

35th annual Canoeing & Wilderness Symposium on
Northern Travels & Northern Perspectives

21-22 February, 2020 at York University,
Accolade East Building,
83 York Blvd., North York, ON
All sessions in the Family Price Cinema

Friday evening, February 21, 2020

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Foyer: Meet your friends, grab a name tag, check out new facilities

7:00 - 7:15 p.m. - Introductory Remarks – Aleks Gusev, Erika Bailey

7:15 – 8:45 p.m. - **Session I**

- **Jeremy Ward, Carolyn Hyslop** – ON “*A new home for the Canadian Canoe Museum and the George Luste Memorial?*”
- **Michael Stein** – ON “*Grand Canyon of the Liard, September 1972*”

9:00 - 10:30 p.m. - Reception in the foyer, light snacks and juice & water provided

Saturday, February 22, 2020

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

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - **Session II**

- **Ryan O'Connor** – Palmer Rapids, ON “*Magic of the Magpie*”
- **Lynn Lawrence** – ON “*Arctic Connections...Following the Arctic Footsteps*”
- **Bob Hayes** – Smithers, BC “*Are Wolves Wilderness?*”

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

11:10 - 12:50 p.m. - **Session III**

- **Robin Rivison** – Peterborough, ON “*Motley crew goes North*”
- **Jason White** – Toronto, ON “*Foster River: A Solo Journey in Northern Saskatchewan*”
- **Bear Paulsen** – Chisago City, MN “*Baby to the Bay*”

12:50 - 2:00 p.m. - Lunch break

2:00 - 2:50 p.m. – **Concert**

Jerry Vandiver, Nashville, TN & **Anne Lindsay**, Toronto, ON – “*Songs About Paddling and All Things Outdoors*” (Auditorium)

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. - **Session IV**

- **Dan Wong** – Yellowknife, NT “*Tundra Tripping: Following Alex Hall’s Footsteps*”
- **Ross McIntyre** – Lyme, NH “*Finding La Cloche, and living to tell about it*”
- **Thomas Jamrog** – Lincolnville, ME “*9,000 Miles of Attitude: Aging and Endurance*”

4:30 - 5:15 p.m. - Refreshment break in cafeteria + book tables

5:15 - 6:45 p.m. - **Session V**

- **Alan Stirt** – Enosburg Falls, VT “*Kiglapaits, Kaumajets and Torngats: Paddling the Mountains of Labrador*”
- **Lesley Johnson** – Toronto, ON & **Kristen Tanche** – Łíídlıı Kúé, NT “*I hold Dehcho in My Heart*”
- **James Raffan** – Seeley’s Bay, ON “*Mapping Ground Zero*”

6:45 - 7:00 p.m. - **Closing Remarks: Aleks Gusev, Erika Bailey**

Following the completion of the program, you’re welcome to hang around to chat with friends and make new ones. Auditorium is booked until 10 p.m.
Food court is a short walk away.

8:00 p.m. - Books Table closes

Background Music Selections by Sandy Richardson.

Thank you for coming.

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

Speakers at the 35th Annual Wilderness and Canoeing Symposium

BAILEY, ERIKA – has canoed all her life, a gift taught to her immigrant parents by her Poppa – Omond Solandt. She is Lead Coordinator, Career Exploration at the University of Toronto. In her spare time, she is a writer, dancer, gardener, and urban bicyclist. Her book, *Paddling as Place: Experiential Learning of Place and Ecological Identity* – is a narrative research on how canoe trip stories impact and shape people's ecological identity and practices.

GUSEV, ALEKSANDAR – “...is the man with a largest family in Serbian community. His close family is over a thousand strong, and extended family numbers few thousands. Aleks managed what no political or church clique managed - to herd over a thousand Serbians without marketing, motivational speeches or pork on a spit - he's an institution!” - Nebojsa Djekic (*Mi Magazin*). Past Chair of Wilderness Canoe Association, Editor of *Nastawgan* magazine, and principal organizer of Wilderness and Canoe Symposium, I started paddling late in life and now I'm making up for the lost time with a vengeance. In my “spare” time, I organize popular group ski trips and paddling expeditions to far corners of the globe. I'm passionate about creating magical moments in people's lives.

HAYES, BOB – Bob Hayes was the Yukon Wolf Biologist from 1982-2001 engaging in diverse wolf research and management including population counts, predation rates on moose, caribou and mountain sheep and recovery of wolves and prey populations to intensive wolf control. In 2010 he wrote *Wolves of the Yukon*, an exploration of the natural history of the Yukon through the eyes of the wolf. He has also written the *Zhòh Trilogy*, three novels set 14,000 years ago at the end of the Ice Age in north Yukon.

HYSLOP, CAROLYN – is the Executive Director with the Canadian Canoe Museum. She has been with the museum since 2002 in roles including Education Co-ordinator, Public Programs Manager, Director of Operations and General Manager. Prior to joining the museum, Carolyn held positions at Camp Kawartha, Outward Bound Canada, Canada World Youth, Quetico Foundation and the Bluewater District School Board. She earned a Bachelor of Education from Queen's University's Outdoor and Experiential Education program and a Bachelor of Kinesiology from McMaster University. Carolyn is passionate about how canoes connect us to the land and to each other and the role that they can play in transformative educational experiences.

JAMROG, THOMAS – Tom grew up on a dairy farm. In 2014 Tom was the 230th recipient to be awarded the Triple Crown of Hiking award from the American Long Distance Hiking Association after his thru hikes of three of the USA's longest National Scenic Trails. His first book, “In the Path of Young Bulls: An Odyssey on America's Continental Divide Trail” was published in 2017. After retiring as a psychologist and mental health counselor in 2002 Tom has been guiding individuals and groups on four season adventures in the Northeastern US. His current interest is inspiring others to engage in wilderness adventures at any age.

JOHNSON, LESLEY – is a filmmaker and programmer based in Toronto and Yellowknife, whose work relates stories of personal transformation to environment and culture. She is fortunate to have worked in remote access communities and wilderness locations in the Northwest Territories, such as the Dehcho (Mackenzie River) and along the Arctic coastline. Lesley has a background in biological sciences and holds an MFA in Film Production from York University. Her film “I Hold the Dehcho in My Heart / Sedze Tah Dehcho E'toh” won the NWT Professional Media Association's award for Best Documentary, and is available on CBC Gem. Her shorts “Princess Jack” and “Charlie” have won awards and screened at numerous festivals. As a producer, her projects have appeared on CBC, APTN, and been selected for TIFF and Canada's Top Ten. Her latest film, “Revolution Moosehide”, will be released in winter 2020, and she is currently producing the feature length documentary “She Sings in Shadows” in Afghanistan.

LAWRENCE, LYNN – After Teaching Kindergarten 37 Awesome Years, I now enjoy the Privilege of Time with Grandchildren, Singing in two Auditioned Chamber Choirs, Woodland Adventuring year round or Summer Canoe Tripping with Family !!!

MCINTYRE, O. ROSS – went to summer camp in 1944 and has been paddling ever since. Along the way he became a physician, and used canoe trips as a way to unwind. Some of his trips appear in his 2010 book, *Paddle Beads* and his stories have been told around many a campfire. He lives with his paddling wife near the water in New Hampshire and reports that his shoulders and his Royalex boats show signs of decrepitude. As therapy he follows the recommendation of Satchel Page who once advised those with aging bodies to proceed in a manner that will “jangle the juices.”

O’CONNOR, RYAN – Originally from Montreal, Quebec, Ryan has had a love for the outdoors since a young age. After completing CEGEP in Montreal, he moved to the Madawaska Valley where he now manages a whitewater canoe and kayak school at Paddler Co-op in Palmer Rapids, ON. Surrounded by whitewater and wilderness, he has honed his skills as a whitewater instructor, guide, mentor and photographer. When Ryan isn’t instructing, he spends his time exploring with his kayak and camera from the Yukon to Labrador, Africa to Mexico, eagerly awaiting what lies beyond the next bend.

PAULSEN, BEAR – At the age of one-and-a-half, Bear’s parents introduced him to the BWCA. Throughout childhood, he made yearly family trips to Northwest Ontario. As an adult, he’s paddled extensively in Ontario, Manitoba, and the BWCA, as well as trips in Saskatchewan, Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. An avid winter camper too, he’s spent four years of his adult life hiding from the real world in tents and under tarps in all seasons. When his son, Dashwa, was born it seemed only logical to show him how to hide from the real world too. Though only one year old, Dashwa has already accompanied Bear and his wife, Claire, on fall paddling and winter camping trips in the BWCA and spent 21 days paddling Manitoba’s Hayes River. Arriving at York Factory on Hudson Bay meant the blade of Dashwa’s first paddle could be branded with the YF insignia.

RAFFAN, JAMES – loves canoes and canoeing and is a longtime friend of the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, service for which he just received Canada’s Meritorious Service Medal from Governor General Julie Payette. But it is storytelling that is JR’s real passion, and he’s one of the best. Over the years he has written and edited 24 books on topics ranging from canoes to biography, with the common thread running through them the connections between people and place. He has also written for film and television as well as for radio, both words and music, to evoke the themes and stories of the people and places he has visited. He is a frequent public presenter, speaking about risk, adventure, environment, reconciliation, education and the simple joys of self-imposed suffering.

RIVISON, ROBIN – Robin was born in New Zealand and took up canoeing after coming to Canada. When car-camping in Algonquin Park a friend told him that he had to go canoeing and taught him the basic strokes. He has since paddled extensively in Ontario and Quebec and even taken a canoe back to New Zealand for paddling adventures.

STEIN, MICHAEL – Michael Stein graduated from University of Toronto in Electrical Engineering in 1969. After brief employment at Canadian Standards Association he put away his slide rule and joined a high school friend and headed to Whistler Mtn. to broaden his horizons and satisfy a more adventurous spirit. Mike acquired his ski instructor’s certification and spent the next three years paying off his student loan by teaching skiing and guiding helicopter skiing. Summers were spent hiking and climbing local peaks and fulfilling a childhood fascination with the Coureurs de Bois canoeing some of the great rivers of the west including the North Saskatchewan, Thompson, Bow, Kootenay, the first descent of the Lillooet from Lillooet Lake to Harrison Lake and The Liard.

STIRT, ALAN – and Wendy Scott and friends have been wandering, somewhat aimlessly, over the Quebec/Labrador landscape since the late 1970's. Al particularly loves the open, nearly treeless areas near the Northern Quebec/Labrador border, but often finds himself in the middle of alder thickets. He has been a woodturner for over 40 years and has travelled far and wide teaching and giving turning demonstrations. You can find information and photos from both aspects of his life at: www.alstirt.com

TANCHE, KRISTEN – is a member of Łı́ı́dlı́ Kú́é First Nation. Raised across the North, Tanche returned to her mother’s home community of Łı́ı́dlı́ Kú́é (Fort Simpson), NT to reconnect with her family, community, and Dene culture ten years ago. She continues to live in the community, where she is employed by Dehcho First Nations as the Regional on

the Land Coordinator. In that capacity, she plans, coordinates, and delivers regional land-based programs guided by the values of the Dehcho First Nations and Dehcho K'éhodi Stewardship Program Principals. In 2017 Tanche participated in the Dechinta Dehcho River Semester which brought a group of 20 by canoe from Fort Providence, NT to Fort Good Hope, NT down the Dehcho (Mackenzie River). Since that time Tanche has been able to do annual Dehcho trips either through her employer or on her own with her family.

VANDIVER, JERRY – Since making the move from Kansas City to Nashville, Jerry has seen his songs recorded by such artists as Tim McGraw, Phil Vassar, Lonestar, Barbara Mandrell, Lee Greenwood and The Oak Ridge Boys to name a few. He scored a Top 5 single on Gene Watson's *Don't Waste It On The Blues*, a Top 20 on Wild Rose's *Go Down Swingin'* and #2 on Tim McGraw's *For A Little While*. Thanks to these artists, Jerry has songs on over 15 million records, two of which are hanging on the walls of the Country Music Hall of Fame. Jerry can be heard regularly at Nashville's Bluebird Cafe, The Ford Theater at the Country Music Hall of Fame's Songwriter Series and NSAI's Tin Pan South. He is also a regular presenter/speaker at NSAI's Spring Training, Songposium and Song Camps as well as their Thursday night workshops.

VRANICH, BOB – is a PhD student in the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation at the University of Alberta. His doctoral research focuses on the history of outdoor recreation and tourism in the Canadian north. Prior to starting his doctorate, Bob was a faculty member with the Adventure Studies Department at Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia. Bob has been involved in adventure tourism and outdoor education for sixteen years.

WARD, JEREMY – Curator Jeremy Ward has created more than ten exhibitions during his time working with The Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, Ontario. With a background in Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies he has researched for and been featured in several documentaries for Discovery Channel, the BBC and The Nature of Things, combining a passion for canoe making traditions, research and for storytelling. The Canadian Canoe Museum is now well underway with preparation for a new world-class facility located in Peterborough along the Trent-Severn Waterway and Ward will offer a peek into plans for a brand-new home for this Canadian treasure.

WHITE, JASON – Jason White spends the summer months canoeing and the winter months avoiding the cold and life responsibilities by backpacking and working on his Spanish in South America. In the Spring and Fall he works in the television industry in Toronto, to make money.

WONG, DAN – is a long-time Northerner and former board member of Paddle Canada. He is the owner of Jackpine Paddle and believes strongly that “Life is Better Outside”. Dan currently lives in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.

SYMPOSIUM 2020 MUSIC

The music being played during the breaks is a selection of traditional and contemporary songs and music celebrating the canoe and the history and culture of the North. (For more information on the artists and recordings, see Sandy Richardson.)

Jerry Vandiver and fiddler **Anne Lindsay** will be performing some of Jerry's paddling songs in **concert** in the Auditorium on **Saturday from 2:00 – 2:50 p.m.**

PADDLE ON

A collection of canoeing songs by Nashville singer and songwriter **Jerry Vandiver**: *Too Tired to Start a Fire; Camp Coffee; Leave No Trace; True and Deep; Wabakimi; A Bad Day On The Water; Birch, Cedar, Spruce; In the Rain; Too Many Boats; Don't Paddle Today; The Milky Way Waltz; This Quiet Place; The Middle of Somewhere; That's What Raindrops Do; My Other Car; Downstream.*

(From the CDs *True and Deep* (2012), *Every Scratch Tells a Story* (2014), *Mixed Dry Bag* (2016), *Paddle On* (2018) and *The Middle of Somewhere* (2020): Jerry Vandiver. **CDs available at the Book Table.**)

NORTHERN PERSPECTIVES

A selection of favourite songs played over the years at this symposium: **Alacie Tullaugaq** and **Lucy Amarualik**: *Qimmiruluapik*; **Sweet Water Women**: *Kwando Deh*; **Tanglefoot**: *C'est l'aviron / V'la l'bon vent*; **Ted Longbottom**: *The Ballad of Gordy Ross*; **Anne Lederman**: *Cry of the Loon*; **The Gumboots**: *The Mouth of the Peel, Dr. John Rae, What a Journey Samuel Hearne*; **Rodney Brown**: *La Verendrye, Voyageurs*; **Labrador Black Spruce**: *Lure of the Labrador Wild*; **Figgy Duff**: *Woman of Labrador*; **Tamarack**: *Frobisher Bay, The Song My Paddle Sings*; **Ian Tamblin**: *Woodsmoke and Oranges, Campfire Light*; **Dave Hadfield**: *Shield, Spanish River, Cry of the Wild.*

(CD, *Northern Perspectives* (2013): WCS. Proceeds from this CD went to support the George Luste Fund at the Canadian Canoe Museum.) **CREE & METIS FIDDLE TUNES**

A collection of fiddle tunes by Cree fiddle players from James Bay: **Roger Weapenicappo**, **Mathew Mukash**, **Bobby Georgekish**, **Malcolm House**, **Sinclair Cheechoo**, **Clarence Loutit**, **David Sam**, **Peter Bosum** and **James Stewart**; and Metis fiddle tunes from the late **Grandy Fagan** from Camperville, Manitoba, collected and played here by **Anne Lederman**.

(From the CDs *The Best Cree Fiddle Players of James Bay* (1993): Hughbooy Records; and *Old Man's Table* (2015): Falcon Productions.) **SONGS OF FORT WILLIAM**

A collection of songs about Fort William and the North West Company by Thunder Bay singer and songwriter, and past Symposium participant, **Rodney Brown**, performed with the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra: *Flag Song, C'est l'aviron, Reel Saint-Antoine, The Haunting; The Big Lonely; La Verendrye, What Would Susan Say; Map of Dreams; I Followed You Down; Voyageurs; McGillivray's Dream; Colonist Ball; All That Remains.*

(From the CD *Songs of Fort William* (2012): Starsilk Records.) **NORTHBOUND**

A collection of songs about the Northwest Passage and the High Arctic by Cobourg singer and songwriter, and past Symposium participant, **David Newland**: *No Way to Stay Warm, Poor William Braine, When It Comes to Love, Beautiful Beechey Island, Under Forever Skies, Oh What an Awesome Sight, This Moment on the Sea, Boy Along the Shore, Monument, Musk Ox Stew, Out Upon the Land, Quviasulippunga.*

(From the CD *Northbound*: (2019) David Newland.) **NORTHERN BREEZE**

A collection of songs about the North by Barrie-area singer and songwriter, and regular Symposium participant, **Dave Hadfield**: *Big Jim Bushey, Shield, Riley's Bait, Bay Trader, Jack Pine, This Land, DC-3, Bush Pilot's Song, Spanish River, Osprey, Caroline, Wilderness Waltz, Every Little While, Wild Goose, Cry of the Wild.*

(From the CDs *Northern Breeze* (1997), and *Wilderness Waltz* (2001): Dave Hadfield.)



Linking Artists With Native Youth

The ArtsCan Circle is a volunteer support group dedicated to linking creative artists with Native youth at risk in isolated communities. Their efforts continue the work begun in Labrador in 2000 by bluegrass harmonica player Mike Stevens.

ArtsCan Circle provides travel expenses for small groups of musicians to work with kids in remote Northern communities; to date they have visited over 16 communities: including Sheshatshuit and Natuashish in Labrador; Dokis, Mishkeegagamong, Pikangikum, Sioux Lookout, La Seul, Eabametoong, Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, Moose Factory and Wabaseemoong in Northern Ontario; Kugluktuk, Gjoa Haven and Rankin Inlet in Nunavut; and Carcross in Yukon.

Many of the musicians who have played at the symposium have participated in these programs.

You can support ArtsCan Circle by donating used musical instruments, Aeroplan miles, or cash to help cover travel and other expenses for the musicians. (As a volunteer group, *all* money collected goes to these expenses; the musicians donate their time.) If you are interested in helping, or for more information, including pictures and stories about the trips, please visit the ArtsCan Circle web-site:

www.artscancircle.ca

See the ArtsCan Circle brochures at the brochure table.



Wilderness Canoe Association

The **WCA** is pleased to support the **Wilderness and Canoe Symposium**. We applaud the amazing work of Aleks Gusev and his team in organizing this very special event. Many of the volunteers are WCA members.

If you enjoy the Symposium, with it's focus on wild places and the canoe as a means of exploring them, please consider **joining the WCA** to embrace this focus throughout the year. The **WCA** is a non-profit paddling club which supports the paddling community in many ways, including:

Nastawgan Journal: highlights paddling trips and the people who undertake them.

Outings/trips: organized by and for members, from easy one-day flatwater trips to multi-day remote river trips.

Canadian Canoe Routes: a vibrant online resource with easy access to thousands of trip reports.

Membership (\$35 single/\$45 family) is available in the lobby or online at www.wildernesscanoe.ca. Membership includes:

- Participation in our trips and outings
- Members can post trips on our website
- Organizers are covered by liability insurance
- Subscription to Nastawgan journal
- Support of Canadian Canoe Routes
- Fellowship of knowledgeable and enthusiastic paddlers

WCA Board of Directors

Gary Ataman
WCA Chair