

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WILD ONTARIO POINTS THE WAY TO THE BEST DESTINATIONS
FOR ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY**

An Inspiring 'where-to' book for anyone with a love of nature

An Artist's and Photographer's Guide to Wild Ontario (Boston Mills Press April 2007 Soft Cover 224 pages) is a richly-illustrated travel guide to the great landscapes of Ontario – the scenic vistas that have inspired artists for the last 200 years.

Through the eyes of writer Craig Thompson and award-winning landscape photographer Rob Stimpson, readers are taken on a colourful guided tour of the province discovering the spots where great artists like Tom Thomson and Franklin Carmichael found scenes for their paintings and where artists of today follow their own creative paths.

Wild Ontario is a guide for anyone with a creative spirit and is organized according to the province's major travel regions. The authors discuss each region's art history, provide detailed information on unique courses and workshops, list galleries and studio tours and profile a few of each region's most interesting professional and amateur artists.

The book features such iconic images as Pic Island, Lake Superior, by Lawren Harris, which is matched with a photograph taken today from the same vantage point used by the artist.

In putting together the book the authors clocked more than 10,000 kilometres without leaving Ontario. Among the regions included in the book are:

Thunder Bay and Lake Superior, the Bruce Peninsula and Manitoulin Island, Georgian Bay, Killarney, French River and Sudbury, Temagami, Algonquin and Cottage Country, the Kawarthas and Eastern Ontario, the National Capital Region, Prince Edward County and the Greater Toronto Area.

Wild Ontario, which features more than 50 studio tours and over 100 galleries, is the most comprehensive resource of its kind – a must have travel guide for anyone interested in exploring and appreciating the great outdoors and discovering the best places in the province to sketch, paint, sculpt, carve and photograph wilderness and wildlife scenes.

About the Authors

CRAIG THOMPSON is an accomplished writer, television producer and broadcaster who was motivated to write this book by his own love of the outdoors and his experiences canoeing and enjoying life at the family cottage near Algonquin Park. He is the president of Ballinran Productions, the company behind such programs as the Food Network's The Manic Organic and CBC's Cottage Country. He is currently producing a feature length docudrama for History Television in Canada and public television in Ireland, on the forgotten tale of the Irish famine and how it washed upon Toronto's shores in 1847. He lives in Stratford, Ontario.

ROB STIMPSON is an award-inning professional photographer who specializes in outdoor lifestyle images and nature photography workshops. His interest in the book came from his involvement in the Arts in the Wild Alliance, an initiative that brought together people involved in arts tourism in Ontario. He has traveled the world, from the Arctic to the Antarctic, documenting all manner of flora and fauna and contributes regularly to major travel publications. He lives on Lake of Bays, near Ontario's renowned Algonquin Park.