

37th annual Canoeing & Wilderness Symposium
Northern Travels & Northern Perspectives
Wednesday, February 16, 2022 - 2nd Online Symposium

All sessions online.

Wednesday evening, February 16, 2022 from **6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

6:00 PM - **Erica Bailey & Aleks Gusev**, Opening Remarks

Session I. - 6:10 PM - [Nicolas Roulx and Guillaume Moreau](#), Crossing Canada:
Beyond Geographical Exploration

Session II. - 6:55 PM - [Jerry Vandiver and Caitlin Evanson](#)

Session III. - 7:00 PM - [Patrick Moldowan](#), Wilderness as a living laboratory

Session IV. - 7:30 PM - [Jeremy Ward and Carolyn Hyslop](#), A new home for the
Canadian Canoe Museum

Session V. - 7:35 PM - Six (6) Breakout sessions:

1. **Gear Heads** - for gadgety, fidgety people
2. **Maps and Paths Peeps** - do topography lines make you giddy?
3. **Tripping with Little People** - Thinking about tackling a wilderness trip with a 2-year old?
4. **Canadian Canoe Museum** - update about the CCM
5. **Wilderness Music** - Join Jerry and Cait for fab tunes. Let them transport your body and soul to days of pine scent and bug bites.
6. **The Cooler Room** - This is a youth-only space to connect with fellow paddlers with a full head of non-silver hair (29 and under)

Session VI. - 8:10 PM - [Jon Turk, Tracking Lions, Myth, and Wilderness in Samburu](#)

Session VII. - 8:55 PM - **Closing**

9:00 PM - The End

Presenters and Chairs - 2022 Wilderness Canoe 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, ALEKS 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* journal, Director of Paddler Co-Op, 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.

[ROULX, NICOLAS](#) - is a Canadian adventurer, author, and speaker who has completed several expeditions across the world. He is best known for his participation in [Expédition AKOR](#), the longest human-powered north-south crossing of Canada, which covered 7,600 kilometers in 234 days. He has also written a book about his experience, titled *234 jours: Un périple de huit mois, du nord au sud du Canada*.

Since obtaining his Bachelor’s degree in Education, Nicolas has been teaching outdoors in a high school, and studying Geography in a Master’s degree. During his studies, he accumulated several years of experience as a canoe expedition guide. Wilderness First Responder, he is eager for new northern experiences. Nicolas recently noted the incredible potential of large- scale expeditions to act with young people as a lever for motivation, perseverance and self-confidence. Since 2018, he has given more than sixty talks on exploration and perseverance in various contexts, mainly in schools.

He is passionate about challenging the conventional wisdom of modern society and

learning from indigenous cultures.

MOLDOWAN, PATRICK In the heart of Ontario's and Canada's iconic Algonquin Provincial Park is the [Algonquin Wildlife Research Station](#) (AWRS). Established in 1944, the AWRS is a place of discovery, experiential learning, and rich history. From flies to flying squirrels, mice to meningeal worms, shrews to salamanders and songbirds, turtles to trees, and woodpeckers to wolves, generations of biologists and biologists-to-be have been untangling the complexities of the natural world. This is no place for white lab coats lest they be covered in soil, blood stains, and smears of black flies and mosquitoes. For over 75 years, some of the most comprehensive studies of wildlife biology and conservation in Canada and the world have taken place in the little known Wildlife Research Area, a wilderness zone of Algonquin Provincial Park.

“The Park” is a lot of things to a lot of people, but to me it is a grand outdoor laboratory. While you might only rarely see the science in action, it is a crucial part of understanding and protecting the natural places that you and I love. In this presentation, I will share a selection of discoveries and ongoing research about the natural world that might change the way you look at Algonquin Provincial Park and its inhabitants during your next backcountry trip. Join me for the secrets that turtles hide in their half-shells, a David and Goliath story of host and parasite, what makes a wolf, the uncharted territory of a moose antler, and a dive into the guts of carnivorous plants—oh my! Don your boots, watch your step, and enjoy the squish of the bog underfoot. Tilley hat and sunscreen recommended. Pack your curiosity and get comfortable in your canoe!

[Patrick Moldowan](#) is a Ph.D. Candidate at the University of Toronto studying the population ecology and sensitivity to environmental change of salamanders, one of the many ‘little things that run the world’. He has been fortunate to turn his passion for wildlife (amphibians and reptiles, in particular) into ecological research and conservation efforts that span continents. Patrick is a recipient of the prestigious Canada's New Noah Scholarship from Wildlife Preservation Canada, an award recognizing young leaders in conservation. When not dotting over salamanders, you can find Patrick dining on fine curries, guiding natural history tours, pondering the quirky sex lives of turtles, and planning his next field research project (inevitably involving amphibians and reptiles).

Carolyn Hyslop and Jeremy Ward are both leaders of the [Canadian Canoe Museum](#), a national heritage center that celebrates the history and culture of canoeing in Canada and around the world. They are also avid paddlers and adventurers who have participated in the Wilderness and Canoe Symposium, an annual event that showcases

the stories and insights of wilderness explorers.

HYSLOP, CAROLYN is the executive director of the Canadian Canoe Museum. She joined the staff in 2018, after working as a senior manager at the Peterborough Community Foundation and the Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site. She is responsible for leading the museum's strategic vision and operations, as well as overseeing the museum's relocation to a new waterfront site that will enhance the visitor experience and the environmental sustainability of the museum. She has also been a speaker at the Wilderness and Canoe Symposium, where she updated the audience on the museum's progress and plans.

WARD, JEREMY is the curator of the Canadian Canoe Museum. He joined the staff in 1997, after working as a cabinetmaker, a birch bark canoe builder, and an archaeologist in Greece. He is responsible for managing the museum's collection of over 600 canoes, kayaks, and paddled watercraft, as well as developing exhibits and programs that highlight the significance and diversity of canoeing. He has also been a speaker at the Wilderness and Canoe Symposium, where he shared his knowledge and passion for canoeing.

TURK, JON is a scientist, author, and explorer who has written several books and articles about his adventures in the wilderness and his encounters with indigenous cultures. Earned a Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1971 and was nominated by National Geographic as one of the Top Ten Adventurers of the Year in 2012. Between these bookends, Jon co-authored the first college level environmental science textbook in North America, followed by 35 additional texts. At the same time, he kayaked around Cape Horn, across the North Pacific from Japan to Alaska, and around Ellesmere Island. He has also mountain biked across the northern Gobi in Mongolia and made numerous first ski descents and first rock climbing ascents around the globe. During extended travel in northeast Siberia, Jon's worldview was altered by Moolynaut, a Siberian shaman, and his later books reflect these spiritual journeys, supported by adventure storytelling, and integrated with an anthropological view of the role of art and mythology in human development. In 2017, he gave a presentation titled "[Crocodiles and Ice: A Journey into Deep Wild](#)", where he recounted his experiences of kayaking around Cape Horn, circumnavigating Ellesmere Island, and learning from a Siberian.

2010, *The Raven's Gift and Wilderness Spirituality*

2006, *In the Wake of the Jomon Karsten Heuer*

1999, Cold Ocean Adventures

EVANSON, CAITLIN has toured as a fiddle player and vocalist for Ringo Starr, Taylor Swift, and Shakira to name just a few. A prolific songwriter with placements on television and radio, her voice is fun and angelic, bringing a new and engaging personality to WCS.

VANDIVER, JERRY is an American songwriter and musician who has a passion for canoeing and wilderness music. He was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and moved to Nashville, Tennessee, in 1984 to pursue his dream of becoming a country music artist. He has written songs for many famous singers, such as Tim McGraw, Gene Watson, Phil Vassar, and Lonestar, and has songs on over 15 million records. Two of his songs are displayed in the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville.

Jerry Vandiver is also a dedicated paddler and a member of the Wilderness Canoe Association (WCA), a non-profit community of outdoor enthusiasts who share a love for canoeing and wild places. He has participated in several canoe trips and expeditions organized by the WCA, as well as the annual Wilderness and Canoe Symposium, where he presents his original songs and stories about canoeing and the wilderness.

He has released several albums of wilderness music, such as *True and Deep: Songs for the Heart of the Paddler* (2012), *Every Scratch Tells a Story* (2014), *Paddle On* (2018), and *The Middle of Somewhere* (2020). He often performs with his band, The One Match Band, which features talented musicians who are also avid paddlers. Jerry Vandiver is a unique and inspiring artist who blends his love of music and canoeing in a creative and entertaining way.