

Bag tobacco

<https://collections.pacmusee.qc.ca/en/objects/bag-2022-026-037/>

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Fur tobacco bag with red fabric hemmed edges adorned with black beads. The bag's flap features beaded embroidery depicting a flower.

Accession Number 2022.26.37

Date 1860

Materials fiber, glass, skin, seal

Measurements 10 x 15 x 1,2 cm

Historical context

Leather with seal fur was used by all First Nations who had access to this resource. Many pieces of clothing and accessories from the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey, Wendat, Innu and W8banaki nations can be found in museum collections. The blague à tabac or tobacco pouch, formerly called a sac à pétun by the French, was used to transport smoking tobacco and protect it from humidity. Larger blagues could contain smoking accessories such as a small plaster pipe. Aboriginal jokes tended to be much more ornate than those made by Euro-Canadians. This typically native accessory first became popular with coureurs des bois, then with rural and construction workers. They were sometimes worn in the fold of an arrow belt or inserted into carrying bags, and later stuffed into a pocket, when pockets became more

common on clothing. There are also versions on laces that were hung around the neck.

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On display