

Joint resolution recognizing Maine Acadian Day

MCC-00572

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Joint resolution recognizing Maine Acadian Day (MCC-00572)

Shelf List Number: V-10

Collection Overview

Creator

Maine state legislature

Dates

2024

Extent

2 copies of a joint resolution from the Maine state legislature

Provenance

Donated by the office of Maine's senate president Troy Jackson, who is originally from Allagash, Maine.

Language

English

Conservation Notes

Stored in an oversize flat folder due to the document's size.

Conditions Governing Access and Use

Restrictions

Access: No restrictions

Physical: No restrictions

Technical: No restrictions

Rights Statement

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Recommended Citation

Joint resolution recognizing Maine Acadian Day (MCC-00572). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Collection Description

Historical and Biographical Information

Troy Jackson was born and raised in Allagash, Maine. Before becoming involved in politics, he worked as an equipment operator in the logging industry. He was elected to the Maine Senate in 2008 and then elected Senate president in 2018. He has represented Maine Senate District 1, which includes Aroostook County from Caribou northward.

The first Maine Acadian Day took place on June 28, 1978. James B. Longley was governor during this time (1975-1979). The Madawaska town officials and Maine State Legislature designated the day as Acadian Day in Maine. In 1979, the event grew from a single day to a week-long celebration; in 1980 the first family reunion was held during the Acadian festival and every subsequent year a family was chosen to be honored and would host a reunion during this week.¹ Each year, the chosen family would have their genealogy researched, which was compiled into a book (or books).

In 2011, the Madawaska Acadian Festival moved to August to incorporate World Acadian Day, which is celebrated every year on August 15. This was done to include Madawaska's neighbors and family members living in Canada.

A new resolution recognizing June 28 as Maine Acadian Day was read and adopted on May 10, 2024 by both the Maine Senate and the Maine House of Representatives. A planning committee consisting of members of the Madawaska Historical Society, the Grand Isle Historical Society, and the Maine Acadian Heritage Council (MAHC) organized a celebration held on Sunday, June 30. Patrick Lacroix, director of the Acadian Archives, served as master of ceremonies in lieu of Lise Pelletier, president of the MAHC, who was unable to attend. The event consisted of Mass at St. David's church, a traditional meal served in the church basement, a recreation of the 1785 Acadian landing, a smudging ceremony led by Shawn Francis (Madawaska Maliseet First Nation), and addresses by local and state officials, including Mr. Jackson, who read the Joint Resolution. Gary Chapin provided musical entertainment.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of three copies of a joint resolution marking June 28, 2024 as Maine Acadian Day. The resolution was read and brought to the reenactment of the Acadian Landing at the Acadian Cross on June 28, 2024 in St. David (Madawaska), ME, which is an annual event.

Arrangement

Not applicable

Separated Materials (If Applicable)

Not applicable

Subject Headings

Acadians

Legislation

Saint John River Valley (Me. and N.B.)

Related Materials

First Acadian Day certificate (MCC-00281). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

¹“Acadian Festivals – Madawaksa.” Accessed on 8/30/2024 from <https://www.acadian.org/culture/madawaska-territory/madawaska-historical-society/acadian-festivals/>.

Joint Resolution Recognizing Franco-American Day, (MCC-00414). Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent.

Collection Inventory

Joint resolution recognizing June 28, 2024 as Maine Acadian Day (3 copies) that was signed by all members of the Maine state legislature.