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## TODD'S CROSSING DEDICATION







Wilson Okeymow, Traditional Speaker and Elder Samson Cree Nation

## September 7, 2010





The inscription on the plaque shown to the left reads:

## **Todd's Crossing**

Before the disappearance of the buffalo in the 1880s, this land had long been used by the First Nations people. Confrontations between the Blackfoot and the Cree gave the Battle River its name, which was known to the Cree as Notinikewin Siply.

Many trails, used by Métis hunters, fur traders, farmers, freighters and suppliers, came together to cross the river at this favorable ford. In the 1880s the crossing was named Todd's Crossing, after métis settler Donald Todd and his wife Suzanne who kept a wayside inn at this location.

In 1902 a bridge was erected across the Battle River, referred to as the Lewisville Bridge, which was upgraded in 1959. The new bridge constructed in 2009 will serve both heavy industry and agriculture.

## **BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION**

The old bridge, referred to as the Lewisville Bridge, was replaced in 2009. It was engineered by Genivar Engineering and constructed by Formula Contractors. Through long-term strategic planning and partnerships the \$2,000,000 bridge replacement was funded by the County of Wetaskiwin No. 10 and the Canada Alberta Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund











