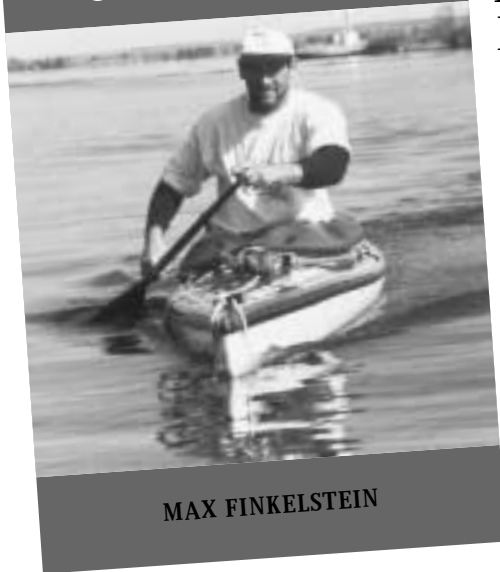


Pre-Publication Announcement

CANOEING A CONTINENT



MAX FINKELSTEIN

In 1793, Alexander Mackenzie left an inscription on the face of a rock near Bella Coola.

More than 200 years later, Max Finkelstein retraced the route of Alexander Mackenzie across North America

from Ottawa through to Cumberland

House, Saskatchewan, and paddled the Blackwater, Fraser and Peace rivers, completing the trip in 1999. More than just a travelogue of a canoe trip across Canada, this is an account that crosses more than two centuries. It is an exploration into the heart and mind of Mackenzie, the explorer, and Max, the "Voyageur-in-Training." Using Mackenzie's journals and his own journal writings, Max creates a view of the land from two vantage points, providing insights into the changes that have occurred over two centuries.

"I leave the water of the Churchill at Frog Portage.

Joseph Frobisher was the first European to walk across the portage in 1775. In the spring of that year he met Indians on the Churchill River, on their way to trade with the Hudson's Bay Company

at their post on the shores of Hudson Bay, as they had done since 1719. He persuaded them to trade with him, and as a result brought a fortune in furs back east to Montreal. This began the intense competition between the Hudson's Bay Company and the traders out of Montreal, and had a tremendous influence on the development of Canada. Once again I am smacked in the face with the reality that the fur trade routes are indeed the roots of Canada."

Mackenzie's route, officially proclaimed the Alexander Mackenzie Voyageur Route in 1997, is the most significant water trail in North America, and perhaps the world. A wellspring of Canadian heritage and history, this trail is unknown to most Canadians. By sharing his experiences, Max invites all of us to explore and celebrate this route, and to make it a familiar part of our culture.

"A 'must-read' for everyone who loves wild places and the magic of canoes."—Cliff Jacobson, Outdoor Writer & Consultant.

Author Max Finkelstein, one of the most popular figures on the Canadian paddling scene, is responsible for marketing and publicity with the Canadian Heritage Rivers System. Few canoeists can match the paddling feats of this gentle, genial modern-day voyageur. Little wonder that his slide-talk presentations are highlights at canoe shows and symposia year after year.

CANOEING A CONTINENT

In the Footsteps of Alexander Mackenzie

Max Finkelstein

ISBN 1-896219-00-4 / 6 x 9 / national promotion / profusely illustrated / index / \$24.95 SC (Subject to change)

Publication date: April 2002

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