

# 2011 DAVID THOMPSON COLUMBIA RIVER CANOE BRIGADE

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<http://www.skylark.ca/surveyors.html>



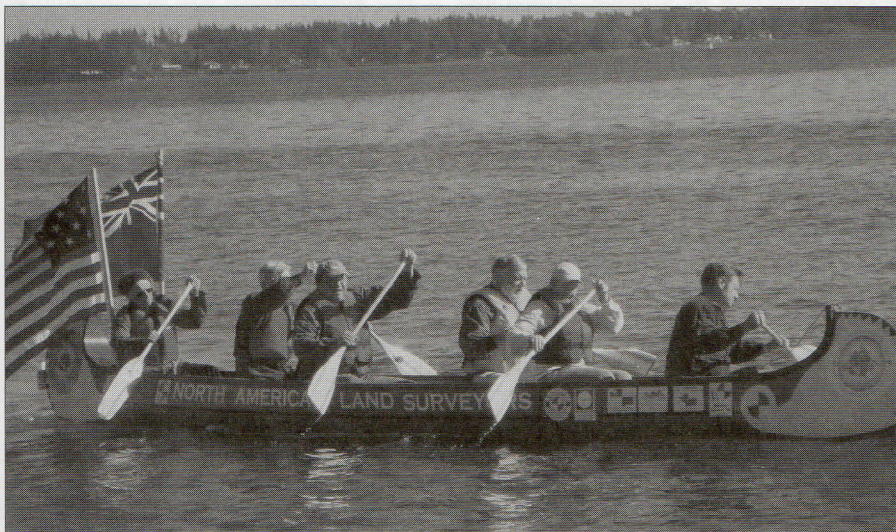
In the Summer of 1811, Surveyor, fur trader, and map maker, David Thompson, while in the employ of the Northwest Company, reached the Pacific Ocean, adding the Columbia River as the final leg of the Fur Trade Highway from Montreal to the Pacific and becoming the first person to survey and map the Columbia River from its source near Canal Flats, through British Columbia and Washington, to its mouth at Astoria, Oregon.

In the Summer of 2011, Land Surveyors, their families, and friends from various parts of North America will be taking part in the re-creation of some of David Thompson's historic travels in the Pacific Northwest. Day one, June 3, and starting in Invermere, British Columbia, the Brigade of about 20 canoes will paddle south along Windermere Lake and then upstream on the Columbia River to, and then south along, Columbia Lake to Canal Flats. On the second day, after a short

portage at Canal Flats, the Brigade will continue heading south on the Kootenay River to Lake Koocanusa arriving at the Libby Dam on June 8. A special ceremony on June 7 is currently in the planning stages by the International Boundary Commission to commemorate the crossing into the United States. June 9 will see a 170 km portage to Thompson Falls, Montana. The next part of the journey will then see the Brigade paddle down the Clark Fork and Pend Oreille Rivers through parts of Montana, Idaho, and Washington to Tiger, Washington, arriving there on June 16. A further 70 km portage will take the Brigade over to Kettle Falls on the Columbia River and June 19 will see the Brigade heading south again on the Columbia reaching its final destination of Astoria, Oregon, on July 15, 2011, exactly 200 years to the day after David Thompson first reached there.



The North American Land Surveyors canoe team has been planning their part of the journey for over a year now and they recently decided to add a second canoe to its team and they may be looking for additional paddlers. If any readers are interested in joining our team or helping out financially, please contact Mark McGladrey, BCLS, CLS, at: [markmcgladrey@shaw.ca](mailto:markmcgladrey@shaw.ca) to see if any seats are available or to make a donation. For further information on the 2011 Brigade, visit: <http://www.2011brigade.org/> and for further information on the North American Land Surveyors canoe team, visit: <http://www.skylark.ca/nals.htm> □



*Robert Allen* is a semi-retired British Columbia and Canada Lands Surveyor who lives in Sechelt and is in his element while outdoors, in inclement weather or otherwise. He is one of the Land Surveyors committed to the entire six week canoe trip and he is a frequent contributor to *The Link*, the British Columbia Land Surveyors quarterly magazine.