

## Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Response to E&I Focus Group Ideas which request learners of all ages in all places.			
<b>Goal:</b>	Create and sustain a countywide IMCC educational focus along the corridor cities and school districts.			
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2012 there will be at least 2 IMCC annual programs in each of the 5 counties			
<b>Project:</b>	Create learning experience projects which examine county/city exploration			

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Gather current and create new educational learning experiences along the corridor counties in such a way that each city and area "port" is explored more deeply.	1. Examine what is already out there. 2. Write a letter of interest explaining what the corridor would like to see and why. 3. Contact Regional Superintendents and Mayors for discussion and organized dissemination of I&M Letter of interest. Consider a history fair approach or a contest approach with sponsors	Each city along the corridor. Each school in the corridor. Each historical society in the corridor. Each library in the corridor. Business sponsors.	NEHS teacher resources. ???? City walking guides (Morris) Maps online (Will Co)		Economic growth by city or county which can be traced to corridor visitors.

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<b>Core Activity:</b>	Response to E&I Focus Group Ideas which require Teachers and Interpreters
<b>Goal:</b>	A sustainable bank of I&M Teachers & Interpreters across the counties of the corridor
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2015 there will be 12 volunteer I&M Educators & Interpreters working in each of the counties of the Corridor
<b>Project:</b>	Identified bank of local resource people in each county of the corridor

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Locate, organize, and support a bank of resource experts across and within the counties of the corridor.	1. Read through the I&M 2005 Interpretive Plan. 2. Search the web and the communities for who is already providing education and interpretation lessons or programs, guides or materials about the I&M Corridor. 3. Determine our standards, criteria and terms for educators, interpreters, and anticipated programs. 4. Design an I&M E&I certificate program. 5. Consider a fee structure or a sponsorship plan for the program. 6. Invite people we think are already certificate-ready to join an immediate bank. 7. Generate a calendar and a plan for one year and monitor activity.	1. Forest Preserve of Cook County 2. Will County Heritage Alliance 3. U of I Extension Services 4. Historical Societies 5. Museums 6. School Districts 7. Community Colleges 8. Universities 9. Theatre Groups	NEHS teachers, Lewis U, Will County Forest Preserve, State of Illinois, local historians (John Lamb) Chief Walks With The Wind's son Brian Nolan, artist Robert Melton Janet Mark	See the NEHS grant for one estimate	Short term: increase in knowledge, skills, attitude, motivation and awareness in both those seeking to join the teams and those participating in any programs offered by the teams. Medium term: positive change in professional behaviors, practices, policies & procedures among the teams. Long term: there will be economic growth in the corridor's coffers. Ongoing: steady growth each year in numbers interested in joining the team, in numbers completing education programs, in numbers who are participating in both education and interpretation events.

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<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education and Interpretation
<b>Goal:</b>	Provide new books on the IMCC
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2015 four new IMCC books will be in publication.
<b>Project:</b>	Generate interest among authors for using in the Corridor as a subject for publication.

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
In order to capture a variety of audiences, there is a need to explore and to encourage the publication of: a new travel guide for IMCC, a more local history with lots of photos, a definitive history of the I&M for more scholarly readers, and a	prepare a thorough accurate bibliography of IMCC books, pamphlets, articles, maps, all print material. Keep this continuously updated on the website. Need to locate local and other authors who may be interested in this project.	Bookstores, authors, junior writers, IHS, photographers,	David Belden, Minooka teacher and Arcadia author (with his students) Brian Nolan, artist.	None if the author is independent. Some if it is a joint endeavor.	Book sales.

<b>Core Activity:</b>	EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION LIST
<b>Goal:</b>	To generate sustainable plans for IMCC
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	In 10 years the IMCCA will be self sufficient, profitable, and the recognized connector for all thing I&M.
<b>Project:</b>	Aggregate a list of possibilities with the theme of interconnections.

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
1) Become a Clearing House for all thing I&M 2) Create a Bank of Interpreters ala Speakers	Investigate cross curriculum and PBL type lessons. Corridor is a vector. Getting on and off the corridor.				

## Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education & Interpretation				
<b>Goal:</b>	Create a recognizable tangible attractive product to encourage visitors/use of IMCC				
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2012 IMCCA will have a Passport Program which attracts 10% more visitors to the Corridor annually.				
<b>Project:</b>	Passport Stamp and Book for opportunities along and around the corridor				
Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
A passport book would be available at Lock 16 and other places TBD and provide a place for visitors to collect cancellation stamps as they visit the various places included in the book.	Examine the NP program and the NY museum program for feasibility. Consider a summer project for students as a way to promote use. Use local "ambassadors" to have the books on hand and a place for stamping. One adaptation might be to use it as a sort of scavenger hunt.	All the interpretive sites and historical village sites along the corridor?	Eastern National, the no profit which runs the National Park Passport Stamp Program Museum Discovery Pass in NYC	Start up costs ???? But it is a revenue generator.	Generates enough new visitors and \$\$ to justify its costs.

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education and Interpretation				
<b>Goal:</b>	Generate special interest groups materials				
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2013 there will be 6 different activity centers established for special interests.				
<b>Project:</b>	Design various activity centers with "hooks" for special interest individuals or groups.				
Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Six identified special interest groups will become the focus for prototype activity centers. These six are: young children, naturalists, non-US citizens, history buffs, special needs (blind) and special needs (wheelchair).	Through focus groups and expert consultation, what it is that each of these groups are most needing? Decide where best to place the activity center along the corridor for use, accessibility, economic reasons and return on the investment. Consider using a Traveling Trunks model in some cases.	Clubs and organizations who represent these six groups.	Pam Heavens, CIL in Joliet.		Feedback on use, any income, good press, and continuing event requests.

## Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education and Interpretation
<b>Goal:</b>	Use Technology to the fullest for IMCC accessibility and sustainability
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2015 IMCC will have a technological presence in all available media.
<b>Project:</b>	Embed technological strategies and tactics into all IMCC programs.

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Develop GPS, audio tours, podcasts, iPhone app and other media for use along the IMCC	Examine current available materials that others are using. Locate vendors or designers. Write script and gather materials. Beta test with a select group of canal users. Decide what costs are necessary for development and return on investment.	Promote the idea among technical college depts. for student projects.			

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education and Interpretation
<b>Goal:</b>	Expand the effectiveness of IMCC Educational Lesson Plans, Units, etc.
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	Over the next 5 years all IMCC Lessons Plans, Guides, and Learning Materials will be technologically accessible.
<b>Project:</b>	Distribution Plan for educational materials.

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Clean up the old IMCC web projects and expand the new IMCC website to include all lessons, guides, materials and programs on IMCC generated by anyone inside or outside the corridor.	For a current web model, see Will County Forest Preserve District Education Program Guide for 2009-2010. Get on the agenda for inservice days. Sign up to present at educational conferences in the state, demonstrate the lessons. Write an article for the History Teacher magazine or whatever subject areas are pertinent to the lesson.	professors, teachers, retired teachers, technical people, college students in internships or clinics in education or tech fields, teachers needing credit, professional development centers,	NEHS teacher Janet Mark.		counter on the website? feedback from someone like "Opinionmeter", open house with computers available for teachers on an inservice day to study the lessons.

## Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

<b>Core Activity:</b>	General response to the need for sustainability.
<b>Goal:</b>	IMCCA will become the overarching agency for all groups and guests in the corridor
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2013 IMCCA will hold a network building conference to interconnect all groups in IMCC
<b>Project:</b>	Introduce the network model for IMCC success and sustainability.

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
<p>Provide a huge "everybody in" networking conference which establishes IMCCA as the premier learning center in the corridor. Kick off the network with the Chautauqua model for an innovative approach.</p> <p><b>Chautauqua</b> (pronounced /ʃə'to:kwə/) The Chautauqua brought entertainment and culture for the whole community, with speakers, teachers, musicians, entertainers, preachers and specialists of the day. It was an adult education</p>	<p>1. Determine just how many potential groups could be in this network as presenters and users. 2. List what the advantages of being in the network would be, including technological connections. 3. Design an event to build the network around which can attract financial sponsors and supporters. 4. Hold a first annual networking event as a Chautauqua --- a one day or one weekend event or as a summer of progressive activity up and down the corridor.</p>	<p>Cities, not for profits, all artists, tourists, scouts, schools, bicycle groups, canoeists, teachers, Starved Rock and other IL and county groups such as forest preserves, DAR, WGGs, historical societies, churches, fair associations, etc.</p>			

## Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education and Interpretation
<b>Goal:</b>	Create a daily presence and accessibility to motorists.
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	In 2010 IMCC will begin to use 1610 AM for information sharing.
<b>Project:</b>	Use the DNR sponsored 1610 AM for radio broadcasting services

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
Radio station (1610AM) broadcasts a set script and also includes the facility for giving current information. Its notional range is 2.5 miles but it can be heard 4-6 miles away, depending on local conditions. The general term for stations like this is Travelers Information Radio. An FCC ( Federal Communications Commission) license is required and the Department of Transportation must also approve any signs put up by the side of the	Determine if it is possible to connect with Starved Rock or DNR to do this at no set up fee. \$16. a month would be worth it!		Starved Rock, DNR?	Original set-up cost for Starved Rock was paid by the DNR- \$5,000. There is also a monthly charge of \$16 plus 'minutes used' .The company which provided Starved Rock the hardware and maintains the system is called Information Station Specialists, PO Box 51, Zeeland, Michigan 49464, telephone 616-772-2300.	Feedback from users and from radio station.

## Illinois and Michigan Canal NHC Core Activity Project Descriptions

<b>Core Activity:</b>	Education and Interpretation
<b>Goal:</b>	Improved and Comprehensive Interpretation and Signage along the IMCC
<b>SMART Goal:</b>	By 2015 there will be 50 expanded or new interpretation places along the IMCC.
<b>Project:</b>	Create new signage, maps, story vignettes along the IMCC.

Project Description	Project Steps	Who will we have as Partner(s)?	Known Resources	What is the cost range estimate?	How will we know we succeeded?
<p>Create more interesting, contextual, learning stations and materials with web, GPS , &amp; iPhone supported apps. Write for the newspapers and go on the radio promoting these new learning stations and materials with a bit of story and history to encourage use.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know the legalities for use of each property point.</li> <li>2. Create “way finding maps” for going off the canal into each town or area and which can be picked up along the canal, in the villages along the canal, as well as downloaded or accessed electronically.</li> <li>3. Write more story vignettes and include photos for kiosks and stop points.</li> <li>4. Place interpreters at each lock or stop point, in costume or not, on particular days that are advertised as being IMCC history days.</li> </ol>	<p>Seek out writers, artists, photographers, techies, historians, naturalists, &amp; actors.</p> <p>Provide advertisement in the maps; Sell map place mats in restaurants, Sell T-Shirt maps for each town.</p>	<p>Current interpreters and historians. Students or Scouts to make signs as a project?</p>	<p>Get sponsors and advertisers to cover costs as much as possible.</p>	<p>Press coverage. Feedback from visitors.</p>