



Our
2022
News

Killarney
LODGE

I sat
there and
forgot, and forgot,
until what remained
was the river that went
by and I who watched ...
Eventually the watcher
joined the river and
then there was only
one of us. I believe
it was the river.

Norman Maclean

We are privileged to live and work in the expansiveness of Algonquin Park. Nature cannot help but flow through the days, encouraging us to respond to the rhythm all around.

We feel this is the real draw of Killarney Lodge: we are mere custodians of this part of paradise, providing food and comfort for our guests to enjoy while letting wilderness-wonder seep into the bones.

The ups and downs of worldly life are put in the wilderness perspective. Time becomes timeless for a while – try rushing a misty morning canoe paddle – rushing just doesn't fit here!

Dining update



Lots of room in the old log dining room

We needed to make changes to dining routines over the last couple of years, so here's an update of where we are now.

First, we will be keeping the popular cabin delivery service for mornings and evenings, meaning you can have breakfast in bed or a romantic private dinner.

We're happy to say all meals are back to being served in the old log dining room with more space between tables. The same impeccable food and service, of course!

Due to spacing in the dining room, we are currently unable to offer lunch for non-guests. We are welcoming non-guests to join us for dinner (reservations required).

The now famous Killarney Lodge pack lunches are, of course, available for the cabin, the beach, a picnic or an adventure in Algonquin Park.



Cheryl, old guy Freddy and the ever-young Eric.

For the love of Dog

No, don't worry, Eric has not gone soft, he still wears shorts in winter. But a winter stay at the Lodge this year for Eric and Cheryl was reduced to visits for medical reasons. Not for them but for Freddy, the trusty canine companion guests have seen wandering the property the last 11 years.

Time catches up with everything and Freddy's transition into later life is hampered by decreased mobility. He just couldn't handle a Killarney Lodge winter. However, seeing him kitted out with a brace, to which wheels or skis can be attached, and taking to the device immediately, brought tears to Cheryl's eyes.

You might see Freddy 'driving' around the property during the season!

Eric did make it up to the Lodge several times, clearing snow to ensure access and spending time in the little office, making plans for the '22 season.

A nocturnal visitor

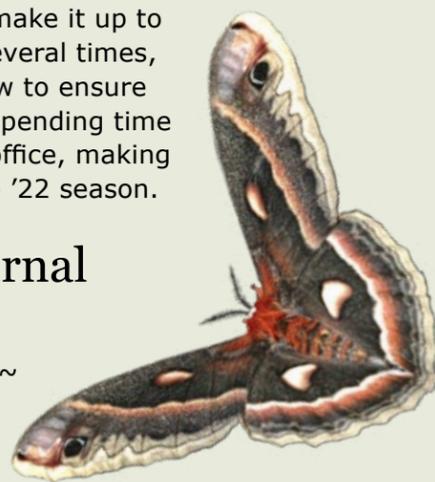
Cecropia ~
The largest moth found in North

America comes to visit Killarney Lodge.

These beauties are found in hardwood forests east of the Rockies. The larvae are mostly found on maple trees, but also on cherry and birch trees among others.

This one was around for a few days, a long time for a moth that has an adult life span of just two weeks. This beautiful silk moth was on the dining room log wall when spotted by a guest one evening and stirred a lot of interest.

With a wingspan of up to seven inches, it's a sight to behold on a warm summer night!



Visits...

During the season we often hear of people visiting to celebrate a special anniversary. They let us know so we can mark the occasion.

Walter and Caroline, quietly mentioned that they were here to celebrate a stay in Cabin 4, where they had honeymooned 67 years ago!

Ruby and Gary Purdy also honeymooned here, in 1961, and have fond memories of how the Lodge was then – wood stoves in the cabins, red towels in the bathroom and handwritten menus in green ink. They continue to visit us citing, "a wonderful, welcoming place to relax and unwind, to enjoy nature – and the excellent cuisine."

We were also pleasantly surprised with a visit by Wendy Dungey, who came with husband Colin and the family. Wendy is the great-granddaughter of Burt Moore, who founded Killarney Lodge in 1935.



Walter and Caroline, Ruby and Gary, Wendy and Colin

... and farewells

Our staff do so much to make Killarney Lodge the special experience guests enjoy. Seen or behind the scenes, the friendly and helpful atmosphere is generated by this hard-working gang.

Three of our dear stalwarts said farewell after many years of serving visitors at our wilderness oasis. Theresa, a cook, leaves after 40 years; Denise from housekeeping after 25 years; and Elaine our prep cook after an amazing 43 years!

Thank you, ladies, for your time, energy and service. Enjoy your well-earned retirement.



Theresa, Denise and Elaine take the cake!



It's a duck's life

Come to a place where time slows down and nature becomes the centre of attention.

Seeing a string of fluffy ducklings following mother hen across the lane or out on the water is enough to melt the steeliest of hearts. We see the birds arrive shortly after clear water opens up on Lake of Two Rivers, as the season of abundance begins its magical surge.

The hen chooses a spot to nest close to where she was hatched, and lays an egg a day, as many as a dozen. She broods for around 28 days and then the challenge is to keep chicks warm, safe, fed and together as they form the family bond. After just a day or so, she'll take them to the water for their first aquatic experience.

Over the season we love watching the playful chicks as they grow and take on familiar plumage with the distinctive purple-blue chevron on their wings.

If you want to know a hen from a drake, the male duck has a bright yellow bill and the female, a brown-orange bill.



We provide cracked corn for those bills in the Paddle Shop and enjoy watching children of all ages surrounded by the chicks as the watchful mother looks on. Watch out – she will swipe the whole bag if you're not looking!

Life in the wilds has challenges. Ducks in nature need luck to see adulthood, as half or more of ducklings might die in the first 30 days.

Surviving ducklings will typically go on to live for five to eight years. Given the food, love and attention they receive at the Lodge, their lifespan might well be longer here!



Paddling along...

We're adding to the popular paddleboards and kayaks on the beach on Beaver House Bay. Lightweight kayaks are an easy solo paddle and a great way to explore the lake. Test

your balance standing on the paddleboard or kneel for a drier ride!

The sandy beach is equipped with chairs, a swing chair and a grassy area next to the water where you can chat with fellow guests as the kids (of all ages!) play the day away.



Married... at last!

While some couples pushed back wedding dates, Paige and Greg were determined to go ahead, with or without guests. As Paige said, she'd rather be married than have a party.

They managed both in 2021!

Paige is the daughter of Ramona Johnson, who many will have seen wearing different hats while helping to manage the Lodge. Paige also worked six seasons at the Lodge before training to become a registered nurse and clinical instructor.



A sparkling day for Paige and Greg
PHOTO BY LOVE PHOTOS & FILMS

At last, on July 17, around 100 friends and family gathered to witness the happy occasion at Killarney Lodge. Perfect warm weather made the day a complete success.

After more delays, the couple were able to get away for a honeymoon in January to the Dominican Republic – where her mother had honeymooned!



All smiles: Charlotte, Sam, Al and Jonathan.

Family reconnections

Last year this newsletter showed a photo of Eric holding a phone with granddaughter Penelope on it. At last we have been able to catch up with family and friends in person.

Families grow up, out and away, and Eric's family is thriving all over the place!

Samantha, Jon and the grandkids do their thriving in Buffalo, expanding their house for family and guests. The vivacious Al is, well, vivacious! Matt and she live in the west end of Toronto, where she works in a fancy Italian restaurant, biking in when she can. Jonathan grows his specialized handyman business, playing ice hockey and golf in any spare time.

Charlotte and Andrew now have a townhouse in Whistler. Andrew is home after a successful trip with the Olympic team in China. They are so looking forward to their wedding in July.

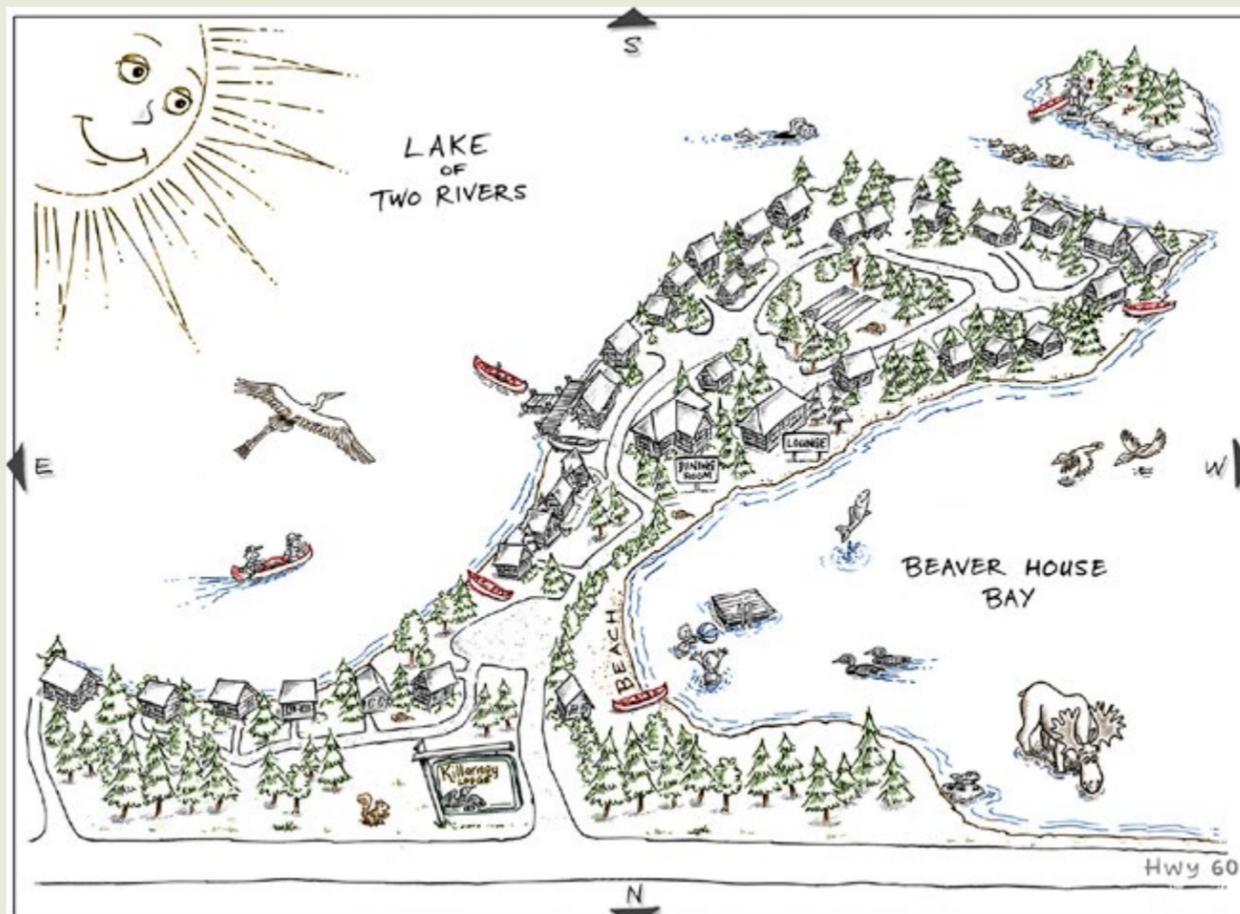
Comfort at the beach house

Renovations are now complete at the Beach House, the aptly named cabin overlooking Beaver House Bay by the sandy beach. This two-bedroom cabin is perhaps the best spot for watching sunsets shimmering on the waters of Lake of Two Rivers.

It sports a new bathroom, flooring and finishes and is the only cabin other than Crowe Cottage with a separate living room. There is ample space for relaxing, and table and chairs for games or meals delivered from the dining room. With the sunny aspect, we also installed some air conditioning in this one.



Rooms with a view of the sunsets over Beaver House Bay.



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Open to October 23

Year round:

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