



# August 2020 In this Issue

- Canoe4Covid! Paddling to support the Food Bank of Canada
- Protecting Armstrong Forest canoe routes and access
- Shannon Walshe, Park Biologist interview
- Name those plants (on our Facebook page)
- Canoeing.com & PaddlePlanner.com, New partners and our first Business/Sponsors!
- (New) Wabakimi Trip Report section
- Online Annual meeting

#### Dear Wabakimi paddlers,

This is a challenging year with only a handful of Canadians canoeing the Wabakimi Area. Our thoughts are with the area communities and businesses who are dealing with the economic fallout. Please <u>Join Us (or Renew)</u> your membership. We need your support to advocate for the Wabakimi Area. We'll be back there as soon as we can. *Vern Fish, FOW President* 

### Canoe4Covid!

An intrepid group of young paddlers started June 26th from Wabakimi Provincial Park on a 60 day journey to raise over \$60,000 for the Food Bank of Canada. Six friends: Cailan, Georges, Jacob, Nolan, Tim, and Will, are paddling in support of communities and healthcare workers affected by COVID-19.





# FOW Advocates for Armstrong Forest Canoe Route Access

NEW FOW comments to the current Forest Management Plan (effectively, for 2021 to 2033) and, more recently, to the document known as the LTMD (Long Term Management Direction) Our full comments can be seen here: FOW

COMMENTS ON ARMSTRONG FOREST LTMD.

One of our main concerns is with road-building associated with timber harvest. In particular, a primary road extension is planned to allow harvest of a block (AB-3) on the Wabakimi Provincial Park boundary south of Whitewater Lake. The road option that seems to be preferred by the Armstrong Forest Local Citizens Committee (LCC) is an extension of Dalton Road running generally north, to the east of Caribou Lake, then to the west, over the top of Kellar Bay of Caribou Lake. Such a route would cross four canoe routes that are mapped to the east and north out of Caribou Lake (See FOW Map Volume 5).

See full story and comments in our Conservation News...



# Shannon Walshe, Park Biologist interview

Shannon Walshe is the Park Biologist for Wabakimi Provincial Park and surrounding parks. Recently she responded to questions from Ray Tallent, FOW Conservation Chair. She provides an in-depth look at her work and activities.

Here's the full interview with Shannon Walshe.

### **Wabakimi Flora**

Thanks to FOW Board member Tetcy DeBoer for these exquisite photos of the diverse plant life in the Wabakimi area. Please help us name these plants! 16 stunning photos posted on our Facebook page.







# <u>New Business/Sponsor members: FOW NEWS</u> <u>Update!</u>





We're excited to announce our two first Business/Sponsor (OGOKI) members:

Canoeing.com and PaddlePlanner.com

Phil Cotton envisioned developing corporate support for FOW. We hope to expand this program to help *promote the Wabakimi Area as a world-class canoeing destination.* 

## Wabakimi Trip Report Forum



Check out our new Trip
Report Forum. FOW
members can log in and post
new reports. Anyone can
submit a trip report and
photos to info@wabakimi.org
and well post for you.

Recent photo by Paul Hoy, down the Kopka River, 2020.

## **FOW Annual Meeting Report**

Our first annual online Zoom meeting was held June 14th, we had some 25 participants. Bylaws changes were accepted and the Board members and officers elected for the coming year. The meeting can viewed online here.

Wabakimi.org

info@wabakimi.org