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A2A EXPLORERS SET OUT ON TRAIL RECONNAISSANCE

Lansdowne, ON – Two A2A explorers are ready to set out on a trail reconnaissance that will cover nearly 600km. This Sunday, October 1st, they'll begin to follow the path inspired by an adventurous moose named Alice. In 2000, she mistakenly wandered into a suburb near Rochester, New York. Alice was fitted with a tracking device and released into Adirondack Park, but she wouldn't sit still for long. Researchers watched in amazement as she traveled north over two years, eventually reaching Algonquin Park. Her story illustrates the need for healthy, connected habitats. A2A is honouring Alice's journey by establishing the "A2A Trail", a Pilgrimage for Nature.

"The A2A trail will highlight the beautiful and ecologically critical corridor that connects Algonquin and the Adirondacks. The trail will create a physical and symbolic link between the two parks, while encouraging the conservation ethic that goes hand in hand with exploring nature." – David Miller, Executive Director, A2A

The adventure begins on October 1st, with John Allport starting in Algonquin Park in Canada and John Davis setting off from Adirondack Park in the United States. Volunteers will hike or bicycle along with them at various points. On October 15th, the two explorers will meet near the Canada/US border to symbolize the cross-border connection. A2A staff and community partners will join them on Wellesley Island, New York to celebrate this important phase of development.

"I'm hiking for the wild animals of the world and their habitat, both of which are under grave and worsening threats. Undertaking and completing this hike will harden my resolve to do all in my power to make a difference for their survival." – John Allport, Canadian Trail Explorer

This event has been made possible thanks to a grant from the Mountain Equipment Coop. The trail reconnaissance will assist in detailed route planning, identifying existing facilities, and expanding relationships with local stakeholders.

"The A2A Trail will showcase how unique and precious this A2A region is, create an appreciation for its rich biology, culture and history and inspire people to stand up for nature. It will also stimulate appropriate economic opportunities in the communities along the way. We hope to develop the trail in partnership with local government and interested community groups." – Emily Conger, A2A

Highlights of the event will be posted on A2A's social media platforms. Follow A2A on Twitter and Facebook:



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The A2A Collaborative facilitates a network of partner organizations working to connect lands and people across the Algonquin to Adirondacks region, to enhance a critical link for biodiversity and resilience in eastern North America.