

Moore Falls Portage on the Gull River System Canoe Route

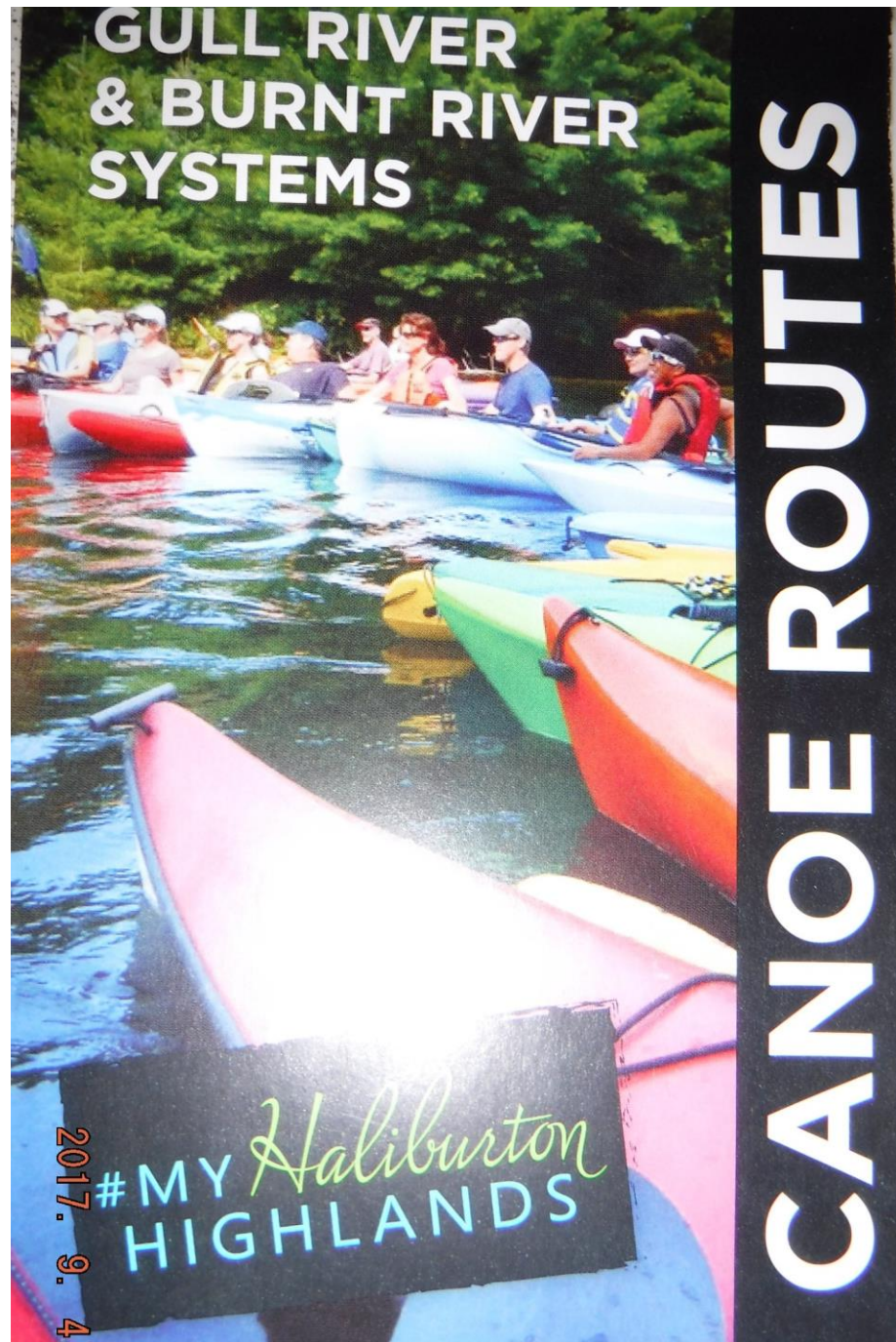


Our Social, Cultural and Economic Development in the Highlands

Presentation prepared by Pam Sayne, Councillor Minden Hills

Local Life

- ✓ The Portage at the Moore Lake Dams hold historic social, cultural and economic benefits for the residents and visitors to the area.
- ✓ Healthy outdoor practices are encouraged through government programs and promoted through regional tourism.
- ✓ Canoeing and boating are central and essential to the area's attributes for recreation and development.



Healthy outdoor living, including the learning of skills and safety on recreational waterways, is as common in our rural area as learning to drive a car on motor ways throughout Ontario.

Kilcoo Camp

Local Year Round Residents

Tourists to Area

Enjoyment of Natural Resources

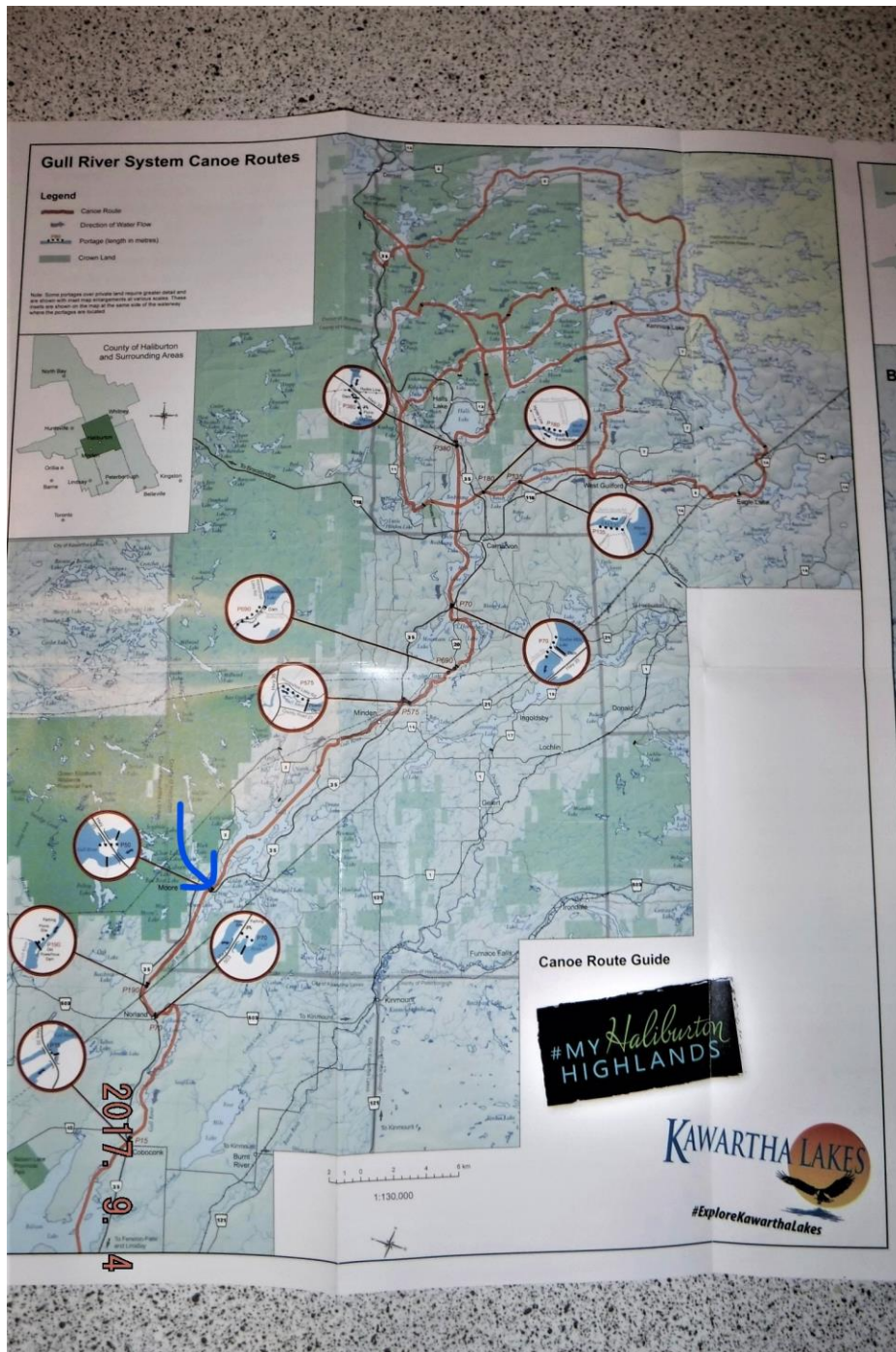
Seasonal Cottagers

Social, Cultural and Economic Development

Map of Gull River System Canoe Routes

Promoted by Haliburton and Kawartha Lakes Tourism Departments

Location of the Moore Falls Portage along the 30 Km Canoe Route. (see blue arrow on Tourism map)



Arial Image 2013



Moore
Falls
Dams &
Portage
with
Rollers
& Hwy.
#35

HISTORICAL NOTE: One Resident reported that this was the Route and location for the fur trade.

The Local Community Fabric

Example of Rollers



Hello My name is Peter Fry and I have been a cottager at 11283 WAO on Black Lake for 60 years..

When we first came to build and have a cottage on Black Lake in 1957 one of the best things to do was to go to " Minden By Boat". My father would take my brother and I thru the river to Moore Lake, over the rollers at the dam and up through Gull Lake and the river into Minden. As I got older we boys were allowed to make that trip on our own which we did many times.

Then along came marriage and a son and daughter and guess what. " Daddy, daddy can we please please go to "Minden By Boat ". " For sure kids let's go" and before I knew it they were going on their own. Actually before our children came along my wife and I would go with her regally relaxing in a foldup lounge chair at the front of the tin boat.

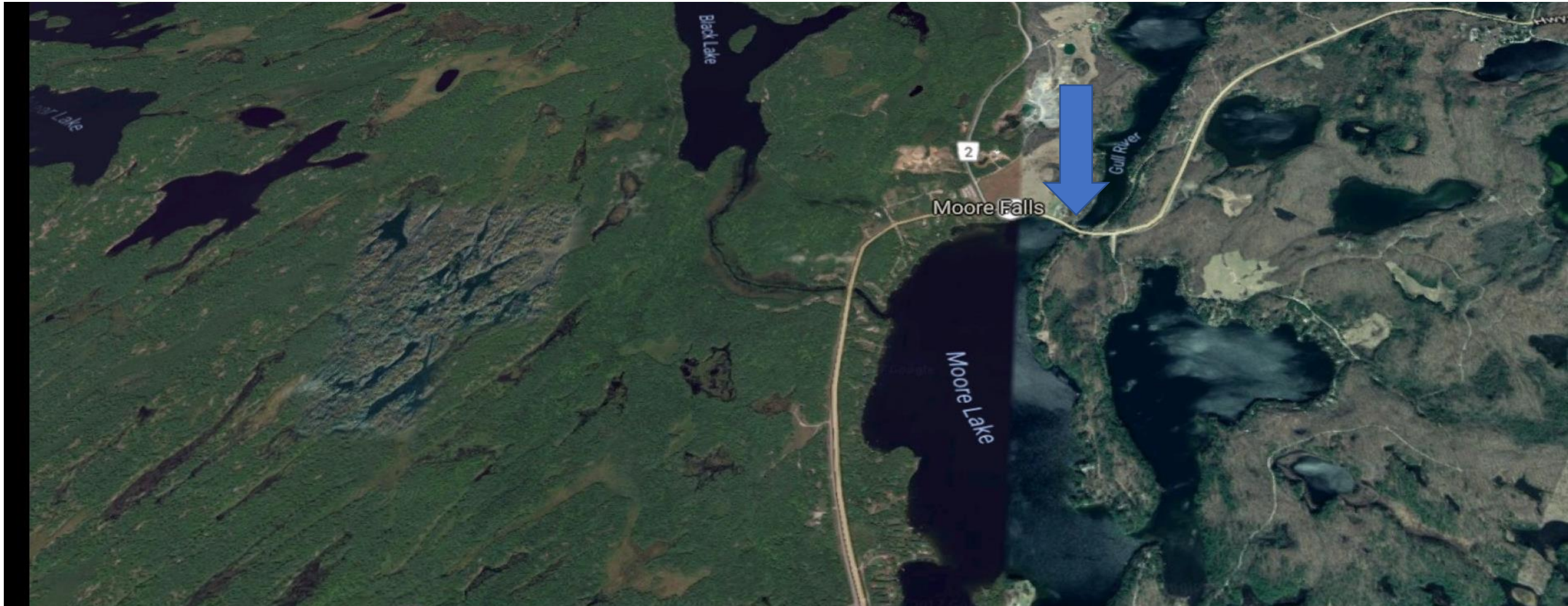
Over the years I have made the " Minden By Boat" trip well over a hundred times and now we have a 7 year old granddaughter who I would dearly love to take to "Minden By Boat". Alas a boom blocking the way and no rollers so no "Minden By Boat". And on our lake we miss seeing the floatillas of Kilcoo kids in their canoes camping on the island on their way to and from portage trips up to Scrabble Lake in the QE park.

With the hundreds of cottages on Black, Gull and Moore lakes plus the rivers there has to have been many tens of thousands of portages safely made over those rollers.

Please bring them back so that current and future generations can once again go to "Minden By Boat"

Thank you

Google earth view of Hwy #35 & Portage Location



Growing Public Concern – Safety & Navigation Protection Act



The Highlander - Reports of Portage Demo



“NEWS --- With demonstrators blocking traffic, it took about a minute for three men to portage across Highway 35 near Moore Falls.” August 17th, 2017.

Local Interests, Provincial and Federal Directions

- ✓ The Moore Falls Portage is part of local social, cultural, recreational and economic development.
- ✓ It is counter productive to encourage recreation and economic development with some government initiatives while destroying this local fabric with decisions of another government department blocking the portage under the Hwy.
- ✓ All levels of government need to work with local interests.





- ✓ The rollers were removed and Moore Falls portage blocked as Parks Canada attributed changes to public safety.
- ✓ There are more safety questions raised by this closure. People with water crafts, including children in tow, are required to cross busy Highway #35 to travel between Moore Lake and Gull Lake.



- ✓ Timing in resolving this issue is critical. Plans are underway for maintenance upgrades to the Moore Fall bridges and plans are progressing with Parks Canada to address these dams on the Trent Severn Waterways flow.
- ✓ All parties are working diligently together over the last few years to maintain this portage on this heritage water way route. See latest reports.

Thank You!