

Register and Win 2016 Reel Paddling Film Festival Tickets

Algonquin Outfitters has sponsored 4 pairs of tickets to the Reel Paddling Film Festival at the Algonquin Theatre, Huntsville, Ontario
Friday, June 3, 2016 at 7:30pm.

Register for the Algonquin Outfitter Big East River X or Muskoka River X to be eligible to win one of four pairs of tickets.

Registrations Due April 1, 2016

River X will announce the winners on Facebook and email the winners directly.



History Class with Mike and Rob

The Algonquin Outfitters Muskoka River X is inspired by the heritage of Muskoka and Algonquin Park. Here are a few fun facts about the Coureur des Bois course?

A little ways downstream from the Tea Lake Check Point the Oxtongue River begins to flow through a section of larger boulders and sharp rock. It then bends right into a short but narrow swift moving section of water banked by rock ledges and littered with hazards. Although fairly straight forward, the Whiskey Rapid have been known to cause trouble. They say that Whiskey Rapids got it's name after a logging crew from back in the day, tasked with delivering supplies to a camp downstream, decided to sample a bit of the precious keg that was in their cargo. With whiskey ruling the day they crashed while running the rapids. Needless to say the keg was never delivered. We can only guess what happened when they arrived back at camp empty handed....*"Out-house duty for you!"*

(Chad Barber & John Biggs navigate the Whiskey Rapids at low water levels / Photo Credit: Andy Zeltkalans)

(Reference: Oxtongue River. The Adventure Map. (2009) Charisma Mapping Services, 2009)



At the north end of Rock Lake is the Madawaska River. Across the river from the campground, in the area where teams leave Rock Lake and enter the Madawaska is one of the few remaining sites of the Algonquin Indians within the park; 31 vision pits. It is said that during puberty the Algonquin would lie in these depressions in the ground, fasting and waiting for a vision from their great spirit. There are piles of rocks in the same area that are said to have commemorated the visionings. Also impressive are the pictographs etched into the side of a west facing rock cliff, on the north shore of the lake but west of the race route. We don't recommend stopping to check things out though as you may not make the Tea Lake cut off! Better off to plan a pre-race trip and to take in the sites when you can appreciate them.

(Hap and Andrea Wilson leaving Rock Lake in the area near the visioning pits / Photo Credit: Randy Mitson)

(Reference: Warren, J. (2002). Algonquin Provincial Park, CDG Books Canada.)



Want to know more about the inspiration behind the Muskoka River X? [Click here...](#)

Stay tune for future history classes in our upcoming newsletters.



Paddling Clinics come to Huntsville

Want to improve your stroke, practice marathon paddling technique or ensure you keep pace with the cut-off time? Our MRX Poster-Boy, Chris Near, is hosting a series of clinics this season in Huntsville. We should note however that Chris not only looks impressive portaging his canoe but he is more than qualified: **2x MRX alumni, 2015 C1 Coureur des Bois champ, 2013 C1 Big East River X champ, and NCCP Marathon Paddling Coach.**



(Photo Credit: Andy Zeltkalans)

Chris will be hosting regular paddling sessions in June and July for intermediate level paddlers wishing to learn and practice marathon techniques and racing skills. These sessions will help introduce you to marathon technique and build a base for the Big East River X and MRX.

Technique will focus on canoe but kayaks and SUPs are welcome to join. Locations in

Huntsville will alternate between "Camp Kitchen," Goodwin Park and Avery Beach Park. Clinics will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings commencing May 30th and ending July 20th. The start time for each paddle will be 6pm and each session will take up to 2 hours. Mondays will focus on technique and Wednesdays will focus on building speed; tempo paddles and time trials. Participants must be full members of [OMCKRA](#). A couple of weekend clinics could be organized at different locations and times if there is enough interest. For more information please contact Chris Near - csnear@hotmail.com.



Water Flow Maps & Ice Out Conditions

Prepping for the Coureur des Bois? Before heading into Algonquin Park for early season training make sure you check [the ice out conditions](#), managed by the Friends of Algonquin.

Don't show up with a canoe when you need a dog sled.

Before heading out to train on the rivers make sure to check the water flows, especially during the spring and after periods of heavy rain. Portages may get flooded and a multitude of other hazards may appear that weren't there before. Paddle with care. Use safe judgement. Don't take risk.

The season is long and there's plenty of time to pre-run the rivers without taking chances.

Follow the links below for real-time data on the rivers.

[Big East River](#)

[Muskoka River at Baysville](#)

[Muskoka River at Port Sydney](#)

[Smoke Lake / Algonquin Park](#)

As you can see, spring run-off can make things a bit interesting.



Racing the River X? Be Informed

For all race rules, boat specifications, mandatory gear lists, weekend itinerary, and more make sure you review all of the [MRX documentation](#).

For all the details relating to the Big East River X, including our new expanded K1 categories, boat specifications and more make sure you check out the [Big East documentation](#).

Links and Resources

Below are some links to help you out when planning your paddling season in Muskoka and

Algonquin including outfitters, boat builders and repair shops, paddling events and resources, food, accommodation, and more.

[Algonquin Outfitters](#)

[Hand Crafted Canoe](#)

[Ontario Marathon Canoe and Kayak Racing Association](#)

[Canadian Adventure Racing Association](#)

[Ontario Ultra Paddling Point Series](#)

[Adventure Racing Ontario Point Series](#)

[King William Inn](#)

[Hidden Valley Inn](#)

[Tulip Inn](#)

[Miss Nelles](#)

[Mill on Main](#)

[The Burger Shop](#)

[On The Docks Pub](#)

[Town of Huntsville](#)

[Town of Bracebridge](#)

[Lake of Bays Township](#)

[Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Algonquin Park](#)

[Friends of Algonquin Park](#)

[Badger Paddles](#)

[Jonny's Boat Shop](#)

Looking for a paddling partner to race the River X? Send us an [email](#) and we will see what we can do.



***Did you receive this email by mistake?
Not interested in receiving updates from the River X?
We apologize for the inconvenience.
Please follow the [SafeUnsubscribe](#) link below.***