

**14th annual Canoeing & Wilderness Symposium on  
Arctic Travels & Arctic Cultures II**

**February 5 & 6, 1999 at Monarch Park Collegiate, Toronto  
All sessions in the auditorium.**

**Friday evening, February 5, 1999**

- 6:30 - 7:20 p.m. - In foyer. Self-registration, program and name tags.
- 7:20 - 7:35 p.m. - Introductory Remarks - George Luste
- 7:35 - 9:30 p.m. - Session I - - Chair - George Luste
  - Jill Allan                      Ottawa - ON                      Summer-Long Arctic Paddle
  - David Gray                      Metcalf - ON                      Wildlife & Winter in the High Arctic
  - Leah Otak                      Igloolik - NT                      Inuit Language, Culture, & Community
- 9:30 - 10:30 p.m. - Reception in cafeteria.

**Saturday, February 6, 1999 - 25 min per presentation**

- 8:30 a.m. - Doors opened for attendees.
- 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - Session II - - Chair - Laura Pitblado-Kelly
  - Brian Ladoon                      Churchill - MB                      Eskimo Dogs & Polar Bears
  - Mike Whittier                      Paris - ON                      Devon and Victoria Perspectives
  - David Pelly                      Cambridge Bay - NT                      The Storytellers' Arctic
- 10:30 - 11:10 a.m. - Refreshment break in cafeteria
- 11:10 - 12:40 p.m. - Session III - - Chair - John Harrington
  - Shawn Hodgins                      Peterborough - ON                      Perspectives on the Lure of the Arctic
  - Jon Turk                      Fernie - BC                      Cold Ocean Adventures
  - Will Lange                      Etna - NH                      Leadership, Outdoors & Under Stress
- 12:40 - 2:20 p.m. - Lunch break [Due to limited seating, cafeteria use is available to meal-ticket holders only.]
- 2:20 - 3:50 p.m. - Session IV - - Chair - Linda Gordon
  - Dorcas Miller                      Augusta - ME                      A Thirst for Adventure
  - Steve Bruner                      Ely - MN                      Youth Adventures in the Arctic
  - Emiliano Qirngnaq                      Pelly Bay - NT                      Kayaking & Inuit Eco-Tourism
- 3:50 - 4:30 p.m. - Refreshment break in cafeteria
- 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. - Session V - - Chair - Sheila Thomson
  - Kathy Hooke                      Peterborough - ON                      George Douglas: the Man Behind Lands Forlorn
  - Tom Andrews                      Yellowknife - NT                      Dogrib Trails, Canoes & Archaeology
  - John B. Zoe                      Rae - NT                      Mindset: Dogrib Kids and Trails
- 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Supper break [Due to limited seating, cafeteria use is available to meal-ticket holders only.]
- 7:45 - 9:15 p.m. - Session VI - - Chair - Peter Ewins
  - Richard Weber                      Chelsea - QC                      High Arctic Travels
  - Robbie Keith                      Elora - ON                      Arctic Challenges for the New Millenium
  - Peter Ernerk                      Iqaluit - NT                      Arctic Cultural Perspectives

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Background Music Selections by Sandy Richardson.

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Thank you for coming and see you next year.

## 1999 - Program Participants

**ALLAN, Jill:** - a nurse from Ottawa. She enjoys various wilderness experiences, including canoeing and winter camping. A special adventure in the north was realized when she and three friends spent a summer travelling by canoe from Yellowknife to Arctic Sound. [David Whyte's **The Hummingbird From Resolute** describes this trip.] [seat B30]

**ANDREWS, Tom:** - has been involved in research in the northern Yukon, and in the Mackenzie Valley of the Northwest Territories since the late 1970s. His publications include works on Aboriginal land management systems, community-based resource management, and Dogrib sacred sites. He is co-editor, with George P. Nicholas, of **At a Crossroads: Archaeology and First Peoples in Canada**. Since 1990, he has held the position of Subarctic Archaeologist at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. [seat A22]

**BRUNER, Steve:** - is the Wilderness Program Director for Widjiwagan, a canoeing and backpacking camp for youth, ages 12 - 18, and a branch of the YMCA of Greater St. Paul. He lives year round at the facility in Ely, Minnesota, where he coordinates the training, risk management, outfitting, permitting, and logistics for about 145 trips per summer, including four or five "advanced" [40+ days] canoe trips in the Arctic. His wilderness experiences include two six-week canoe trips in the Northwest Territories, and backpacking ventures in Alaska, Scandinavia, and Antarctica. [seat D27]

**ERNERK, Peter:** - Former Kangiqliniq (Rankin Inlet) resident, Peter Ernerk is the deputy minister of the new government of Nunavut's Department of Culture, Language, Elders and youth. Ernerk, now living in Iqaluit, is a longtime cultural activist who has worked as a freelance writer specializing in Inuit culture, language, Inuit spirituality and northern political developments. He served as minister of Social Development, Economic Development and Tourism, and Natural and Cultural Affairs with the government of the Northwest Territories from 1975-79, was a director of Tungavik Federal of Nunavut, and was CBC Announcer Operator in Churchill, Manitoba in 1969-70. [seat A33]

**EWINS, Peter:** - [Chair] - is Director of WWF Canada's Species program. He is a seabird biologist by training, and a traveller to remote and wild places by addiction. He's currently coordinating WWF's 3-year "Northern Futures" arctic conservation program, which targets species, spaces, and contaminant projects with communities and other northern partners from the Yukon to Nunavut. [seat D31]

**GORDON, Linda:** - [Chair] - a high school teacher in Oakville, started out racing flatwater kayaks and canoes, then moved on to recreational canoeing. Weekend trips nearby lead to extended tripping in northern Ontario, the Yukon, and the NWT. She would be most willing to share information about her most recent trip down the Mara-Burnside River to Bathurst Inlet Lodge [and also the arrangements through the lodge]. [seat C40]

**GRAY, David:** - studied the behaviour of high arctic birds and mammals in winter and summer on Bathurst, Axel Heiberg, and Ellesmere Islands for the Canadian Museum of Nature from 1973 to 1993. As an independent consultant, David's recent research ranges from Canadian industrial and maritime history to environmental assessment in northern parks. He has written two books on arctic subjects; **The Muskoxen of Polar Bear Pass** and **Alert, Beyond the Inuit Lands;** - the Story of Canadian Forces Station Alert. [seat B27]

**HARRINGTON, John:** - [Chair] - is a retired educator who has spent portions of the last six summers looking for remnants of the Franklin Expedition on King William Island. He is now a full time artist/author. Web page [ [www.franklintrail.com](http://www.franklintrail.com) ] and e-mail [ [harrinj@idirect.com](mailto:harrinj@idirect.com) ]. [seat C24]

**HODGINS, Shawn:** - is co owner of Wanapitei Canoe & Northern Outdoor Expeditions that offers canoe and kayak adventures throughout northern Canada and in selected southern locations. Shawn participated in his first arctic trip as a teenager with Camp Wanapitei. For the past 20 years he has guided canoe trips in northern Canada first with Camp Wanapitei and then later with his company Wanapitei C.A.N.O.E. During this time he has been able to return to the arctic 11 times to guide canoe trips. [seat D25]

**HOOKE, Kathy:** - is a retired community college teacher, and has written on local history, especially early cottaging and canoeing on Stony Lake. As a niece of George Douglas, she has unearthed considerable material pertaining to the North from his diaries, letters, photographs and published material. She has spoken and written about many aspects of George's life. [seat B22]

**KEITH, Robbie:** - was a member of the Board of the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee for 21 years, including five as Chair, before becoming CARC's Executive Director in November 1997. During that time he participated in many of CARC's research and advocacy efforts, in addition to organizing several of CARC's national conferences and workshops. As well, Robbie was a professor in the Faculty of Environmental Studies, University of Waterloo, from 1970 to 1996 where much of his teaching and research was focussed on northern issues. [seat B29]

**LADOON, Brian:** - hails from Churchill Manitoba. As a young man he became a seaman and travelled around the continent. As a self-taught artist Brian's paintings portray northern landscapes and its wildlife. Some years later Brian returned to the land, people and the animals and for over the last 20 years has devoted his life to the perseverance and continued survival of the indigenous Canadian Eskimo Dog, and most recently Canada's Polar Bears. His projects include a stone castle set on the shores of Hudson Bay. This castle is a recreation of the random rubble style and method of the 18th century. It will be completed in the next few years. [The poster of **Eskimo Dog & Polar Bear** is available.] [seat B40]

**LANGE, Willem:** - is a contractor, writer, and storyteller from Etna, New Hampshire. A former Outward Bound instructor and director, he is also the founder (in 1973) of the Geriatric Adventure Society, a loose-knit band of misfits whose members have traversed most of northern New Hampshire on skis, skied the Haute Route over the Alps, climbed in the Himalayas and Andes, and paddled many rivers of the Canadian Arctic. [Both his book, **Tales From the Edge of the Woods**, and the **Tape Cassette** are available.] [seat C12]

**LUSTE, George:** - [Chair] - continues to paddle and dream of ever longer summer trips. During the last two summers he and Linda paddled the Quebec North Shore to the Labrador border at Blanc-Sablon and this past summer the Queen Charlotte Islands coastline south to Anthony Is and back. [seat A10]

**MILLER, Dorcas:** - started paddling 29 years ago, became a canoe instructor and guide, and now writes books about natural history and outdoor activities. Her current project is a guide to sea kayaking along the Maine coast. She canoed the Dubawnt River in 1975 and has since paddled the Hanbury/Thelon and rivers in Quebec. [Her books **Good Food for Camp and Trail** and **Stars of the First People** are available.] [seat C13]

**OTAK, Leah:** - was born in Iglurjuat, a traditional Inuit hunting camp near Igloolik, Nunavut. Schooling took her to Igloolik, Ottawa, and Fort Smith. She has worked as an Inuktitut radio announcer for CBC in Montreal and has held various administrative posts with the government of the Northwest territories. She is currently operations manager of the Igloolik Research Center. She also works closely with the Igloolik Inullariit Society, an elder's organization established to promote and preserve Inuit culture in the Igloolik area. [The book **The Arctic Sky** was produced at the Igloolik Research Center.] [seat A31]

**PELLY, David:** - is a writer who has spent the past 20 years travelling, studying and writing about Canada's North; much of his writing is based on the knowledge and stories northern people offer. His most recent book is **Thelon: A River Sanctuary**. The sub-title for today's talk is: "The origin of death," "My [Inuit] grandfather's search for Franklin," "Murder in the Thelon," and other tales – the Arctic from a storytellers' perspective. [seat A28]

**PITBLADO-KELLY, Laura's** - [Chair] - fascination with the Arctic spans several decades. Over the years she has collected books, paintings, sculptures, all informing and depicting the land that she loves. In 1994 it seemed only fitting to finally fulfill a dream and acquire 2 Canadian Eskimo Dogs, and it didn't end there. Laura enjoys sledding, showing and promoting this unique breed and its heritage. She is the treasurer and editor of the Canadian Eskimo Dog Association of Canada and its newsletter "Qimmiq". Recently on a trip to Churchill during the polar bear migration she observed first hand the interaction between the Canadian Eskimo Dog and the bears. A move further to the northland for Laura, her husband and the extended canine family now six seems to be inevitable. [seat C41]

**QIRNGNAQ, Emiliano:** - was born and raised in the Pelly Bay area of the Northwest Territories. Since he mostly speaks Inuktitut in his home community, he wants to say that his English is a bit weak. He will comment on the excitement and opportunity that the modern-day kayak has brought to his community. He works as an assistant store manager and hunter. [seat A30]

**THOMSON, Sheila:** - [Chair] - has edited her father's journal **Journal of a Barrenlander, 1928-1929** by W. H. B. Hoare, which recounts his extended travels into the Thelon Game Sanctuary. She and Harry live in Ottawa but spend as much time as possible in the out-of-doors. [seat B12]

**TURK, Jon:** - a chemist by training and an adventurer by avocation, has written numerous environmental and earth science textbooks. His recent adventure/travel book, **Cold Oceans - Adventures in Kayak, Rowboat, and Dogsled**, chronicles some of his adventures in the Canadian Arctic and the Cape Horn region of Chile. He lives with his wife and expedition partner, Chris Seashore, in Montana in the summer and in the British Columbia in the winter. [seat B24]

**WEBER, Richard:** - along with his Russian partner is the first and only person to ski to the North Pole and back with no outside help. He will have an illustrated talk about his travels on Baffin Island, Ellesmere Island and Greenland by skis, foot and kayak. Richard specializes in regions where people seldom venture, he enjoys the sense of exploration found in areas that rarely see a human face. [His book **Polar Attack** is available.] [seat C32]

**WHITTIER, Michael:** - is a physician currently practising in Hamilton, Ont. He has a long-standing interest in history, archeology, and expedition medicine. His more recent interest is family canoeing with kids. [seat B32]

**ZOE, John B:** - is the Chief Negotiator for the Dogrib First Nation. He has spent the last ten summers paddling the ancestral trails of the Dogrib. He has organized three summer canoe trips so far with Elders, teachers and students. [See the book **Trails of Our Ancestors.** ] [seat A23]