

# THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK



The Friends of Algonquin Park respectfully acknowledge that we operate on ancestral and unceded Algonquin territory, and the ancestral lands of Nipissing, Chippewa and Mississauga peoples. Algonquin Park is also covered by the Robinson-Huron Treaty #61 (1850) and the Williams Treaty (1922). We have the privilege of sharing this land with Indigenous peoples, settlers, visitors, and all Canadians. The Friends of Algonquin Park recognizes that Indigenous peoples, as the original people of this land, have stewarded this region since time immemorial. We understand the importance of fostering respectful relationships with Indigenous peoples and pursuing reconciliation in our practices. We strive to be in best relation with the plants, animals, lands, waters, and original peoples and their knowledges. We are committed to working with Indigenous peoples to share their stories, culture, and heritage to enhance our education and interpretive programs.

## WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK?

Just like you, the devoted Park enthusiasts of Algonquin Park, The Friends (FOAP) is a valuable and important part of the Park story, an independent charity whose mission is sharing the Park's natural and cultural heritage with all the stewards who help care for Algonquin Park.

The Friends is governed by a volunteer board of directors and managed by staff and is distinct from Ontario Parks, the agency of the province's Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) which manages all the parks in the province.

The FOAP works in partnership with Ontario Parks, providing a huge selection of Park specific publications, educational events, interpretive exhibitions, research support, historical archival preservation, and interpretive hiking trail opportunities. Since its inception, The FOAP has raised millions of dollars from generous donors and members in support of these programs. The Friends full-time staff of 8 dedicated professionals is bolstered by more than a dozen seasonal educational staff.

In 1983 a group of visionaries formed the organization to help the Park ensure the reprinting of the Park's renowned Canoe Routes map, as well as to support the work of gifted Park naturalists, Dan Strickland and Ron Tozer. Since then, The Friends efforts have expanded to include a broad range of educational and recreational opportunities to Park visitors.

For example, The Friends publishes over 90 Park

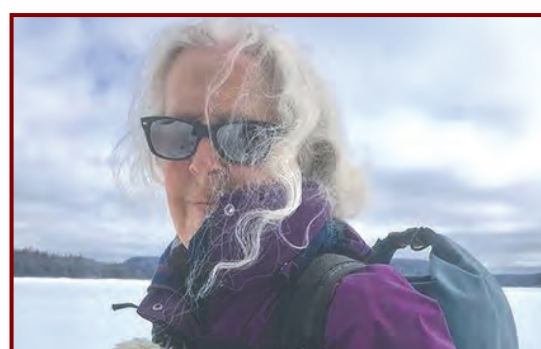
related titles, from maps to authoritative works on the natural and cultural history of the Algonquin Park region; provides staff at the Visitor Centre and Logging Museum; delivers youth and adult group experiences, and Experience Algonquin workshops and programs year round; and the preservation of the Park's archival collections is curated by The Friends. As longtime champions of the interpretive hiking trails, The Friends recently added to this tradition by funding and building the new Fork Lake Trail, exploring the Park's varied habitats.

The Friends of Algonquin Park can do all this because of the generosity of individuals, families, foundations and corporate partners. If you are part of this esteemed group – thank you!

By contributing to The Friends of Algonquin Park you are making a commitment to "your" Algonquin Park by helping to sustain and enrich the highest quality interpretation and educational programs for all Park visitors.

Like your family's legacy of traditions in Algonquin Park it is imperative that Algonquin Park's vast cultural and natural history continue to be shared to ensure ongoing stewardship for generations to come.

To learn more about The Friends of Algonquin Park and how you can support Algonquin Park visit: [algonquinpark.on.ca](http://algonquinpark.on.ca)



**LINDA LECKIE (1957 – 2025)**  
*The Friends of Algonquin Park, Chair*  
**Lecko to all of us**

The stars over Algonquin shone brilliantly the night she passed; a moment for those who knew and loved her to be no coincidence. From her childhood at Cache Lake to her years at Camp Wapomeo and Camp Ahmek, Algonquin Park shaped her life and spirit. Through decades as an outdoor educator and guide, she inspired countless others to discover the beauty and wonder of the natural world. Her guidance and kindness will be deeply missed, and our heartfelt condolences to all who loved her.

Become a Supporter



## Experience ALGONQUIN

The Friends of Algonquin Park continues to offer workshops.

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.

## 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.



During the summer, participate in our Safe Canoeing Workshop



Algonquin Park Webcam »

Watch Algonquin Park during any season. See live streaming video from the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre 24/7, 365 days a year, courtesy of **The Friends of Algonquin Park**. View it live at [www.algonquinpark.on.ca](http://www.algonquinpark.on.ca)

[WWW.ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA](http://WWW.ALGONQUINPARK.ON.CA)



TheFriendsOfAlgonquinPark



FOAPAAlgonquinPark



TheFriendsofAlgonquinPark

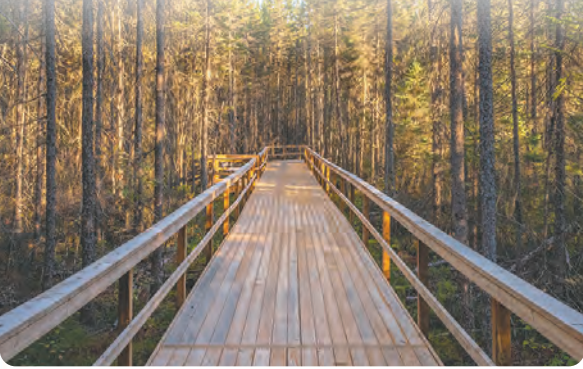


@AlgonquinPark

## CELEBRATING ALGONQUIN PARK

In September, 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 Michael Runtz and Kevin Clute.

**We are grateful to everyone who supported this fundraising event!**



## 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, July 31st at the Algonquin Visitor Centre. Park visitors came to meet the researchers who use Algonquin Park, as their laboratory and supported research at the charity BBQ. Researchers who study reptiles and amphibians, birds, small mammals, fish, wolves, and even humans explained and shared their research.



## 2026 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**PETE MOSS CONCERT**  
Saturday, June 27th from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm  
at the Algonquin Visitor Centre

**SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS**  
July 11 - September 27, 2026  
Daily from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Not a Job but a Calling: Rangers, Game Wardens and the Ontario Forest School & Efficient Guardians: The Rangers of Algonquin Park at the Algonquin Visitor Centre

**LOGGERS DAY**  
Saturday, July 25th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Algonquin Logging Museum



**MEET THE RESEARCHER DAY**  
Thursday, July 30th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Algonquin Visitor Centre

**CELEBRATING ALGONQUIN PARK**  
Saturday, September 12th from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm at the Algonquin Visitor Centre (ticket-holders only)

**WINTER IN THE WILD**  
Saturday, February 13th, 2027 at various locations along Highway 60

## ALGONQUIN PARK'S FORK LAKE TRAIL OPENS!

On Saturday, June 28, 2025, at 10:30 am at the Algonquin Visitor Centre, Park visitors joined us for the grand opening and ribbon cutting for Algonquin Park's newest interpretive trail. They were among the first to experience a brand-new interpretive trail, exploring 2.4 kilometres of scenic views, short steep climbs, and Algonquin Park's major habitats.

**Hope to see you along the trail this season!**



## REBUILDING AND RELOCATING THE CADGE CRIB

The cadge crib originally built in the early 1990s as part of the Algonquin Logging Museum, and in need of replacing given its severely rotted condition, was dismantled during November 2024. Through the efforts of The Friends of Algonquin Park, the Algonquin Forestry Authority, and community partners, in cooperation with Ontario Parks, a new cadge crib was built at the Algonquin Logging Museum in early 2025. This new cadge crib was relocated to the pond as many park visitors had difficulty imagining how the former cadge crib operated while sitting on dry land. This new cadge crib was also constructed to improve authenticity, while utilizing materials and techniques that will allow increased longevity of this important part of Canada's technological history.



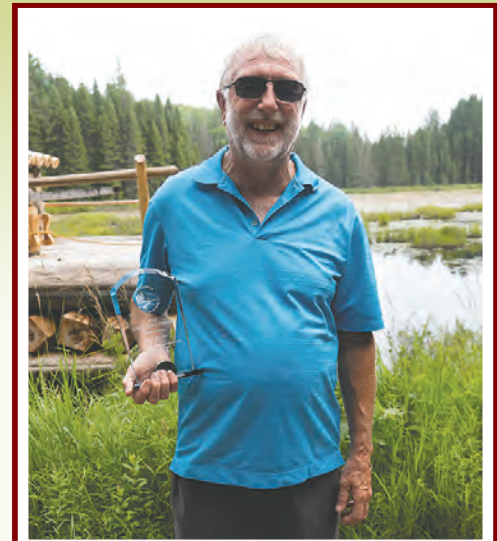
## 2025 DIRECTORS AWARD

Mark Brown had a 29-year career in Algonquin Park and through his efforts he has made an outstanding contribution to the appreciation of Algonquin Park. Mark began his time with Ontario Parks as a carpenter. He worked alongside Tom Linklater on many construction projects at the Algonquin Logging Museum, including the camboose shanty. Then Mark moved to trail maintenance and a year later his skills were needed on facility maintenance. He worked on several more of the interpretive exhibits including the sawlog camp and camboose stable at the Algonquin Logging Museum.

Mark is a "jack of all trades" who could be counted on to get the job done and correctly. In addition to his skills as a carpenter, he was commissioned to repair the alpine snowmobiles that supported the Sunday Lake Dogsled Trail.

In 1999, Mark became a Trail Supervisor and worked until his retirement on the Algonquin Park interpretive trails, where he excelled at working with and instructing, young trail crew staff. Despite officially retiring in 2019, Mark has continued to share his expertise as a carpenter and trail designer. He recently assisted in the construction of the Fork Lake Trail and the relocation and reconstruction of the cadge crib at the Algonquin Logging Museum. Mark Brown has been a very important staff member who has gone above and beyond, to enhance and enrich the educational and interpretive programming in Algonquin Park.

**The Friends of Algonquin Park sincerely thanks Mark Brown for his generous support throughout the years.**



*Mark Brown with his Directors Award at Loggers Day on Saturday, July 26, 2025*

## 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 to report 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:**

*Kevin Adamson, Gord & June Ashcroft, Clive Baugh, Jeff Bowman, Brent Access Point staff, Tom Conyers, Dan Demianiw, Bill & Jenette Dickey, Ashalynn Fuller, Huntsville Nature Club, Barbara Hux, Neil Kuntze, Valerie Loney, Sarah MacBeth, David March, Lynne Newell, Gord & Bernadette Nugent, Carol Peterson, Dorothy Russell, Sand Lake Access Point staff, Ron & Debbie Speck, Lynn Stewart, Diane Thomson, Steve & Janet Wright*

## LOGGING MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

The Friends of Algonquin Park once again provided volunteers to staff the Logging Museum from June to October 2025. Our volunteers helped Park visitors have a great experience at the museum.

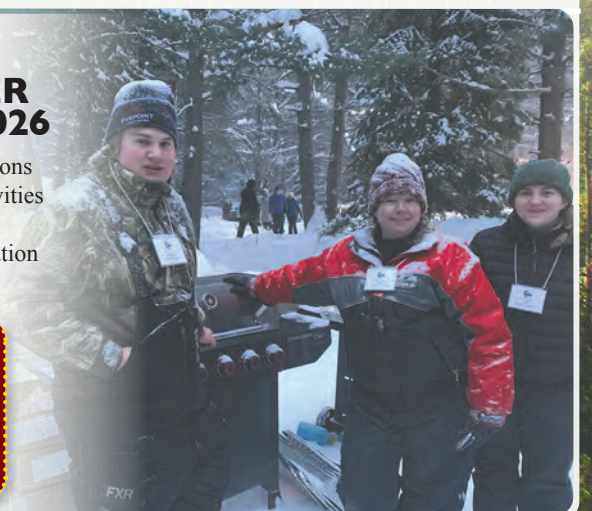
If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Stacey Finch at: [volunteer@algonquinpark.on.ca](mailto:volunteer@algonquinpark.on.ca)

**Thank you to...** *Gord & June Ashcroft, Bonnie Engel, Lily Etmanski, Catherine Harrison, Lindsay Harrison, Antonio Rosa, Janet Webber, and Kristin Zerczi.*

## ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK'S 13TH ANNUAL WINTER IN THE WILD FEBRUARY 14, 2026

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 talk presentation and more... **Join us again on February 13, 2027!**

**Thank you to our enthusiastic volunteers:**  
*Rosabella Ashick, Chris Cameron, Clyde Clute, Kayla Janke, Craig Macdonald & Tina McAuley, Ken & Bev Richardson, Dawn Sherman, and Paul & Andrea Waldron.*



## 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.

### NOW IN STORE!

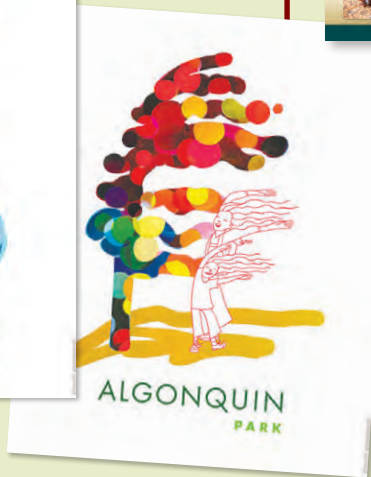
#### ALGONQUIN PARK CANOE ROUTES

This map contains all the necessary information required by Algonquin Park's back country canoeists. It shows lakes, campsites, portages, access points, plus natural and cultural history features. The reverse side of the map provides detailed information about planning your Algonquin Park back country adventure including park management messages, safety information and equipment requirements.



#### ALGONQUIN PARK POSTERS

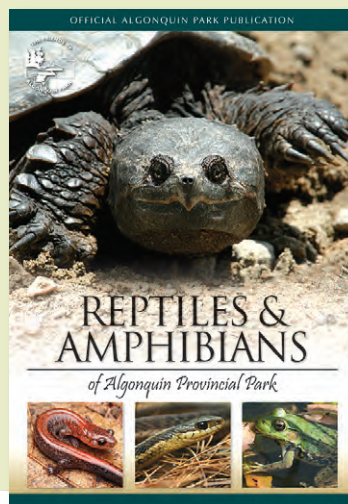
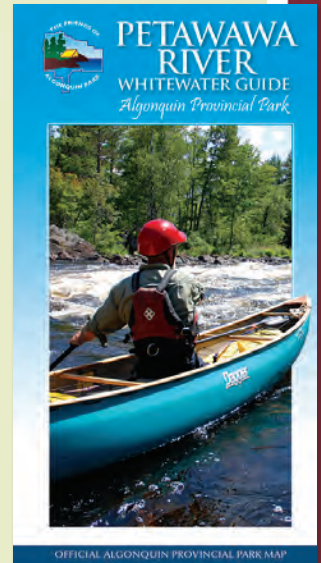
Longtime supporter Greg Worsnop commissioned Julie Brackenreid to design three posters for sale in The Friends of Algonquin Park bookstores. These posters are available for \$9.95 each, with 100% of the proceeds remaining in Algonquin Park.



### COMING SOON

#### PETAWAWA WHITEWATER GUIDE

This guide is designed for experienced "serious whitewater" canoeists who are already well-versed in canoeing techniques. It offers practical advice on selecting the right equipment and evaluating a river by learning how to read its features. The guide also reviews essential whitewater skills and explains standard river signals. Included are detailed maps to help plan your trip, highlighting portages and river conditions. Revised and updated.



#### REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS OF ALGONQUIN PROVINCIAL PARK

Completely revised - this new edition of Reptiles and Amphibians of Algonquin Provincial Park does more than merely introduce readers to the species of turtles, snakes, frogs and salamanders that have been recorded in Ontario's most famous provincial park. Numerous sidebars delve into the fascinating biology and life histories of Park reptiles and amphibians, drawing heavily on over 50 years of research conducted in the Park.

#### ALGONQUIN PARK CALENDAR

The 12-month, full-colour Algonquin Park calendar features breathtaking photography by park naturalist Michael Runtz. Measuring 12" x 9", it's perfect as a thoughtful gift or a striking conversation piece, especially for anyone with a connection to Algonquin Park. Each month showcases a beautiful scene of the Park's landscapes and wildlife, paired with insightful naturalist notes.



### 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](http://www.algonquinpark.on.ca) **100% OF PROCEEDS** from sales remain in Algonquin Park to further the Park's educational objectives.

### 36th ANNUAL RAFFLE

The Friends of Algonquin Park's 2025-2026 Fundraising Raffle was another great success, raising over \$44,043. This raffle has been an annual event since 1990, and has now raised over \$684,655 since it began.

#### Congratulations to our 2025-2026 prize winners:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1st prize</b> – M. Muir                       | <b>7th prize</b> – B. Laws, Bracebridge, ON      |
| <b>2nd prize</b> – C. Steckly, Stratford, ON     | <b>8th prize</b> – D. Francis, Oakville, ON      |
| <b>3rd prize</b> – T. Deshamps, Campbellford, ON | <b>9th prize</b> – C. & D. Mikel, Wellesley, ON  |
| <b>4th prize</b> – B. Lopers, Oshawa, ON         | <b>10th prize</b> – S. Elcombe, Peterborough, ON |
| <b>5th prize</b> – H. Lindsey, Windsor, ON       | <b>11th prize</b> – C. Wilson, Kitchener, ON     |
| <b>6th prize</b> – A. Shablia, Richmond Hill, ON | <b>12th prize</b> – K. Cybulski, Ottawa, ON      |



Selecting the winning tickets for The Friends of Algonquin Park's 2025-2026 Fundraising Raffle at the Algonquin Park Visitor Centre on February 15, 2026. Ron Tozer, Honorary Director (left), Christine Tessier, Program Administrator, and Bill Swift, President of Swift Canoe and Kayak (right).



## THE FRIENDS OF ALGONQUIN PARK

# FUNDRAISING 2026-2027 RAFFLE

Our fundraising raffle will be occurring again for the 2026-2027 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.

**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!

**BUY YOUR TICKET for just \$10**

**NEW**

#### ALGONQUIN PARK ARCHIVES BLOG

The Algonquin Provincial Park Archives and Collections (APPAC or "Archives") is the repository for artifacts of significance to the natural and cultural history of Algonquin Park and is owned by Government of Ontario, with substantial funding and operating assistance from The Friends of Algonquin Park. The Archives is dedicated to the education, interpretation, and conservation of Algonquin Park's heritage. Its mandate seeks to promote knowledge & awareness, spark curiosity, and inspire visitors to develop a deeper connection with the natural and cultural history that surrounds them.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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 Mike Sladden – Vice Chair  
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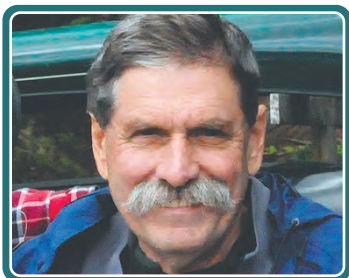
*The Friends of Algonquin Park would also like to extend thanks to all our seasonal staff!*

**In Memory of our DEAR FRIENDS**



**John Foster (1933 - 2025)**

John lived a life shaped by curiosity, devotion, and a deep love for Algonquin Park. In 2003, he and his wife Janet were honored with The Friends of Algonquin Park Directors Award, recognizing their shared passion for its natural beauty. He will be remembered as someone who truly lived what he loved, leaving behind a legacy in the images he captured and the landscapes he cherished.



**Brookes Prewitt (1946 - 2025)**

In 2018 the Children's Camps in Algonquin Park received The Friends of Algonquin Park Directors Award. Brookes' life was deeply rooted in Algonquin Park, where he spent his summers guiding and later leading at Camp Northway and Camp Wendigo. The Park was his lifelong anchor—a place where he built community, nurtured generations of campers and upheld a balance between tradition and change. Through his leadership and love of the land, Algonquin remained at the heart of both his family life and his enduring legacy.

*The Board and Staff express our condolences to the Foster and Prewitt families.*

**For a list of 2025 Donors who supported The Friends of Algonquin Park, visit [www.algonquinpark.on.ca](http://www.algonquinpark.on.ca)**

**WHAT IS YOUR**

*Algonquin Park Legacy?*



*Photo by: Tina McAuley*

**Inspire Future Generations**

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

While we work closely with Ontario Parks to support its mandate, we are funded entirely through donations and proceeds from the sale of our programs, books, and materials. With the exception of our small staff, we are a volunteer-driven organization that shares the same connection to the Park as our visitors. As a registered charity, we rely completely on contributions and hope that those who have meaningful experiences in the Park will become sustaining donors. Please consider paying 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 • Gift of Real Estate  
 Registered Assets (RRSPs & RRIFs) • 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**

**For the Birds**

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.



**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 & matcha tea throughout the day at the Visitor Centre.



**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](http://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
- Randall & Amanda Bartlett
- Brian Brennan
- Leon Budziszewski
- Allan Cameron
- River Champeimont
- Sue Cochrane
- Derek Connelly
- Barry Dartnell
- Michael Deters-Büscher
- Mike & Karen Grace
- Audrey Gravelle
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- Ryan Martens
- Etienne-Rene Massie
- Daniel McCallum
- Ian Middleton
- Lisa Nisbet
- Andrew Pressnail
- Doug Read
- Tamara Rozina
- Susan M. Sheen
- Lynn Stewart
- Bill Swift & Adriane Weller
- Mike & Ann Tanner
- Joan Tinton
- Michael Walsh
- Kris Wawrzyniak
- Gregory Worsnop

**Thank You For Being Passionate About Algonquin!**