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**FOW Annual Members Meeting at the Show - Feb. 25th. Proxies needed! (Zoom access too.)**

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**Trip Report from Ramblin' Boy: The Savant River From Jutten Lake To East Pashkokogan**

[Buy the Wabakimi Art Print to support the KZ Lodge Indigenous Youth program at Hammarskjold High School \(or donate here\).](#)

**Missed our January Webinars--See Below and [our FOW YouTube Channel](#)**

**Conservation Update: Impacts of Forestry Industry on Woodland Caribou in Ontario and Quebec**

**TORONTO | FEBRUARY 23 - 25, 2024 | INTERNATIONAL CENTRE**

**The  
Outdoor  
Adventure  
Show**

*Friends of Wabakimi  
in booth 564*

**Come and see us in booth 564! Wabakimi Trip Planning Information Center!**

[Toronto Outdoor Adventure Show; The International Centre, Hall 5; 6900 Airport Rd, Mississauga, ON.](#)

[Pay your entrance at the door or online here.](#) [\\$3 off coupon here.](#)

If you'd like to help staff our FOW booth for an hour or two, reply to this newsletter and let us know. Also, we'll have a Sat. night 7:00 p.m. no-host dinner get together at the [Taza Gill and Bar, \(5444 Dixie Rd, Mississauga, ON\)](#) (room reserved for 20).



**Feb. 25, 2024 Annual Meeting of Members; 10:30 a.m. EST Toronto Outdoor Adventure Show; Hall 5, Room 509**



The meeting will occur in conjunction with the [Toronto Outdoor Adventure Show](#) which will be held in the adjacent International Centre, Hall 5 from Friday, February 23 to Sunday, February 25. Attendees must purchase an Outdoor Adventure Show admission ticket Outdoor Adventure Show - Toronto (\$16 at the door; Buy online \$3 off with promo code "OUTDOORTORONTO24" ) The hall opens at 10:00 AM. ([Directions to Room 509](#)) [\\*Room 509 is along the hallway that connects Hall 5 to Hall 2. Look for Room 509 in the Connector Building on this map.](#)

[See the Agenda here.](#) We still need a few more proxies to ensure we meet our current 20% of members quorum. ([See proxy forms here.](#))

[You can watch the Annual Meeting live via this Zoom link here.](#) 10:30 a.m. EST, 9:30 a.m. CST; 8:30 a.m. MST; 7:30 a.m. PST

Please give yourself plenty of time to park and find your way to Room 509. The meeting should last no more than 45 minutes after which FOW members will be encouraged to visit the Friends of Wabakimi booth, attend speaker presentations and take advantage of special discounts only available during the show. (**Yes, we'll also be at Canoeconia** March 8-10 and we will have a Sat. dinner and Sunday morning meeting there as well.)

**It may be February, but the 2024 paddling season will come up quickly!**

Don't forget that FOW has an extensive collection of trip planning resources for sale in our online store. From Wabakimi Canoe Route Guidebooks to specific Route Maps, we've got you covered.

[\*\*Visit our online store today!\*\*](#)

[Download this complete list of our offerings.](#)

**[Our Show Membership Specials are Active now. Join FOW, and receive our Guidebook, Planning Map, large canoe/car sticker, and discounts on map volumes and route maps.](#)**

## Wabakimi Trip Advisors

We have a group of experienced paddlers who have explored Wabakimi canoe routes. They're willing to offer their thoughts and advice. Email us at [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org). Or if you'd like to join this group or our Expedition Committee (various projects).



## Trip Report from Ramblin' Boy

### The Savant River From Jutten Lake To East Pashkokogan

This Trip Report from Ramblin' Boy is as extensive as it gets! Read to learn about their journey

to Pashkokogan through wildfire haze, wild rice fields, rapids and several portages. It is full of great planning information, highlighting a route in Wabakimi's west side. Enjoy!

*Photo from Ramblin' Boy's Trip Report*

[Read the Trip Report Here!](#)

Buy the Wabakimi Art Print and support:

**KZ Lodge Indigenous Youth program at Hammarskjold High School in Thunder Bay**

Our friends at Wabakimi Provincial Park suggested the Wabakimi Art print proceeds go to the **KZ Lodge**

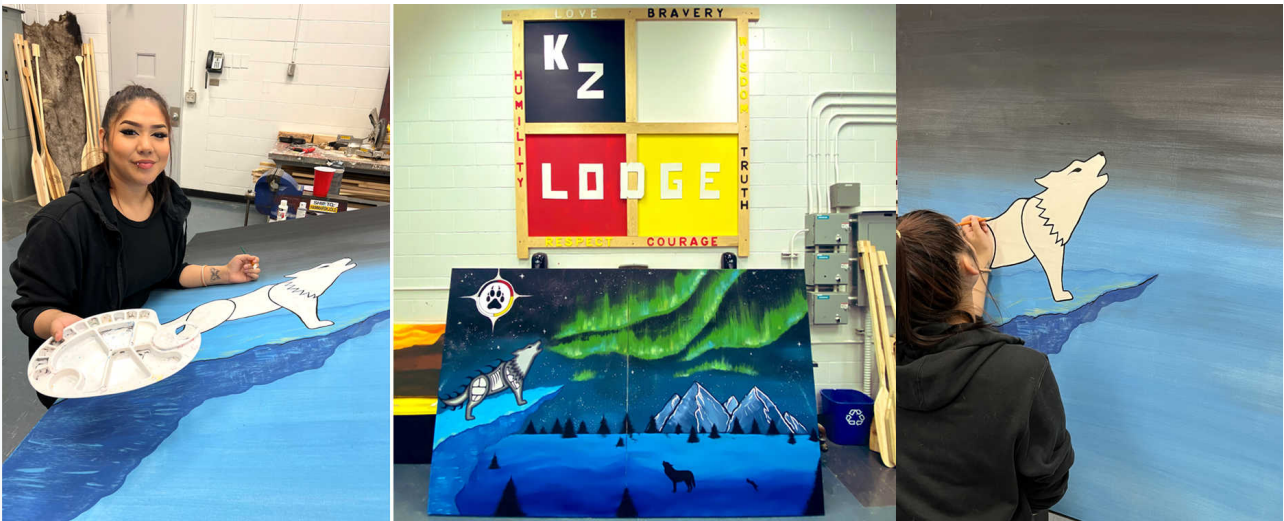


**program at Hammar skjold High School** in 2024; to which our Board of Directors gladly agreed. [You can buy this wonderful print by Kevin Belmore direct from The Creative Company in Thunder Bay, one of our FOW Business Members \(Link Here!\).](#)

[The KZ Lodge is an Alternative Secondary School Program offered in a mainstream school setting. However, it is designed to incorporate specialized programming related to Indigenous land-based learning and life skill building.](#)

The program's main goal is to provide added support to Indigenous youth by providing a soft landing that helps ease their transition into a mainstream secondary school setting.

The KZ Lodge is focused on providing programming to students in grades 9 and 10. However, the lodge has recently expanded to include students in grades 11 and 12 working towards earning technology credits. Some key areas of focus for the program include: fostering student creativity, encouraging critical thinking, helping students connect to their culture, and exposing students to real-world connections, technologies and careers.



*You've probably noticed we were busy with webinars in January!*

## Recent Webinars

### **The Winisk River: A Great Northern Adventure**

Presented by Jake Guggenheimer, Wabakimi Provincial Park's Operations Technician. January 10, 2024

Jake recapped the journey of Wabakimi Provincial Park staff on their paddle of over 360km from Winisk Lake to the community of Peawanuck. (This northern system/park is within Ontario Park's Wabakimi node of parks and reserves.) Discover the park's role in managing remote protected areas, what you can see on a trip to Hudson Bay, and what parks staff actual do when they get to the field.

[\*\*Watch the recording here!\*\*](#)



## ***Greenmantle River, a Wabakimi Gem***

**A Wilderness Canoe Association webinar, Jan 16, 2024**

**Vern Fish, FOW President, presenting**

This wild little river may lack girth and length but it is long on adventure and isolation. Hidden in the far northwest corner of Wabakimi Provincial Park, the Greenmantle River provides access to a huge swath of protected wilderness. Perceived as too small to navigate, the paddler is challenged by long, twisting technical rapids, log jams, down trees, shallow wetlands and one demanding portage. The reward is an opportunity to explore a remote boreal forest and possibly catch an elusive brook trout (photo above).

**[Watch the Recording Here!](#)**

## **Paddling Emergency Preparedness Webinar (PEP), Dec. 3, 2023**

Are you ready? Have you ever had to deal with a serious injury on a canoe trip? Have you ever been truly lost in the "wilderness"? If it breaks, can you fix it? Have you ever had to make either an emergency or a nonemergency exit? Do you carry whistle and are you PEP'ed and ready? Experience an emergency exit and see the value of a satellite phone.

Dig into Vern's first aid and repair kit and tell us what you carry. "In the past five years I have had to do one emergency and three non-emergency exits. Together, we can both learn how to prepare for these unplanned adventures."

[See Vern's equipment and check lists found on our home page.](#)

**[Watch the Recording Here!](#)**



## Impacts of Forestry Industry on Woodland Caribou in Ontario and Quebec

As you have probably seen from our [Conservation News](#) webpage, Friends of Wabakimi has been advocating for the protection of Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*) and their critical habitat: large tracts of intact, mature boreal forest.

[A new study](#) has assessed the impacts of the forestry industry in Ontario and Quebec on Caribou populations, and the results are concerning. Out of 21 caribou populations ranges surveyed, 3 were at very high risk, 16 at high risk, and 2 at low risk.

CBC interviewed the scientists behind the study. Watch to learn more!

[Watch Here](#)

## Upcoming Shows!

Friends of Wabakimi will be at the [Toronto Outdoor Adventure Show](#), February 23rd to 25th, and [Canoecopia](#), March 8th-10th.

We hope to see you there!



**The  
Outdoor  
Adventure  
Show**



## "Wabakimi" Print by Kevin Belmore

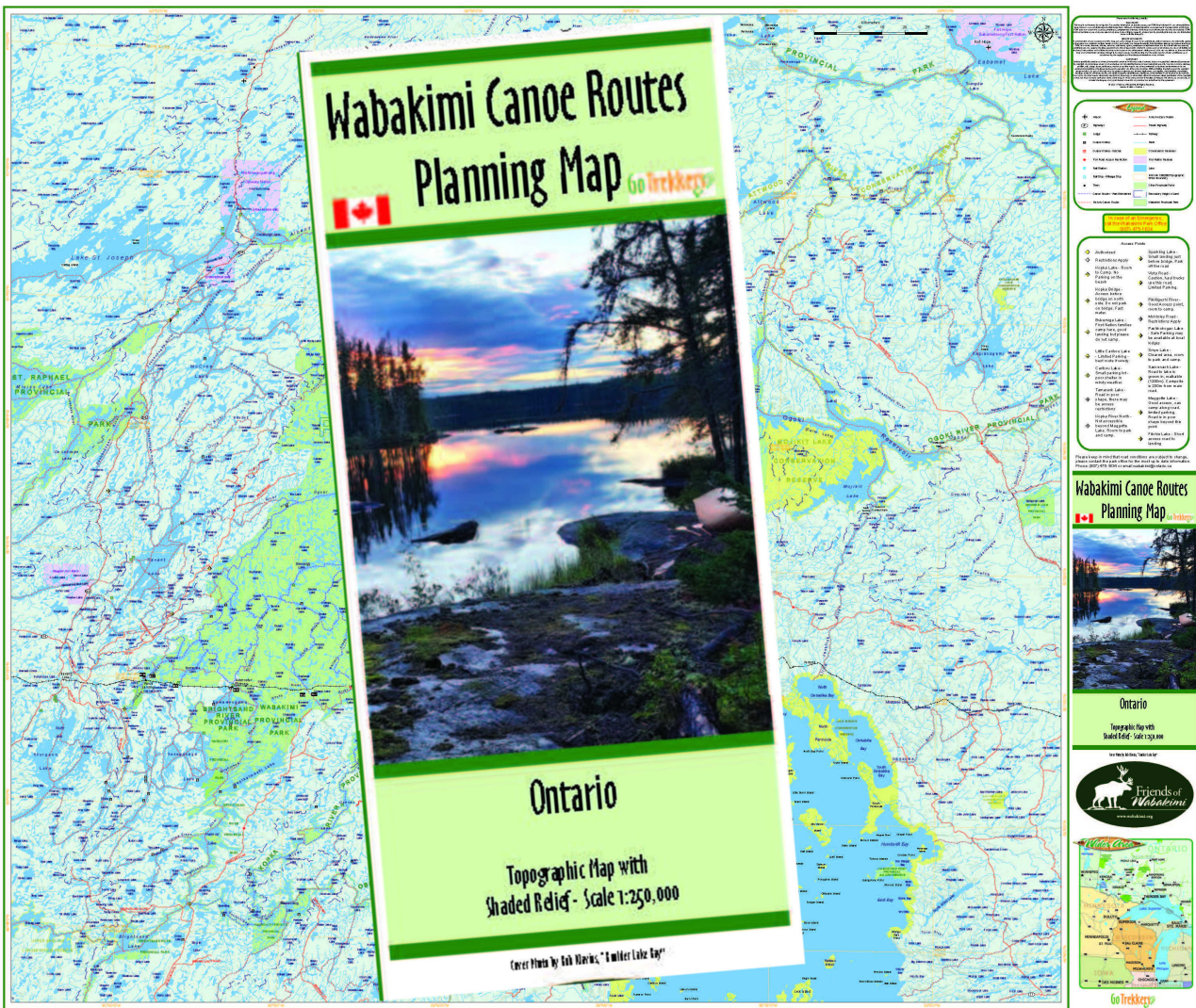
This painting was a special commission from Wabakimi Provincial Park for their Kiosk project, funded jointly by Friends of Wabakimi and the Park. They sponsored Kevin's visit to Whitewater Lake in August 2022 which provided inspiration to capture the mysterious beauty of the Wabakimi area.

*"This image was born out of an experience that I will never forget! It truly made a difference going there to see the cliffs, the landscape and the water upon which my ancestors paddled. It was nice to go and just soak in what nature had to offer. Going there piqued my spirits and I hope to go back again."*

- Kevin Belmore

The print comes unframed, packaged with a backing board and artist bio. [Order directly from The Creative Company](#). Proceeds support Friends of Wabakimi donations to the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre and [KZ Lodge](#), a land-based learning program for Indigenous youth.





## ***Wabakimi Paddlers - We need your Trip Reports!***

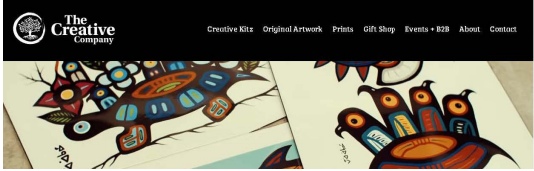
Trip reports help others plan trips. We share portage updates with Laurence Mills, who then updates the route specific map sets.

[\*Trip Journal format here!\*](#)

***Get involved! To join our Expedition Committee, email [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org)***

As always, we'd like to give a

**Thank you to all our Business/Sponsor Members!**



**Voyageur Tripper**  
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE MADE EASY

Join or Renew your FOW Membership Today!



**See our YouTube Channel. Instagram  
too!**



**Friends of Wabakimi**

1060 Riverdale Road, Thunder Bay  
Ontario P7J 1N2 Canada

Email: [info@wabakimi.org](mailto:info@wabakimi.org)

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