

# North American Land Surveyors' Canoe (Koo Koo Sint) in the 2011 David Thompson Columbia Canoe Brigade

Robert Allen, BCLS, CLS, Sechelt

We have had considerable interest in our 2011 canoe trip on the Columbia River and we have received support from a number of land surveying associations, including the Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors. At the moment we are considering entering a second canoe, but this will not be without its challenges. We may need a few more paddlers and some additional funding. The registration fees alone are \$6000.00 per canoe. We also wish to spend some monies on items to promote the work of David Thompson as a Land Surveyor.

We are also hoping that the planned ceremony by the International Boundary Commission at the Canada/United States boundary will take place. We have invited Peter Sullivan, Surveyor General of Canada and Canada's International Boundary Commissioner to join us in our canoe as we approach the border from the north along the shores of Lake Koochanusa. We have also invited Mike Thomson, Surveyor General of British Columbia to join us as well. This will be a significant celebration for us as land surveyors, as it was our forefathers who first surveyed the boundary between our two great countries.

The 'Surveyors on Bikes' (SOB) have promised to see us off when we leave Invermere and we certainly look forward to that. SOB's supporting SICs (Surveyors in Canoes).

We currently have one canoe and we took it out for a trial run in early October onto Drayton Harbour near Blaine, Washington. We paddled for about an hour and managed not to get wet - that was an accomplishment!

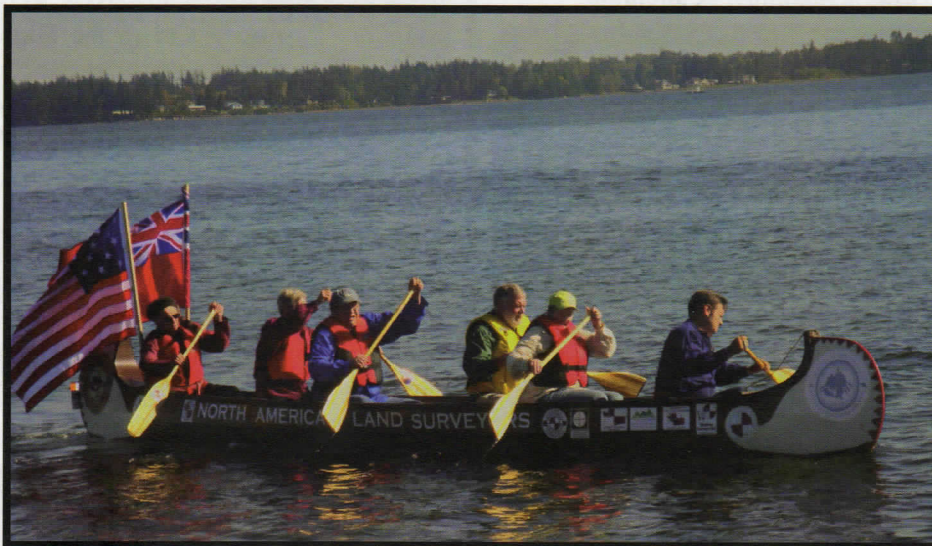
Some of our other common expenses include trailer conversion, artwork and logo design, printing of sponsor boards and the like, expenses for four support vehicles, and miscellaneous rentals and fees.

Each paddler will be responsible for their own camping gear, transportation to/from the start/finish, paddles, PFD, clothing, and food costs. The monies collected from sponsors will only be used for common expenses - none of it will go toward personal expenses. We have different levels of sponsors and if you wish to do your part to help us promote David Thompson and his wife, Charlotte Small, please consider making a donation to our canoe. We have a bronze level for those who donate \$200.00, a silver level for those who donate \$400.00, a gold level for those who donate \$600.00, and a platinum level for those who donate \$800.00 and lastly one called a significant sponsor for those who donate \$1000.00 or more.

All significant sponsors will be recognized with their logo and/or name on one side of the NALS canoe and its accompanying trailer, with a suitable self-adhesive waterproof 6" x 6" sized decal that we will have prepared. As well, all sponsors will have their names on the sponsor boards at our encampments along the route and they will also all be posted on our website. All significant sponsors will have their names and logos on a separate sponsor's board. This will be great advertising for your firm so please consider it. If you have any questions regarding our trip, please visit our canoe's website: <http://www.skylark.ca/nals.htm> or contact me.

To date, we have land surveyors and their family members from British Columbia, Washington, and Alberta who are committed to the trip. We have other non-land surveyors joining us from Hawaii, Wisconsin, and possibly New Mexico. We also have a United States astronaut

interested in joining us. If this trip appeals to you, contact us soon or it may be too late to get a seat. You can join us for a few days or a week or two - the choice is yours and we look forward to hearing from you.



**Drayton Harbour Trial Run ... Left to Right: Gord Thomson, Bernie Kilonsky, Mark McGladrey, Robert Allen, Diane Gregory, and Denny DeMeyer**