

31st annual Canoeing & Wilderness Symposium on
Northern Travels & Northern Perspectives XV

19-20 February, 2016 at Monarch Park Collegiate Auditorium, One Hanson St, Toronto.
All sessions in the auditorium.

Friday evening, February 19, 2016 – 35 min per presentation

6:30 - 7:20 p.m. - Foyer: Registration, programme and name tags.

7:20 - 7:35 p.m. - **Introductory Remarks – Aleks Gusev**

7:35 - 9:30 p.m. - **Session I – Chair – Bill King**

- Blair Doyle – NS *“Wilderness 911 - reality check or relief?”*

- Wendy Grater – ON *“Arctic Challenge – An all-women’s ski expedition across Auyuittuq”*

- Ian Evans – ON *“Life begins at the end of your comfort zone – A Walk to the South Pole”*

9:30 - 10:30 p.m. - Reception in cafeteria.

Saturday, February 20, 2016 - 25 min per presentation

8:30 a.m. - Doors opened for attendees & book table opens.

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - **Session II – Chair: Iva Kinclova**

- Wally Schaber – QC *“Last of the Wild Rivers - Present and Future of Rivière du Moine”*

- David Chapin – NH *“The Maps of Peter Pond”*

- Amelia Ingersoll & Kera Zegar – VT&VA *“Lessons Learned in Northern Quebec”*

10:30 - 11:10 a.m. - Refreshment break in cafeteria + book tables

11:10 - 12:40 p.m. - **Session III – Chair: Wendy Scott**

- Rodney Brown – ON *“The Big Lonely – William’s Story”*

- Ruby Zitzer – MT *“1,000 Miles, 41 days, in a canoe across North West Territories Canada”*

- David Pelly – ON *“Ukkusiksalik – The People’s Story: The Power of Inuit Oral History”*

12:40 - 2:20 p.m. - Lunch break [Due to limited seating, cafeteria use is available to meal-ticket holders only.] + book tables

1:20 - 2:10 p.m. - **Rodney Brown - ON Wilderness Music Concert** [Ferguson Hall]

2:20 - 3:50 p.m. - **Session IV – Chair: Katie Tanz**

- Ed Struzik – AB *“Future Arctic, Field Notes From a World On the Edge”*

- Sue and Jim Waddington – ON *“Paddling with Tom Thomson”*

- Martin Cooper & Ken Lister, Toronto, ON: *“Abandoned Landing: Paul Kane and the Lost Leg of the French Portage”*

3:50 - 4:30 p.m. - Refreshment break in cafeteria + book tables

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. - **Session V – Chair: Emma Brandy**

- Dave Brown – VT *“Book Building for Paddlers”*

- Sylvain Tremblay – QC *“Solo and Simply, Paddling Northern Quebec Rivers”*

- Scott Ellis – VT *“Connecting rather than conquering nature with digital filmmaking”*

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Supper break [Due to limited seating, cafeteria use is available to meal-ticket holders only.] + book tables

7:15 p.m. - Northern Books Table closes

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. - **Session VI – Chair: Erika Bailey**

- Dave Hadfield – ON *“George, Music and Me”* (part of the Tribute to George Luste)

- Roy MacGregor – ON *“Canoe Country: The First Wonder of Canada”*

- Ron Chambers – YT *“Perspective on canoes in the northern First Nations lifestyle”*

Background Music Selections by Sandy Richardson.

Thank you for coming.

Web information available via <http://www.wcsymposium.com>

Participants at the 31st Annual Wilderness and Canoeing Symposium

February 19-20, 2016, Toronto

www.wcsymposium.com

BAILEY, Erika – Erika Bailey is an international transition advisor at the University of Toronto and has presented her research at OISE/UT, the Council of Outdoor Educators of Ontario conference, and the Barrie Canoe and Kayak Club. In her spare time, she is a writer, personal coach, salsa-dancer, bicyclist, and canoeist. Her publications include articles in *Nastawgan* and *Pathways Journal*, short stories in *Bare Elements* and her single-author book, *Paddling as Place: Experiential Learning of Place and Ecological Identity*. Erika has canoed all her life, a gift taught to her immigrant parents by her Poppa – Omond Solandt. (Facilitator)

BRANDY, Emma – began paddling at summer camp when she was 12 years old and fell in love with backcountry canoe tripping. She pursued a Masters in Outdoor Education at the University of Edinburgh where her thesis explored this love for canoeing and how it continues to inform her ecological identity. Currently residing in Toronto, Emma is an education consultant focused on linking outdoor and experiential education with organic farming, permaculture and place-based learning. (Facilitator)

BROWN, Dave – began his paddling in the 1960's on the rivers of Texas, did his first Canadian canoe trip in 1970 and has been fortunate to be able to spend a good chunk of most summers since then exploring the waters of Ontario, Quebec and Labrador. He taught at a small college in northern Vermont for more than 20 years and is now enjoying a second career as a woodworker.

BROWN, Rodney – a singer, songwriter and an adventurer, Rodney is a distinctive artist with a unique talent for bringing Canadian history, especially the stories of the north, to life. He has toured internationally bringing his songs about Canada's fur trade to Witney England for their Journey of a Blanket Project. He regularly performs across Canada and Northern Minnesota for canoe groups and historical re-enactors. In 2012 Rodney recorded his 11th album Songs of Fort William with the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra and is presently working on a new children's album entitled Songs For Learning.

CHAMBERS, Ron - member of Champagne and Aishihik First Nation (Southern Tutchone & Tlingit ancestry), raised in Kluane area. He has been involved in cultural and wilderness activities his whole life and is a founding member of the Chilkat Dancers in Haines, AK. Having retired from his 2 careers of park warden (22 years) and then wilderness guide, he is still actively involved with several boards (Yukon Salmon Committee, Yukon Historical Resources, Yukon Greater Place Names) and is a carver and traditional dancer. He is the owner of 4 canoes.

CHAPIN, David – is an historian as well as a wilderness canoeist. When he is lucky those interests overlap. Since the 1980s he has been leading canoe trips with Keewaydin Camp on Lake Temagami, including trips in northwestern Ontario, Manitoba, Nunavut, and far northern Quebec. He has led several 40-45 day trips to Hudson Bay. When summer turns to autumn and winter he returns to history. The history of North American geographic exploration is his particular interest. His latest book, *Freshwater Passages: The Trade and Travels of Peter Pond*, tells the story of the eighteenth century fur trader who pioneered the canoe routes to Lake Athabaska and Great Slave Lake for the North West Company out of Montreal.

COOPER, Martin – earned a Master of Arts degree in Anthropology from the University of Toronto and is currently completing his PhD at U of T. Mr. Cooper, who has 35-years of experience in the field of heritage consulting, is a Partner and Senior Archaeologist at ASI Heritage Services and manages ASI's projects in northern Ontario. He has directed hundreds of pre-contact, historic aboriginal and historic Euro-Canadian archaeological assessments throughout Ontario. Mr. Cooper has spent considerable time working and travelling in northern Ontario. An experienced canoeist and guide, he is intimately familiar with the culture history and ecology of the Canadian Shield.

DOYLE, Blair - Owner of Adventure & Safety Atlantic, Blair has an extensive outdoors and wilderness background having hiked, biked, climbed, parachuted, kayaked, and canoed most of Atlantic Canada. He holds several certifications in paddling, in guiding, and as a PADI Divemaster. He's a Sea Kayak, River Kayak, and Canoe Instructor Trainer with the Paddle Canada program. Active with the paddling associations, he is Past President of Paddle Canada, being on the BOD for 10 years and has been on the board of Canoe Kayak NS since 2003. As a First Aid/CPR, Wilderness and Emergency Care Instructor Trainer with the Canadian Red Cross he has been responsible for implementation of the Wilderness Medical Program in eastern Canada. He has been involved in Ground Search and Rescue since 1988 and has held differing leadership roles with Halifax Regional SAR. As an active SAR responder he teaches all aspects of wilderness rescue practices including the National Association for SAR (NASAR) Managing the Lost Person Incident course and Lost Person Behaviour course.

ELLIS, Scott – is a professional outdoorsman with a life long passion for getting people outside. Scott currently lives in White River Junction Vermont and manages the L.L.Bean Outdoor Discovery School in that region. Scott is also an amateur filmmaker who has appeared on PBS, the Weather Channel, Outside Television and on his YouTube Page called Guide You Outdoors. Scott has traveled extensively across rivers, lakes, and mountains in the United States and Canada and he documents his adventure small and large with the hope of educating and inspiring the public to live the outdoor lifestyle. To see more of his films go to www.guideyououtdoors.com.

EVANS, Ian – lives in Elora, Ontario. By profession, Ian is a Chartered Accountant and has worked in the UK, Africa and Canada. Ian has climbed 5 of the “7 Summits”, cycled solo & unsupported across Australia, cycled around the coastline of Iceland and cycled to the Arctic Ocean. In 2015 Ian's passion for adventure led him to Antarctica, where as part of a 4-man team he skied from the coast of the continent to the South Pole. Ian has been interviewed on BBC and CBC Radio, CTV and had articles published in Canadian Geographic online and The Grand magazine. Ian's a book on the South Pole expedition is now available. For more information, please visit: www.ianevans.ca

GARTLAN, Sara – is an artist and aspiring craftswoman living in Toronto. She enjoys spending time moving through landscapes in canoes, kayaks, bicycles and motorbikes. The canoe being a fast favorite. In the last few years she has spent a fair amount of time being taught and teaching herself how to make and paddle small traditional boats. Skin on frame qayaqs, Irish currachs, and the latest being a Cree canvas canoe. Living close to the Humber river in Toronto she never tires of seeing what the city river holds. She's making her living by house painting and film set painting, she occasionally gets out to explore places further afield.

GRATER, Wendy – has been guiding for Black Feather since 1984. In this time, she's paddled /hiked/kayaked/skied in the NWT, Yukon, Nunavut, B.C., Ontario, Quebec and Greenland. She is also owner and director of Black Feather. This is a rewarding and

multifaceted profession. In 2011, Wendy was awarded the Northwest Territories Tourism Lifetime Achievement Award, for service and commitment to the tourism industry in Canada's north. Black Feather was awarded both the Nunavut Tourism Business of the Year for 2013 and Northwest Territories Tourism Operator of the Year for 2013. Wendy is honoured to be recognized and to introduce Canada's wilderness to so many keen adventurers. When not guiding or in the BF office, Wendy's interests are cross country and back country skiing, yoga and hiking.

GUSEV, Aleksandar – past Chair of WCA and current Editor of *Nastawgan*, Aleks's been supporting George in organizing WCS for several years. In his spare time, Aleks organizes group ski trips, teaches white-water canoeing and is a Director of Paddler Co-op, a non-for-profit paddling school in Palmer Rapids. He splits his time between home in Toronto and his cabin in Bell's Rapids.

HADFIELD, Dave – With a very large and wide-ranging song base, Dave's music covers a lot of ground. A canoe and snowshoe tripper of many years, a segment of Dave's music originates in his explorations of the Shield-Forest in NE Manitoba and NW Ontario. His songs are deeply rooted in the land, telling stories of people who've lived there past and present – some are comical, some are deeply-felt celebrations of wilderness, but they always touch the spirit of those who like to wander north. His music has also been played in outer space – Dave wrote and co-wrote many of the songs recorded by his brother Chris while in orbit; now released, and also part of an orchestral concert series initiated by the Windsor Philharmonic. Dave's "In Canada" song was recently released as a music video, and went viral, gaining over a million hits in 3 days on YouTube alone. His music has been used for soundtracks for award-winning films, is featured on the "*Canoesongs*" album, and often accompanies slideshows presented by noted wilderness trippers and photographers. He has 3 albums, 2 of original wilderness ballads and one collection of more varied material. Another is in the works. He lives near Barrie. Dave writes music that will transport you away to another time and place. dave@hadfield.ca www.hadfield.ca

INGERSOLL, Amelia – is 16-year old and has been canoe tripping since she was ten. Her father is the director of Keewaydin, a wilderness canoe tripping camp in Northern Ontario that she has been attending as a camper for the past seven summers. In these summers spent canoeing in the great Canadian Wilderness, she has travelled in the Temagami Area, Wabakimi Provincial Park on the Ottoskwin River, in Northern Quebec on the East Main River, Great Whale River and the Guerin River. Over the years she has grown a very strong love for the wilderness and canoeing. This summer she completed her final summer as a camper at the camp, a 7-week journey to the Hudson Bay.

KINCLOVA, Iva – is a high school teacher who fell in love with canoeing in the Arctic. She is grateful to have been laid off a job in the stock market and chosen a new career with long summers and an opportunity to explore the Canadian north as well as the inner self. She would like to reflect on lessons learned from the search for like-minded spirits for northern journeys as it has undoubtedly been the biggest challenge in trip planning. Contact: iva.kinclova@tdsb.on.ca.

KING, Bill – is a 'mostly-retired' surgeon who, for many years, has maintained his sanity (at least in his opinion) with regular doses of wilderness. His long involvement with the Wilderness Canoe Association has been an invaluable source of friends and traveling partners. (Facilitator)

LISTER, Kenneth R. – is an anthropologist with the Royal Ontario Museum. His research has included archaeological and ethnographic fieldwork in the Hudson Bay Lowlands of Ontario, material culture studies related to the Inuit kayak of Baffin Island, snowshoes of northern Ontario, and historic Inuit art from Pangnirtung. Recently he has spent time on the Kaministiquia River–Dog Lake fur-trade route between Thunder Bay and Fort Francis searching for sites sketched by Canadian artist, Paul Kane. His multi-year research projects related to the art of Paul Kane has resulted in two books, *Paul Kane / the Artist: Wilderness to Studio* and *The First Brush: Paul Kane and Infrared Reflectography*. The former book received seven honours including winner in the categories of Native American Studies, Art, and History from the International Book Awards (Los Angeles) and the Regional Category of Western Canada—Non-Fiction from the Independent Publisher Book Awards (New York). In April he will be publishing the Royal Ontario Museum edition of Paul Kane’s 1859 travel literature classic, *Wanderings of an Artist among the Indians of North America*.

MACGREGOR, Roy – was born in the small village of Whitney, Ont., in 1948. He has won numerous awards for his journalism, including two National Newspaper Awards, several National Magazine Awards and twice the ACTRA Award as the best television drama writer in the country. He is also the author of 50 books, 30 of them in the internationally-successful *Screech Owls Mystery* series for young readers. His adult books include *A Life In the Bush*, which won the Rutstrum Award as the best book on the wilderness published in North America between 1995-2000. His previous book, *Home Team: Fathers, Sons and Hockey*, was nominated for the Governor-General's Award in 1996. He has also written two novels, *Canoe Lake* and *The Last Season*. His latest book is *Canadians: A Portrait of a Country and Its People*. In 2005 he was named an officer in the Order of Canada. Roy lives in Kanata, Ont., with Ellen. They have four children.

PELLY, David – is an explorer of the North's cultural landscape and author of several books and articles on the land and its people, including *The Old Way North*, *Sacred Hunt*, and *Thelon: A River Sanctuary*. Much of his writing is based on oral history shared with him by Inuit elders. Since the 1980s, David has been exploring Ukkusiksalik on foot, by sea-kayak, and with Inuit friends. This new book *Ukkusiksalik: The People's Story*, is the culmination of their collective efforts to document the traditional knowledge of the land. After many years in the Arctic, he now lives in the woods near Ottawa. He and his wife Laurie recently established a small foundation to help Inuit youth achieve their potential: www.AyalikFund.ca

SCHABER, Wallace – was born in Ottawa in 1950. He graduated from the University of Waterloo in Environmental Science in 1974. While at university, he created Black Feather Wilderness Adventures Ltd., which formed the foundation for his summer employment. While at Waterloo, through Black Feather, he created a national wilderness outing program for the National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada--a predecessor of CPAWS. This launched his career as a guiding company in the Northwest Territories. In 1975, while employed in teaching adult outdoor recreation courses at Ottawa’s Algonquin College, he teamed up with Chris Harris, who had a similar career path. Gary Schofield, their friend and boss at Algonquin, encouraged them to form a business partnership, which they named Trailhead. Their Trailhead business spanned four decades, ending in 2012 and leaving a lasting legacy in the Canadian wilderness outdoor recreation and retail field. Both Trailhead and Black Feather continue successfully today. Wally met his wife, Louise Gaulin, on a Du Moine canoe trip in 1975, and they continue to explore the world’s wilderness and cities happily together.

SCOTT, Wendy - grew up in New Jersey and moved north as soon as she could. She lives in Northern Vermont with her husband Al Stirt. They have spent the last 30 years exploring the rivers, lakes and land of Northern Quebec and Labrador. A retired teacher, Wendy now enjoys the time to sing in a choir in Sutton Quebec, ski (when there's snow) and visit her grandchildren. Wendy is the current program coordinator for two Vermont events inspired by the WCA: Snow Walkers Rendezvous in November and The Wilderness Paddlers Gathering held in March.

STRUZIK, Ed – is an award-winning writer and photographer who has published by five books and hundreds of articles in magazines such as Equinox, National Geographic Traveler, Canadian Geographic, Scientific American and Explore. An avid Arctic paddler, he has canoed more than 35 rivers in the Yukon, Alaska, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. In reviewing his latest book *Future Arctic, Field Notes from a World on the Edge*, Outside Magazine noted that “Struzik sets up most chapters with well-spun yarns from his journeys (of wildlife encounters, end-of-the-earth islands, close calls in bush aviation), and there are “whoa” moments” every few pages.”

TANZ, Katie –has been connected to Keewaydin Camp since it first introduced girls into its 100+ year old canoe tripping program in 1999. Since then, she has spent her summers leading teenage girls on 7 week, all female trips through northern areas of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. This past summer they traveled to Umiujaq, an Inuit community on the Eastern shores of Hudson Bay, by way of the Coates, Guerin Rivers and the Richmond Gulf. Katie spends the "canoe tripping off-season" working as an Outdoor Education teacher in Toronto.

TREMBLAY, Sylvain - is a biologist and outdoor guide. Because outdoor is addicting for him, he's taking his spare time to enjoy more wildlife watching, fly-fishing or hunting.

WADDINGTON, Sue and Jim - Jim is a retired physics professor from McMaster University and Sue is a retired nurse. We have been canoeing together for almost 60 years. In 1977 while we were tripping in Killarney Park we stumbled upon the exact place that AY Jackson had been 40 years before. Ever since, we have been planning our canoe trips in order to find and photograph the places that provided the inspiration for Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven painters. Just good excuses to go on a trip. Our talk will be about Tom Thomson - his canoeing and his painting.

ZEGAR, Kera – is a 19-year old freshman at the University of San Francisco this year. She developed her love for the outdoors and canoeing when she attended Keewaydin, a traditional wilderness canoe tripping camp in Northern Ontario in 2007. Since then Kera has enjoyed trips in Northern Ontario's Wabakimi Provincial Park on the Ottoskwin River and also in Northern Quebec where she paddled on the East Maine, the Great Whale and the Guerin River. Her final trip as a camper was this summer; an extraordinary seven week expedition to the Hudson Bay. There is no other way Kera would rather spend her summers and she is excited to share her experiences.

ZITZER, Ruby - is currently at Prescott College in Arizona, studying Snow Science and Avalanche Forecasting. Ruby was born and raised in Bozeman, Montana, where she and her two brothers were on rivers from 'prebirth'. Each of them has a “birth river” - the river they experienced in the womb - the Kazan, the Yellowstone and the Rio Grande . During each child's 13th year, the family returned to that birth river to recreate the original expedition. On the Kazan expedition in Nunavut, Ruby was 10, and she fell head over heels in love with the northern Tundra. That love never waned, and eventually, she was old enough to plan her own

northern epic adventure. Last summer she did just that. Along with her brother, Sawyer, her cousin and another friend, Ruby took on a 50-day 1,000 mile canoe trip from Great Slave Lake to Baker lake via the Hanbury and Thelon rivers. It was an epic summer full of fire, wind and ice, both an endurance test and a return to an enduring, inspiring landscape