

THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK



In 2023, The Friends of Algonquin Park celebrated its 40th Anniversary as a registered charity.

From the beginning in 1983, The Friends of Algonquin Park has been dedicated to furthering educational and interpretive programs, in Algonquin Park. We do this through research, the development and delivery of programs, workshops, events, and the production of educational materials.

Along with the commitments of our members, volunteers, donors and partners, The Friends is able to continue to foster an appreciation for Algonquin



Park. Each year we commit to supporting many new projects and improve on existing programs that enhance Park visitors' enjoyment. As you read this newsletter, you will see some of our recent accomplishments.

We sincerely thank all of our supporters!

To be a part of this group, visit The Friends of Algonquin Park at www.algonquinpark.on.ca or email friends@algonquinpark.on.ca.

The Friends of Algonquin Park (FOAP) is now forty years old and with the celebrations of this "fabulous" milestone birthday behind us we find ourselves excited and inspired to be entering a new decade. We will, of course, remain committed to our mandate to further the educational and interpretive programs to develop current and future stewards of Algonquin Park.

There are changes afoot on the Board of Directors, as well. After 10 years as Chair of The Friends of Algonquin Board of Directors, Kim Smith is passing the stern paddle on to another. Our new Chair, Linda "Lecko" Leckie, has been on the Board for the past six years and has made Algonquin her second home and classroom for over 60 years. Her background as an educator and guide offers a strong focus and commitment to the educational and interpretive program offerings of the FOAP.

Thankfully, Kim will remain as a committed member of the Board and will continue to lead the group of Directors tasked with finalizing our new cooperating agreement with Ontario Parks. Discussions to date have been positive and we are hopeful for a signed agreement in 2024. We thank our Member of Provincial Parliament, John Yakabuski, for his active and personal interest in seeing our negotiations with Ontario Parks come to a successful conclusion.

Don Spring, another long-serving board member and former Chair of the Board, has moved into an Honorary Director position. While we will miss him, we know that he is only a phone call away to offer sage advice and guidance based on his many years of dedicated service with The Friends of Algonquin Park.

Lori Beecroft is also stepping down from her role as a Director. In her tenure as Treasurer, she made a significant contribution to the financial health of our organization, and we are delighted that she too will remain as a wise consultant to our staff.

As Chair and Past Chair, we look forward to continuing to support our dedicated staff who make The Friends of Algonquin Park such a successful and well-respected organization. To our members, volunteers, donors, and partners you are our true champions and on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of The Friends of Algonquin Park we want to thank you for your endless and much appreciated support.

Be sure to look for The Friends of Algonquin Park staff in their "snazzy" new uniforms this summer. They will be the ones with big smiles, looking dashing in their burgundy shirts, ready to enrich your visit to Algonquin Park.

Kim Smith - Past Chair
Linda "Lecko" Leckie - Chair



NEW FOR 2023! The Friends of Algonquin Park were able to offer our Safe Canoeing workshop every Wednesday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Join us! See our online calendar of events for dates to register.

Appealing to both the curious beginner and the experienced enthusiast, our Experience

Algonquin workshops offer a broad range of Algonquin Park-related courses. We bring expert instructors from communities within and around Algonquin Park to share their passion and expertise on a variety of recreational and natural history topics. As a participant, you will work closely with instructors in a small group setting, taking home new skills and knowledge, as well as field guides and tools needed to pursue your interest further.

Workshops are open to members of The Friends of Algonquin Park. Non-members may purchase a membership upon registration. Space is limited and advance paid registration is required for all workshops. To register, call (613) 637-2828 ext. 236.

Welcome • Willkommen • 歓迎
Join a bilingual German- or Japanese-speaking Naturalist who can help you get the most out of your Algonquin Park visit.

For more information, download program details from www.algonquinpark.on.ca, send an email inquiry to education@algonquinpark.on.ca, or call the Group Education Coordinator at (249) 700-0015.



GROUP EDUCATION PROGRAM

If you are a teacher or education professional, The Friends of Algonquin Park can offer you creative and fun learning opportunities! We are pleased to continue to offer school, youth, and adult groups a wide variety of educational programs. Over 70 Algonquin-themed programs are available in half-day, full-day, evening and overnight formats. A special itinerary can be tailored to your group's interests and needs. Go to www.algonquinpark.on.ca for more details.



Algonquin Park Webcam >



Watch Algonquin Park during any season. Choose from either live streaming video, panorama, or archived images of the view from the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre, courtesy of **The Friends of Algonquin Park** in partnership with **EarthCam**. See it at www.algonquinpark.on.ca

WWW.ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA



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CELEBRATING ALGONQUIN PARK

On September 9th, ticket holders enjoyed an evening viewing the beauty of Algonquin Park captured by photographers and presenters who share a passion for this special place. This evening included door prizes, a silent auction, refreshments and presentations by Jeff Skevington and Jesse & Susan Villemaire.



MEET THE RESEARCHER DAY

The Friends of Algonquin Park and Algonquin Wildlife Research Station, in collaboration with Ontario Parks and the Harkness Laboratory of Fisheries Research held Meet the Researcher Day on Thursday, August 3rd at the East Beach Picnic Pavilion. Park visitors came to meet the researchers who use Algonquin Park, as their laboratory. Researchers who study reptiles and amphibians, birds, small mammals, fish, wolves, and even humans explained and shared their research.



2024 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

LOGGERS DAY

Saturday, July 27th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Algonquin Logging Museum



OUTDOOR CONCERT WITH GLEN CARADUS

Sunday, July 28th at 7:00 pm at the Outdoor Theatre

MEET THE RESEARCHER DAY

Thursday, August 1st from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the East Beach Picnic Pavilion

CELEBRATING ALGONQUIN PARK

Saturday, September 7th 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Algonquin Visitor Centre (ticket-holders only)

WINTER IN THE WILD

Saturday, February 15th, 2025 at various locations along Highway 60

WAILERS LAST PERFORMANCE

A Special Thank You to the Wakimi Wailers who performed their last concert in Algonquin Park at the Outdoor Theatre on Sunday, July 30th, 2023.



THE 2023 DIRECTORS AWARD

On June 17, 2023, The Friends of Algonquin Park presented the award to Bob McRae and Brian Maltman during a ceremony held at the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre.

Bob and Brian are both Directors with The Friends of Algonquin Park. While it is not customary for this award to be presented to current Directors, the Board felt it was a wonderful way to commemorate The Friends of Algonquin Park's 40th anniversary as both Bob and Brian have served on The Friends Board for 40 years. Both have also made numerous contributions to The Friends and the Park.

Brian was part of the original Board of Directors that formed on June 25, 1983. His career as a lawyer and commitment to The Friends of Algonquin Park guided many of his contributions to the governance of The Friends. Brian served as Chair from 2002 to 2008 and currently sits on several committees and is Board Secretary. He was also involved in drafting most of the organization's policy documents and provided legal guidance to the Board.

Bob was also appointed to the Board of Directors in 1983. He, along with the McRae Lumber Company, have contributed lumber, support, and funds for publications, exhibits and projects at the Algonquin Logging Museum and the Algonquin Visitor Centre. Some notable projects include donating the lumber for the camboose shanty, stable and square timber display at the Logging Museum, restoring the camboose shanty and restoring an old railway station stove for an exhibit at the Visitor Centre.

The Friends of Algonquin Park is grateful for the volunteer hours, commitment and continued support provided by both Bob and Brian.



Bob McRae and Brian Maltman with Directors Award.

ADOPT-A-TRAIL

Thanks to our volunteers! Participants are asked to hike their trail once a week from May through October, cleaning up both the trail and parking lot area by picking up litter and reporting any maintenance requirements. A plaque at the entrance to the trail recognizes volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

The Friends of Algonquin Park is grateful to the following dedicated trail volunteers:

Gord & June Ashcroft, Jeff Bowman, Brent Access Point staff, Stephen Derraugh, Dan Demianiw, Huntsville Nature Club, Neil Kuntze, Sarah MacBeth, Lynne Newell, Gord & Bernadette Nugent, Carol Peterson, Sand Lake Access Point staff, Lynn Stewart, and Steve & Janet Wright.

LOGGING MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

The Friends of Algonquin Park once again provided volunteers to staff the Logging Museum from June to October 2023. Our volunteers helped Park visitors have a great experience at the museum.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Stacey Finch at: volunteer@algonquinpark.on.ca

Thank you to... Gord Ashcroft, June Ashcroft, Bonnie Engel, Lily Eimanski, Luke Franchino, Hannah Fuhrmann, Catherine Harrison, Gary Hopson, Davis Knight, James McBride, and Janet Webber.

ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK'S 11TH ANNUAL WINTER IN THE WILD FEBRUARY 17, 2024

There was a wide variety of activities held at various locations throughout the Highway 60 corridor of Algonquin Park. Activities included snowshoeing, a winter bird walk, winter camping demonstrations, marshmallow-roasting, a winter tracking walk, a winter talk presentation and more... Join us February 15, 2025!

Thank you to our enthusiastic volunteers: Penny Briggs, Chris Cameron, Clyde Clute, Kayla Janke, Tina McAuley, Ken & Bev Richardson, Michael & Britta Runtz, Dawn Sherman, the Sonnetag family, and Paul & Andrea Waldron.



ALGONQUIN PARK BIRD COUNT

The Friends supports this annual winter bird monitoring event in which experienced birders identify and count all the birds seen during one day in the same designated area of the Park. It was started in 1974 by now retired Park Naturalist Ron Tozer, seen here cutting a cake in celebration of his 50 years organizing and compiling the Algonquin count.



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION!

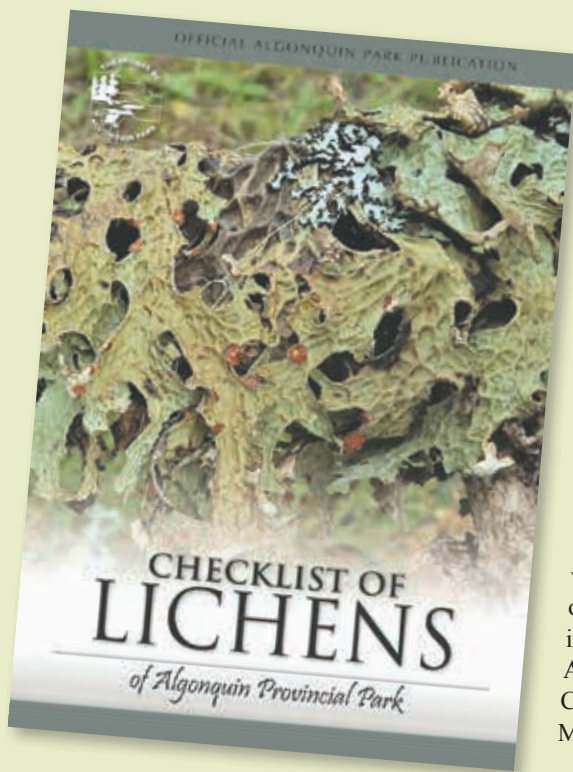
On August 26th, 2023, The Friends of Algonquin Park hosted an appreciation event for Friends members and Park visitors to attend. We had a puppet show, face painting, tattoos, special displays, BBQ, and cookie decorating at the Algonquin Visitor Centre. Plus Dress-Up like a Logger, Pin the Boom on the Alligator, Life as a Logger family program, tattoos, a scavenger hunt and cupcakes at the Algonquin Logging Museum. We ended the day with "The Long Weekend" the TVO original production featuring staff and volunteers from The Friends of Algonquin Park. It showcases first-time visitors' experiences in Algonquin Park during a busy longweek.



THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK BOOKSTORE & NATURE SHOPS

Our Visitor Centre and Logging Museum bookstore & nature shops provide you with a unique shopping experience. We offer an extensive selection of natural and human history books, field identification guides, maps, cookbooks, Ontario travel guides and optics. We also take great pride in our ever-changing selection of quality gifts, souvenirs and home décor, with a selection of Canadian and locally made items.

NEW PRODUCTS



CHECKLIST OF THE LICHENS OF ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK

Lichens play important roles in their ecosystems, intercepting the rain and influencing ground moisture, forming pioneer growths on inhospitable soil and rock surfaces and thereby initiating soil formation, contributing nitrogen to the soil, and serving as food for a myriad of invertebrates that, in turn, are the food of amphibians, birds and other animals. Indeed lichens are often overlooked by park visitors, although (as we will point out) there are hundreds of species in Algonquin Park. A checklist for Algonquin Provincial Park. 13 pages. Compiled by C. Lewis, I. Brodo and T. McMullin. 2023.

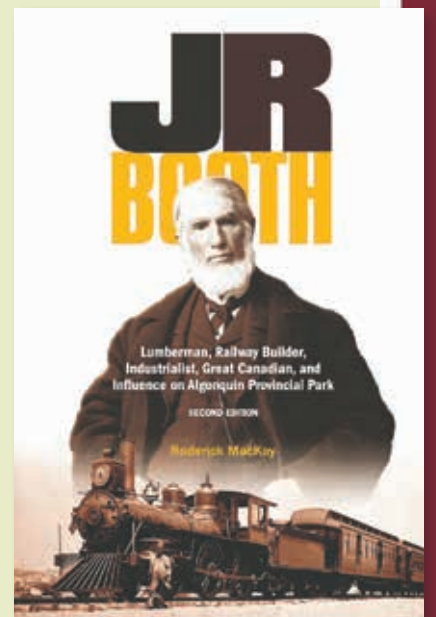
2025 ALGONQUIN PARK CALENDAR

The 12-month full colour Algonquin Park calendar has stunning photographs by Park naturalist Michael Runtz. This 30.5cm x 23cm (9"x12") calendar makes a great conversation starter or a great gift for those with a special connection to Algonquin Park. Wonderful images of Algonquin's scenery and wildlife throughout the year, each month is accompanied by a naturalist's message.



J.R. BOOTH

The story of John Rudolphus Booth, who had a significant influence on Algonquin Provincial Park, the Ottawa Valley and the City of Ottawa. A man who built his empire based on timber, lumber, grain, pulp and paper and employed thousands of men in his bush camps and lumber mills. Second Edition. MacKay. 2023 sc. 84 pages.



MADE IN CANADA

Our store carries a variety of Made in Canada products! Maple syrup, mittens, purses, saw buttons, magnets and much more!



MAKE YOUR PURCHASE COUNT!

Show your passion for Algonquin Park and make purchases from The Friends of Algonquin Park at the Visitor Centre, Logging Museum, via phone/email order or online at www.algonquinpark.on.ca

100% OF PROCEEDS from sales remain in Algonquin Park to further the Park's educational objectives.

34th ANNUAL RAFFLE

The Friends of Algonquin Park's 2023-2024 Fundraising Raffle was another great success, raising over \$35,812! This raffle has been an annual event since 1990, and has now raised over \$606,300 since it began.

Congratulations to our 2023-2024 prize winners:

- | | |
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| 1st prize – R & B Messervey, Peterborough, ON | 5th prize – K. Petrella, Collingwood, ON |
| 2nd prize – K. Mrozinski, LaSalle, ON | 6th prize – D. Weldon, Kanata, ON |
| 3rd prize – D. Dillon, Sarnia, ON | 7th prize – G. Turcotte, ON |
| 4th prize – G. Lynch, Toronto, ON | 8th prize – B. Kokol, Bradford, ON |
| | 9th prize – K. Hughes, Lindsay, ON |



Winners of the 1st prize package, R & B Messervey of Peterborough.

THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK

FUNDRAISING 2024-2025 RAFFLE

BUY YOUR TICKET for just \$10

Our fundraising raffle will be occurring again for the 2024-2025 season. If you would like to be the winner of a great Algonquin-themed prize, be sure to pick up your tickets while visiting the Park this summer and fall.

The Raffle promises to include many amazing prizes such as canoes, backcountry trips and accommodation packages at Algonquin area resorts and lodges, and much more!

All proceeds go toward fulfilling The Friends of Algonquin Park mandate of enhancing the interpretive and educational programs here in Algonquin Park!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kim Smith - *Chair*
Linda Leckie - *Vice Chair*
Lori Beecroft - *Treasurer*
Brian Maltman - *Secretary*
Bongo Bongo
Demisha Dennis
Wayne MacGregor Parker
Bob McRae
Christine McRae
Don Spring
Glenn White
Bruce Wolfgram

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Lesley Betts
*Bookkeeping & Payroll
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Kevin Clute
*Group Education Coordinator
& Special Projects Leader*
Stacey Finch
Partnership Coordinator
Laura Finney
Program Administrator
Sharon Hockley
Bookstore Coordinator
Maureen Luckasavitch
Business Coordinator
Emily Welsh
Collections Coordinator

*The Friends of Algonquin Park
would also like to extend thanks
to all our seasonal staff!*

In Memory of our DEAR FRIENDS



Brent Connelly
(1939 – 2023)

Brent spent a rewarding career spanning 39 years as a forester in Lake Superior and Algonquin provincial parks. A natural storyteller, Brent published four books about his life in and out of the forests. Brent received The Friends of Algonquin Park Directors Award in 2000 for his outstanding contributions to Algonquin Park.



Ron Brooks
(1941 – 2023)

In 1972, in Algonquin Park, Ron started what has become the world-leading, long-term study of turtle biology and conservation. It continues today as one of the longest-running research projects on vertebrates in the world. In honour of his significant contributions, Ron was awarded the prestigious 2015 Friends of Algonquin Park Directors Award in recognition of his important work on turtle ecology and conservation in Canada, and also for mentoring and teaching many students and future champions for the environment. If you're ever hiking the Mizzy Lake Trail at Wolf Howl Pond in Algonquin, stop to read about turtle research on the interpretive display dedicated to Ron.

WHAT IS YOUR

Algonquin Park Legacy?

Inspire Future Generations



Photo by: Tina McAuley

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of The Friends of Algonquin Park, I am honoured to share this newsletter with you. This publication is for you, our Park Visitor, and for all those who feel a strong connection to the remarkable gem we call Algonquin Park.

Algonquin Park has been appropriately called *A Place Like No Other*. "The Park", as it is known, is a personal and emotional experience for every visitor who has encountered its unique and powerful connection to nature's abundance. For over forty years The Friends has been at the heart of this connection. Beginning with the signature *Canoe Routes* map first published in 1983, The Friends has been providing educational experiences, publications and information to enhance visitors' enjoyment and understanding of the Park. We staff the Visitor Centre and Logging Museum, presenting Park history and natural features through experiential learning and interpretive exhibits. The Friends leads group outings, deliver educational programs and is a strong voice and supporter of the Park. For many, we are the face of Algonquin Park.

While we cooperate closely with Ontario Parks to support its mandate, we are entirely funded by donations and proceeds from the sale of our programs, books and materials. With the exception of our small staff, we are volunteers who share the same connection with our visitors. As a registered charity, we are 100% dependent on contributions and hope those who share an experience in the Park will become sustaining donors. Please help to pay it forward by becoming a contributor.

Wayne MacGregor Parker Fund Development Chair

PLANNED GIVING

Planned giving allows you to make a gift to Algonquin Park today where the value of the gift is deferred in whole or part until a later date, often upon the death of the donor and depending on the type of gift, income tax relief is either realized today or in the future. Of course, talking to your lawyer or financial advisor will help you and your family decide how to best fulfill your legacy to Algonquin Park.

YOUR ALGONQUIN LEGACY GIVING OPTIONS

You can make a difference and ensure your legacy in Algonquin Park by considering these options:

**Bequest • Gift of Life Insurance • Shares or Securities
Registered Assets (RRSPs & RRIFs) • Gift of Real Estate
Residual Interest • Endowment**

Please, let us know if you have included a gift in your will. It will give us the opportunity to discuss how you would like to direct your donation and most importantly...to thank you! Every legacy gift makes a difference.

For more information, contact:

Lee Pauzé, Executive Director (613) 637-2828 ext. 234

GIFTS

Wild Birds Unlimited Toronto generously donates birdseed to the Algonquin Visitor Centre. This allows visitors to enjoy Algonquin Park's beautiful birdlife during winter and supports ongoing bird research.



Algonquin Park Wild Bird Cam Live!

Algonquin Park is home to excellent bird watching opportunities. During winter, many northern bird species migrate south offering a blend of northern and southern bird species that attract visitors from around the world. Viewing Algonquin Park's wild birds in person is always the best experience. But for those who can't visit, The Friends of Algonquin Park offers live streaming views of the feeders at the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre between December and March.



Ice Out

Thank you to Killarney Lodge who partnered with us so you could watch the ice out on Lake of Two Rivers in Algonquin Park on a live video feed.



Third-Party Fundraising

Coffee with a Cause

Ottawa Valley Roast House was founded with a purpose and they wanted to be able to give back to their community. Their promise is to donate a portion of every sale to support wildlife and nature right here in the Ottawa Valley. Not only did they provide a donation, owner Kayla attended Winter in the Wild and gave out free coffee throughout the day.



Thank you to all our partners for these creative fundraising ideas in support of Algonquin Park!

For more information about Third-Party Fundraising, visit www.algonquinpark.on.ca/foap/donate/third-party-fundraising.php



MONTHLY GIVING

The Friends of Algonquin Park is pleased to report that the following donors are part of our monthly giving program.

If you wish to join our monthly giving program, please contact
(613) 637-2828 ext. 239

to get started, or visit:
<http://www.algonquinpark.on.ca/foap/donate/recurring-giving.php>

Thank you for your support!

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| • Dennis Allibon | • Barry Dartnell | • Etienne-Rene Massie | • Susan M. Sheen |
| • Jack & Rika Alvo | • Michael Deters-Büscher | • Ian Middleton | • Kim & Marilyn Smith |
| • Paul Attwood | • Audrey Gravelle | • Margaret Mooney | • Lynn Stewart |
| • Randall & Amanda Bartlett | • Anne Hageman | • Lisa Nisbet | • Mike & Ann Tanner |
| • Elva Bennett | • Greg Haid | • Michael Pan | • Joan Tintor |
| • Leon Budziszewski | • Glenn & Maria Hewitt | • Nathan Parker | • Jon Vaughan |
| • Sue Cochrane | • Leonard & Jill Johnson | • Andrew Pressnail | • Michael Walsh |
| • Derek Connelly | • Vina & Wayne MacGregor Parker | • Vidya Rampersad | • Gregory Worsnop |
| | | • Tamara Rozina | |

For more information please contact The Friends of Algonquin Park

www.algonquinpark.on.ca • friends@algonquinpark.on.ca • **(613) 637-2828**

Thank You For Being Passionate About Algonquin!

For a list of 2023 Donors who supported The Friends of Algonquin Park, visit www.algonquinpark.on.ca