

Wood Smoke and Paddle Song Inc.

Dear Participant in ORCKA Canoeing Instruction:

from Lewis Williams

Welcome to this canoe course following the ORCKA (Ontario Recreational Canoe and Kayak Association) standards. ORCKA is the oldest accredited canoe instruction organization in Ontario.

This course is offered by Wood Smoke and Paddle Song Inc. On our website are copies of the **medical info and personal info forms plus the waiver and release form**. Regarding the **waiver and release forms**, please read carefully and seek counsel as required. We will also give you copies to sign after we have outlined the risks involved in this program. ORCKA's insurance company requires that these forms be signed in order for participants to be eligible for accident insurance coverage.

I hope that you will find this course both **enjoyable and rewarding** as your paddling skills increase. All ORCKA courses consist of 3 components: theory, safety and practice. At the end of the course, it is our intention that all participants will have mastered the required course material and will be awarded provincial certification.

I have found that one of the really enjoyable aspects of taking canoe courses is the learning that I have acquired from other course participants. With this in mind, please **feel free to share** with the other course participants your experiences, ideas and questions. Don't belittle the knowledge that you already have. Sometimes it is the "small" details that cause people to say, "ah. ha! So that's how it is done. I've never been able to figure that one out."

For personal information about our very professional instructors, please refer to the Instructors section of our website, www.paddlesong.ca. We are all certified instructors with ORCKA- The Ontario Recreational Canoe and Kayak Association, are passionate about canoeing and thoroughly enjoy working with adults and young people and have done so for many years.

It is the goal of Wood Smoke and Paddle Song Inc. to provide training that is accessible to everyone. As per the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act, 2005, Wood Smoke and Paddle Song invites any requests, comments or questions regarding accessibility of our programs and documents and the training of our staff via personal contact or any of the communication methods listed below.

Please feel free to contact me:

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