribed 2019).



Major Components of UNESCO Nomination Dossier

UNESCO Benefits

UNESCO World Heritage Status offers a number of benefits to the inscribed site, as well as the communities it serves.

- International awareness and recognition of the site and surrounding areas/amenities
- Increased tourism and economic activity
- increased interest in preservation and conservation
- Community engagement and civic pride
- Reconciliation and education opportunities on a larger scale
- Demonstrates investment in social responsibility and cultural heritage by involved parties
- Tap into UNESCO networks and partnerships, including education and training opportunities

