

32nd annual Canoeing & Wilderness Symposium on
Northern Travels & Northern Perspectives XVI

24-25 February, 2017 at Monarch Park Collegiate Auditorium, One Hanson St, Toronto.
All sessions in the auditorium.

Friday evening, February 24, 2017 – 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**

- **David Greene** - NS “*Route Blanche: Quebec’s Lower North Shore*”

- **Robert Dale** - ON “*Back Door to the Hood River*”

- **Jon Turk** – BC “*Crocodiles and Ice: A Journey into Deep Wild*”

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

Saturday, February 25, 2017 - 25 min per presentation

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

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - **Session II – Chair: Emma Brandy**

- **Rebecca Ataman** - ON “*My Journey to the North: The Firth River*”

- **Iva Kinclova** - ON “*Finding partners for Arctic canoeing journeys*”

- **Mike Ranta** - ON “*Coast 2 Coast in 200 days*” - a Canadian solo canoe journey honoring veterans”

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

11:10 - 12:40 p.m. - **Session III – Chair: Iva Kinclova**

- **Michelle Tari Davies** - NL “*Seeking the Sites: an Archaeological Guide to Labrador*”

- **Sara Gartlan** - ON “*Skin on Frame Boats*”

- **Jeremy Ward** - “*Your museum on the move: an illustrated curator’s report on exciting happenings at the Canadian Canoe Museum*”

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. – **Katherine Wheatley - ON Wilderness Music Concert** [Ferguson Hall]

2:20 - 3:50 p.m. - **Session IV – Chair: Scott Campbell**

- **Jeff Wright** - ON “*How to Make Love in a Canoe*”

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

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. - **Session V – Chair: Katie Tanz**

- **Nicole Howe** - ON “*The Power of Photography in Northern Quebec*”

- **Kim Sedore** - ON “*Together, To-gather, To-Get-There: Wilderness therapy from an unclinical perspective*”

- **Torie Gervais**: “*Valuing Wilderness: New Canadian Future Leaders in Quetico Provincial Park*”

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**

- **Gestie Tees** – YK “*Youth of the Peel*”

- **Laura Rietveld** - ON “*The Making of Okpik’s Dream*”

- **Robin Potts** - ON “*The story of Teme-Augama Anishnabai’s N’Daki-Menan Birch Bark Canoe Build Project*”

Background Music Selections by Sandy Richardson.

Thank you for coming.

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

Participants at the 32nd Annual Wilderness and Canoeing Symposium

February 24-25, 2017, Toronto

<http://www.wcsymposium.com/>

ATAMAN, REBECCA – Rebecca is an Instructor in Anatomy at the University of Waterloo. Although her current job doesn't come with the perk of working in the wilderness, growing up she was a camper and staff member at Camp Wapomeo in Algonquin Park where she canoed in Ontario, Quebec and Minnesota. Now, she is slowly working on expanding her wilderness experiences to the Arctic and beyond.

BAILEY, ERIKA – is an international transition advisor at the University of Toronto. In her spare time, she is a writer, personal coach, editor, and quite a bit of a tea-drinker; all by-products of being a story-listener. She recently published her master's thesis *Paddling as Place: Experiential Learning of Place and Ecological Identity* – an arts-based narrative inquiry into experiential learning on canoe trips. Erika has canoed all her life, a gift taught to her immigrant parents by her Poppa – Omond Solandt. (Facilitator)

BRANDY, Emma –hails from Toronto, ON and found her love of canoeing through Camp Kearney, near the town of Huntsville. As a staff member there she explored the beautiful landscapes and waterscapes of the French River and Temagami regions. Upon pursuing her Masters in Outdoor Education in Scotland, she was exposed to the joys and chills of Scottish river canoe tripping. There she learned that canoe trips were not always sunny and that *in* the water is *not* where you want to be. Emma returned to Ontario and led trips for Trails Youth Initiatives and has recently begun a project helping elementary school students design and create outdoor learning environments. (Facilitator)

DAVIES, Michelle Tari – is an archaeologist with the Nunatsiavut Government, based out of Nain, Labrador. After completing her MA on the 18th century practices of Inuit Women at Memorial University, the Labrador Wild drew her to the northernmost community on the coast. Her position includes a mixture of field research and data management, policy writing, community engagement and more. Michelle is currently pursuing her PhD, which involves recording the stories and memories of relocated residents from Hebron through family archaeology. This presentation will guide the untrained eye to seek the traces of past peoples while out on the land: canoeing, kayaking or hiking will often result in a newly recorded site or two.

DALE, Rob – Grew up in northern Ontario with an endless lust to explore Canadian waters by canoe and kayak. Today he introduces new paddlers to the sport at the Toronto Islands. Desperate to see the tundra as a young man, he reached the Arctic Ocean by motorcycle in 2003. Last summer he returned north for an intense 50-day canoe trip to the head waters of the Hood River, Nunavut.

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 gayaqs, 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.

GREENE, David –Together with my wife, Adrien, and dog, Osa, I've snowshoed 330kms from St. Augustine to Kegaska, along Quebec's Route Blanche on the Lower North Shore.

We love all things outdoors, but winter offers a unique way to walk through and see the world. Walking over frozen tundra, waterways and ocean, we traversed this wild and unique part of Canada, few have even heard about.

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.

HOWE, Nicole – is a grade 12 student from Toronto. She has attended Camp Keewaydin on Lake Temagami for the past 6 summers. The 4 most recent summers she has gone on six-week canoe trips, in the Wabakimi Provincial Park, Lake Nipigon, Otokwin River, Albany River, Sakami River, and The Pontois River in Northern Ontario and Northern Quebec. This past summer she went on a seven-week canoe trip to Hudson's Bay via Clearwater Lake, Clearwater River and the Richmond Gulf. Her love for and connection to photography has grown because of her canoe trips, where she takes thousands of photos. Her summers at Camp Keewaydin have grown her love and passion of the wilderness.

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)

LEPARD, Chris - became obsessed with the Canadian wilderness after canoeing the Nahanni in 1993. Since then, along with her husband John, they have completed over 30 canoe trips into the northern wilds. When not canoeing, Chris operates an on-line perennial plant business, is a photographer and textile artist . . . and of course is planning the next trip. Website: www.chrisleopard.com and www.canningperennials.com
(Backup Presenter)

POTTS, Robin grew up on Bear Island, a small reserve on Lake Temagami. Robin is a certified teacher and currently works in her community for the Temagami First Nation as a coordinator for 2 youth-focused summer programs. Her passion is to promote and develop culture-based experiential learning opportunities to reconnect with the traditional knowledge of her people, the land and the water. At the age of 13 she attended Wabun, a wilderness canoe camp and her two children, Kylie & Brian also attended the camp for several summers. The best family time was always in the canoe and camping on traditional routes and beautiful rivers.

RIETVELD, Laura – Laura Rietveld is a writer, director, filmmaker and laureate of the Counsel of Arts and Letters of Quebec 2015 Prize for Work of an Emerging Montreal Artist. Her first documentary, *Okpik's Dream* about the life of Inuit dog musher, Harry Okpik, was nominated for Best Documentary Program at the 2016 Canadian Screen Awards, won Grand

Prix, Rigoberta Menchú Award at the 2015 Montreal First Peoples Festival, Honourable Mention for the Grand Prize at the 2015 Innsbruck Nature Film Festival in Austria, and continues to screen nationally and internationally. Driven by a deep desire to explore thought-provoking, socially relevant stories, Laura resigned from a successful corporate career in media sales and publishing to become a filmmaker. She holds an MBA from the Richard Ivey School of Business, a BA in History from Queens University and frequently speaks about her experiences leaving the corporate world to pursue a creative one.

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. (Facilitator)

SEDORE, Kim – has been guiding canoe trips since she was she was big enough and old enough to do so, beginning in 1996. Her paddling history happily reaches back to her infancy. Kim has recently worked as a Wilderness Field Instructor with Pine River Institute, a renowned and respected school for adolescents struggling with addictions and behavior. The first setting for students in treatment with PRI is two months in the Ontarian bush, all seasons. Kim's insight stem from her adventures - at work and in leisure- as well as from her formal studies of philosophy and comparative religion. She has lived in city and forest in Ontario, Quebec, BC, and the Yukon. She is also a writer and a musician. Her songwriting for Kimberley and The Collect Callers is directly inspired by the power and sense of the natural world. The banjo playing in the old time claw-hammer style is born of the bush. Kim currently steers a guiding outfit with a 29 ft. long Langley voyageur canoe, the project is recognized as Same Boat Adventures. Since it was established in 2010, bringing people together and away has been the main ambition of Same Boat Adventures. Sharing talents, building spirits through connection, and re-grounding in an ever deepening relationship with the land and water is the hope and the joy of this commitment.

TANZ, Katie – Katie is an Outdoor Education teacher at the Norval Outdoor School in Norval, Ontario. She has been connected to Keewaydin Camp since it first introduced girls into its hundred + year old canoe tripping program in 1999. Since then, she has spent her summers leading teenage girls on 7 week, all female canoe trips through northern areas of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. (Facilitator)

TEES, Gestie – was born into the Yukon's White River First Nation and is a member of the Crow Clan. His Northern Tutchone name, given to him by his maternal grandmother, is Mehddhin Zra, meaning Little Owl. He moved as a child to Mayo in central Yukon into the territory of his step father's First Nation, the Nacho Nyak Dun, and has been based there ever since. Gestie grew up spending some time out on the land and water but it wasn't until he returned from a stint outside the Yukon, in his early 20's, that he really started to connect more deeply to the outdoor way of life. It has become a passion for him to learn as much as he can about the Territory's wild recesses, and to hone his skills as an outdoorsman. This includes developing his paddling skills. Gestie has worked with youth from his community organizing and leading programs. He recognizes the great value in youth experiencing the natural world first hand and in connecting with their indigenous roots and lands. Gestie was one of two youth mentors on last summer's "Youth of the Peel" journey into the Peel watershed.

TURK, Jon – received his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1971, but abandoned academics to engage in extreme adventures, many of them by kayak. His circumnavigation of Ellesmere with Erik Boomer was nominated in 2012 by National Geographic as one of the “Top Ten Adventures of the Year”. Jon’s world-view was transformed by Moolynaut, a 100 year old Siberian shaman. This journey is chronicled in “The Raven’s Gift”. Jon’s newest book, “Crocodiles and Ice: A Journey into Deep Wild” represents a continuing exploration of a Consciousness Revolution based on a deep, reciprocal communication with the Earth. www.jonturk.net

WRIGHT, Jeff – Jeff Wright jeffwrightstoryteller.com is a performance storyteller living in Ottawa, Ontario. Jeff is a lifelong paddler. He started out on family and summer-camp canoe trips; led trips in his late teens; courted his wife Jennifer on a canoe trip; and now spends most of his summer on the water. In recent years Jeff has been dipping his toes (actually, his *entire* body) into moving water paddling. When not performing [How to Make Love in a Canoe](#) shows, Jeff performs contemporary language versions of Homer’s Iliad and Odyssey. Jeff is also the creator of [Trojan War: The Podcast](#), currently followed by 100,000+ listeners worldwide. Before embarking on his storytelling journey Jeff spent over 20 years as a high school History and Philosophy teacher.

WHEATLEY, Katherine - Raised on the rocky shores of Georgian Bay, singer/songwriter Katherine Wheatley grew up passionate about rocks, water, snow and ice and all the activities these elements offer. She raced cross-country skiing for 10 years and has canoed and hiked extensively. She worked in Northern Saskatchewan as a geologist before becoming a professional musician. In addition to touring, Katherine works as a singer and zodiac driver on board the ship The MS Expedition as it plies the seas of Antarctica and the Norwegian Arctic. The landscape, as well as the characters she encounters on her travels, inspire her songs. <http://www.katherinewheatley.com/>