

Lifestyles

Acton man is off to the Arctic

Acton resident Clifford R. Britton is about to embark on a 2,000-mile journey to the Arctic - by canoe.

Mr. Britton is one of 25 students who will re-enact Sir Alexander Mackenzie's quest for the Northwest Passage. He is enrolled in the Honors Bachelor of Outdoor Recreation and Bachelor of Science degree programs at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ont., with a Teacher's Certificate to follow.

The Sir Alexander Mackenzie "Canada Sea-to-Sea" Bicentennial Expeditions will re-create and commemorate the 200th anniversary of the first recorded crossing of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. This is Phase I of a four-year project jointly organized by Lakehead University, One Step Beyond and The Alexander Mackenzie Trail Association. Mr. Britton worked last year for Lakehead University preparing for the Mackenzie Expeditions. He gained knowledge in many areas of his field working at Old Fort William, Thunder Bay. The journey will run from May to September 1989.

The Mackenzie Project participants, dressed in voyageur costumes, will travel 2,048 miles from Fort McMurray, Alberta, to Whate Island in the Arctic Ocean. The 25 students will paddle 26-foot and 36-foot canoes along what is now called the Mackenzie River. The students will be accompanied by two leaders: Dr. Jim Smithers, a professor of Outdoor Recreation at Lakehead

University, and Derek Apple, Mackenzie project assistant and a graduate of Lakehead's Outdoor Recreation program.

Although there will be 12-hour paddling days, unpredictable weather and swarms of insects, life will not be all hard work for the modern voyageurs. Presentations and historical reenactments will be given in communities along the route. "The reason I want to subject myself to this ordeal is to commemorate a great Canadian hero who exemplifies the true meaning of entrepreneurship and bravery," Mr. Britton said. The 105-day trek will combine the rigors of voyageur life with live theatre.

Not only will the project commemorate Mackenzie's search for the Northwest Passage, it will educate Canadians about an important part of the nation's history. Early explorers such as Mackenzie and the voyageurs helped develop Canada in the 18th century by expanding the fur trade.

The expeditions will re-establish the route linking Canada "Sea-to-Sea." It may also be the spark needed to create a national heritage trail to preserve and interpret this route for future generations.

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Citizens like environment guide



On The Hill
With
Garth Turner

OTTAWA-My sincere thanks to all those people who took the time to call last week after receiving a copy of my booklet "A Citizen's Guide to a better Environment." Your comments are encouraging to me because it shows a great many folks are serious about passing a clean Canada onto our children.

The message is simple: There's too much lip service given to the environment and not enough real action.

What can one person do? Lots. Each of us can stop buying polluting products; we can shun over-packaging; we can conserve water; we can recycle - and a host of other things. It's all a matter of getting in the habit.

For those who want to do more, well, I have good news for you. It's clean-up time!

Over the next few days, Environment Week will start. It's a time when all Canadians are asked to stop and think about the damage we have done to his world, and how we should properly start correcting it.

Here, in our own backyard, I'd like your help.

Over the next two weekends, members of the Halton-Peel Environment Advisory Committee will join me for three Pick-up Days. The idea is simple: People get together to collect polluting waste, and try to restore the natural beauty of a few areas. Man causes waste and pollution, so man should clean it up again. And you do that by bending over, not by talking.

So please join me on one of our three days. Bring rubber boots and gloves. Bring your family and friends. Bring your enthusiasm.

In order that we can make the necessary arrangements, please call my office, toll-free to let us know you're coming. The number: 1-800-668-4322.

Bolton Pick-up Day: Saturday, June 3 - 10 a.m.

Our team leader for the day is Angus Doughty, assisted by Dawn Moffat, recycling co-ordinator for

the Town of Caledon. Meeting place: McCreary Armstrong Insurance, 15 Healey Road, at the corner of Healey Road and Hwy. 50. We'll attack the trash in the industrial park.

Burlington Pick-up Day: Sunday, June 4 - 10 a.m.

Under team leader Sander Grieve, and assisted by Richard Walhauser of the Beautification Committee. We'll do our part for road-side cleanliness. Meeting place: Lester B. Pearson High School at the corner of Upper Middle Road and Headon Road. By the way, thanks to Glad Bags, for its donation of bags that day.

Georgetown Pick-up Day: Sunday, June 11 - 10 a.m.

Team leader Chris McLachlan will take us to the creek ravine running along Mill Street and crossing Guelph Street, where we can do our part to improve it. Meeting place: Garth Turner's office, 27 Main Street South (beside Canada Trust).

I hope to see you on one of these three important days, as we prove that Canadians who care will do more than just talk about the environment.

Help cure spinal cord injuries

The Spinal Cord Society of Canada, which boasts such members as former Olympic cyclist Jocelyn Lovell, is looking for contributions to the cause.

The SCS of Canada is a "grassroots" organization of family and friends, dedicated scientists

and physicians, all with the common goal of finding a cure for spinal cord injuries.

The SCS asks anyone who can donate for research to send a tax-deductible payment by cheque to SCS Canada, P.O. Box 707, King City, Ont. L0G 1K0.

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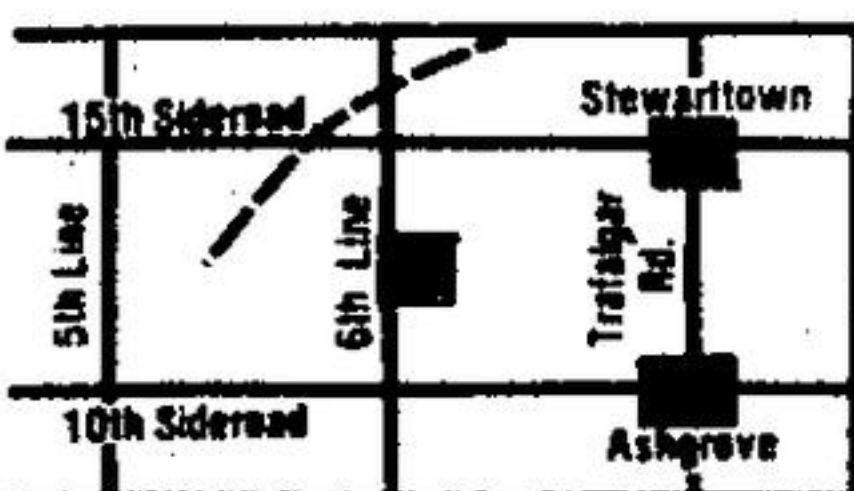
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