



ALGONQUIN PARK SKIERS' ASSOCIATION

June 2, 2011

John Winters,
District Director and Park Superintendent, retired ... just,
Algonquin Provincial Park,
P. O. Box 291
WHITNEY ON K0J 2M0

Dear John,

From day one of your appointment to Algonquin Park, -- we remember the occasion of our first meeting -- you undertook to maintain the "winter program," and to improve X-C skiing in Algonquin.

That you did; in "partnership," as you styled it, with the Algonquin Park Skiers' Association and others. You were suggesting thereby the collaborative, attentive, generous-minded, and creative manner (latter term always used when constraints are in play!) in which you would manage the Park, and foster Park use in the costly months of winter. As you know, and I think appreciated, APSA represented a group of somewhat proprietary-minded (!) winter users of the Park. We were pleased and proud, in the era of cut-backs, to promote winter use; and to contribute materially in our small voluntary way -- mostly through "sweat labour" -- to the development and maintenance of the winter-trail system.

The happy upshot of your administrative leadership during the period of our collaboration, aside from the satisfaction and pleasure shared by the people involved, was that Algonquin Park became known as "the best" cross-country ski-trail network (networks if you take into consideration the West Gate and Minnesing), in the most picturesque and pristine woodland countryside in Ontario -- Stokely Creek notwithstanding.

APSA, on behalf of all winter and other off-season users, I'm sure (e.g. OTRA), wants to say thank you very much for your collaborative, co-operative, and tenacious involvement in "The Park in winter." And inasmuch as you always graciously welcomed our input, and listened to our probably gratuitous advice, we thank you. Your patience never (perceptibly) wore thin; your door was always open. Thanks again!

Best wishes as you retire -- i.e. change the course of your ongoing activity.

In the idiom of the trade: **Good Trails!**

Fred Caloren
for APSA