2023 Canadian Trip

**Algonquin Provincial Park**

**August 5-12, 2023**

**Where?**

Algonquin Provincial Park, Whitefish Group Campground site #5

Emergency Phone Number: (705) 633‑5583 (8:00‑4:30)

Note: The further north we go, the less reliable cell phone coverage is. It is also very costly per minute. (See separate document on Cell Phones)

**When?**

***8/4 – Fri – 6:00 p.m.*** Meet at the Scout Building to pack all gear

***8/5 - Sat – 6:30 a.m.*** Meet at the Scout Building

***11:30 a.m***. Lunch is at the food court about 45 minutes after we cross into Canada. ***This is the only meal you must purchase***.

***6:00 p.m.*** Arrive at Whitefish Group Campground in Algonquin Provincial Park. Set up camp & prepare supper.

***Sun ‑ Fri*** ‑ Program to include:

Hiking the various interpretive trails

Swimming, canoeing, and sailing on Whitefish Lake

Tour of Museum, Visitors' Center & Logging Exhibit, art museum

Evening programs at Amphitheatre,

Cooking & Scoutcraft in campsite

Thursday night wolf howl program

Fishing

Friday night farewell banquet

***8/12 Sat ‑ 7:00 a.m***. Leave for Warren

Arrive back in Warren ***around 6:00 P.M.***

# Birth Certificates & Notarized Permission Slip Needed

Please see the document “Passport Info” about crossing the border. We need all that paperwork finalized the week before we leave.

**Weather Tips**

August in Algonquin is usually similar to Ohio, except it can get quite cool in the evenings. We recommend warm clothes and sleeping bags for the evenings.

**Uniform Requirements**

All Scouts are required to travel in full uniform, including a Scout hat. This includes both the trip up and back. As with weekends, any Scout not in full uniform when we leave will not be permitted to go and will forfeit his camp fee. Troop 101 T-shirts and sweatshirts are for sale at the meetings. We thought that these shirts might be quite popular with the cool nights.

**Crossing the Border**

There is usually no problem, other than heavy traffic, getting across into and out of Canada. The Scout uniform has helped our customs inspections in the past. Drivers should have car registrations and should instruct youth to look and act like Scouts. All passengers probably will be asked their Citizenship, and the driver can expect to be asked where they are going and why. We will have a packet of documents for each person in the vehicle. Customs officials have the right to detain and search any vehicle or persons for up to 24 hours without giving a reason. The troop has had very few difficulties, but it is wise to remind Scouts of their Scout Oath and Law before crossing.

**Things Cost More / Spending Money**

Scouts will want to bring money for souvenirs, that first lunch, a fishing license, etc. How much spending money is up to you. The lunch is the only thing that they MUST have their own money for. We will stop at a couple camping outfitter stores that week.

At this writing, the exchange rate for a US dollar was about 34% favorable to the Canadian dollar, however the sales tax is 15%. This is a tourist area, so things are more expensive.

For the relatively small amount of money that the boys spend, it is usually not worth their while to go to the bank to get the optimum exchange rate. They should ask and pay attention to how much a store offers them, however. Scouts with a lot of Canadian money at the end of the week often end up stuck with it. **Bring small bills.** Pay with the smallest denomination possible. That way you do not end up with a lot of money and if you do encounter a bad rate, you are not exchanging that much.

**Fishing Licenses**

In order to fish in Ontario, all anglers must possess a valid fishing license. A **non‑resident** license is required for any person over 18 who is not a resident of Canada.

**Equipment Checklist**

**SCOUT UNIFORM** (must be worn to and from Algonquin)

**EXTRA CLOTHING** ‑ Shorts, T‑shirts, long pants, etc. Scouts wear this for the balance of the campout. Bring enough, they will get wet and dirty!

**CHANGES OF UNDERWEAR AND SOCKS**

**FOOTWEAR** ‑ **Tennis shoes** are good for around camp. **Hiking boots** are good to have since we will hike several trails throughout the week. **Water shoes /sandals** are needed for canoeing and when swimming in the lakes since the condition of the bottom may be unknown.

**SWEATSHIRTS, JACKET** ‑ Evenings can be quite cool.

**SLEEPING BAG** ‑ Remember, cool nights, so bring a warmer bag than you would normally expect for August. You can line your stuff sack with a garbage bag for extra protection from wet weather.

**PLASTIC GROUND SHEET** ‑ Min. 3' x 7' Even though our tents have floors, you may want the extra insurance.

**FLASHLIGHT** ‑ with extra batteries (batteries are expensive up north)

**POCKETKNIFE**

**MESS KIT** ‑ containing plate, bowl, cup, spoon, knife, fork

**CAMERA** ‑ you will be glad you did!

**TOILET KIT** ‑ containing soap, comb, washcloth, towel, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant

**INSECT REPELLANT** ‑ they grow them big in Canada!

**MATCHES** ‑ wooden in a waterproof container.

**WATER BOTTLE** ‑ for hiking and canoeing trips.

**COMPASS** ‑ a good thing for hikes!

**SCOUT HANDBOOK** ‑ 'Don't leave home without it!'

**PENCIL AND PAPER** ‑ Be Prepared!

**SWIM SUIT AND TOWELS**

**SLEEPING PAD or AIR MATTRESS –** optional, NO COTS

**1 or 2 GARBAGE BAGS** ‑ always come in handy to cover a pack, sleeping bag, or to keep something wet from getting something else wet.

**PONCHO** or **RAIN GEAR** ‑ Scouts don't melt, but they can be an awful mess.

**FISHING POLE** ‑ without a hook! Pack it carefully because it must go into the trailer.

**SPENDING MONEY** ‑ that first lunch, souvenirs, etc.

**TROOP 101 T‑SHIRTS (optional)** are available at the troop meetings.

* Mark everything with your name!
* Learn to pack items in individual plastic bags ‑ it stays dry!
* Food items on this or any trip are not permitted.
* Personal music players with headphones are permitted for the ride up and back. If used during the camp, they will be taken and returned when we get back to Ohio.