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Dear Members of the Hamilton Naturalists' Club,

Established in 1944, the Algonquin Wildlife Research Station (WRS) is a not-for-profit organization operating in the heart of Algonquin Provincial Park to promote research, understanding, and conservation of the natural world. As intended, the WRS continues to serve as a base for many precious long-term research projects that provide critical ecological baselines in our changing world. The diversity and quality of research projects at the WRS, historically and currently, make it a leader in field biology research that has contributed significantly to our knowledge, policy, and conservation of species and ecosystems in Canada.

In continuing our mission to be a leader in wildlife research through experiential learning, the WRS is implementing succession plans for equipment and infrastructure. Annually, the WRS hosts hundreds of entry-level college and university students and dozens of researchers, most of whom are graduate students. Among the most essential equipment for our students and researchers are our canoes. Over the past two to three decades, our small canoe fleet has withstood thousands of students and tens of thousands of hours of use amid the rigours of field research. However, most of our canoes and associated equipment (paddles, life jackets, safety kits) are now showing their age. While many of our canoes are fit for repair, many also require replacement. The WRS is seeking donations of canoes and associated equipment, and/or financial support in order to purchase these materials.

We kindly ask that you share our message with your club membership and consider an in-kind or financial donation. Over the past 72 years the WRS has assembled some of the most impressive long-term field research datasets in Canada, North America, and the world, and continues to do so on a modest budget. Your donation will contribute to a legacy of student training, education, and engagement for the next generation of biologists.

A sincere thank you for your time and consideration,

Patrick Moldowan
WRS Student Researcher
Honorary Communications Officer, WRS Board of Directors



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Vision

A leader in wildlife research through experiential learning.

Goals

- To educate
 - Scientists
 - The public
 - Policy makers
- To conserve
 - Biodiversity
 - Ecological integrity
 - A culture of field-based research
- To inspire
 - Environmental stewardship
 - A community of collaboration
 - A connection with nature

Objectives

- Transfer knowledge through...
 - Peer-reviewed publications
 - Producing an annual research report
 - University and college field courses and workshops
 - Hosting Meet the Researcher Day and Weekend public events
 - Being active on social media
 - Connection with The Friends of Algonquin Park and Natural Heritage and Education
- Facilitate research through...
 - Continuing long-term studies and initiating new research
 - Maintaining a safe and productive environment
 - Providing access to infrastructure and an outdoor laboratory