



# Summer's gone! It's fall already!

Where has the time gone? Speaking personally, my family and I have been involved in a myriad of activities in the past three months ... and I'm supposed to be retired! It's great to be busy, but sometimes it's frustrating when several activities are planned for a given week and difficult choices must be made about selecting their priority on the planning calendar.

It's embarrassing to have to admit that I was able to attend less than half of the scheduled Miata Club activities this summer, a statistic that has not happened in the past. I'm grateful for the help of all the cruise directors for writing about the events they planned and led and for the folks who took photos enroute as reminders of the good times enjoyed by the participants.

This is the first newsletter I've sent past the "deadline date", but I hope that you will find the delay has enabled Cal and I the chance to include all of the articles summarizing our busy cruising season. The "Fall Colours" trip is traditionally well-attended and with the inclusion of the members of the Ottawa Miata Club, promised to be the largest event our club has ever held. It was worth the wait!

Phil Holdsworth has taken the initiative in organizing a trip to the King's Wharf Theatre to see the panto, "Peter Pan", in November. Rick Beutler is planning the "Year-End Dinner Party", a social event that will likely not involve us driving our Miatas. Still lots of activities planned for our group!

As always, I'm thankful that Cal Lander is able to take my MS Word documents and accompanying photos and rejig them with his professional printing program. His extra embellishments make the newsletter so much more attractive!

> Happy Thanksgiving Weekend, everyone!

> > Doug



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We are very thankful as a group to be able to have such good friends who are willing to give our organization a helping hand. We strongly urge the membership to give your business to these good folks. They have been a great ongoing support to us throughout the years.







# 2879 Upper Big Chute Road Coldwater, ON

As a recent new member of MoM, Dave would love to welcome you to his shop and allow you, a fellow member, a 20% discount on any of his services, mechanical or detailing.

Call or Text today to book your appointment 705-327-3523

Dave VanHuis serving Coldwater since 2021

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Visit our Website at

URL:http://www.miatasofmuskoka. com/

Or check us out on facebook: miatasofmuskoka



Our

Cover

Remember this! It might be a view we wont see for a while.



# Miatas of Muskoka 2023 Cruise Event Schedule

May 15, 2023 (Revised)

#### Mintas of Muskoka 2023 Cruisa Event Schedula

June 11 2023 (Final)

Cruise Event	Date(s)	<b>Event Type</b>	Cruise Director(s)
Spring Fling Cruise & Lunch Mom's Restaurant, Midland	Sat. May 6 <sup>th</sup>	Day-trip	Rick Beutler & Brian Atkinson
Niagara Falls Cruise	Tues-Thurs. May 23 <sup>rd</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	Overnite (2 nites)	Bob & Carol Macaulay
Edenvale Airport/Museum Cruise & Picnic (Hwy. 26, Springwater)	Friday June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Day-trip	Phil Holdsworth
Kawartha Lakes/Bobcaygeon Cruise & Lunch	Thurs. June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Day-trip	Rick & Shaun Fox
King's Wharf Theatre Cruise & Picnic Lunch & Dinner	Sat June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Day-trip	Doug & Sheila Jackson
Haliburton Picnic Cruise	Weds. July 5th	Day-trip	Rick Vender
Whitestone/Magnetawan Cruise & Lunch (or picnic lunch)	Weds. July 26th	Day-trip	Claude & Shelley Mikolainis
St Jacobs Cruise	WedsThurs Aug 9-10	Overnite (1 nite)	Garry & Patty Walker
Honda Alliston Plant Tour Cruise OR Picnic Cruise (destination TBD)	Late August (date & avail to be conf)		David Funn GANCELLE
Grey Cty./Waterfalls Cruise	Sept. 6-7	Overnite (1 nite)	Claude & Shelley Mikolainis
Kearney/Sand Lk. Area Cruise & Lunch	Late Sept. (date to	Day-trip	Mike & Cathy Fedorowic
(eastern Parry Sound Dist.)	be confirmed)		<b>✓</b>
Fall Colours Cruise & Lunch (joint with Ottawa Miata club - UMN)	Thurs. Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Day-trip	Michael Topping
<u>ICE CREAM RUNS</u> (ICRs)	Generally the middle of 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> weeks every month; one "regular" ICR and one "special" ICR each summer month. ICR days to vary (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday). Typically		
	alternate starting points between <b>Bracebridge</b> ( <i>Independent Grocer</i> ) and south Orillia ( <i>Rotary Place -</i> 100 University Ave),		

#### Dates for all ICRs will be as follows:

May – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> (Orillia)

June – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> (Orillia), & Wednesday 28<sup>st</sup> (Bracebridge)\*\*

July – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> (Orillia)\*\*, & Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> (Bracebridge)

August – Tuesday 15th (Severn Twp.)\*\* & Thursday 24th (Orillia)

September – Thursday 14th (Bracebridge) & Wednesday 27th (Orillia)\*\*

We also again propose that one of the above ICRs each summer month be "special" (which of the above dates are to be "special" ICRs is indicated by \*\* above.) Each of these includes a short cruise and a special activity, as noted below (plus ice cream, of course.)

at 6:30 PM May & September, and 6:45 PM in June, July & Aug.

First 2022 ICR (regular) to be Wednesday May 17th at 6:30 PM

(NOTE: "Special" ICRs may start from other locations.)

(cont'd)

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Hi Fellow Miatas of Muskoka Members! What a treat having an extended summer in our Miatas while we continue to have amazing weather in October!

Thanks for participating in the recent Survey that I sent, which resulted in choosing:

•<u>Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> afternoon</u> for Miatas of Muskoka End of Season Banquet in Orillia

Please save this date and watch for the upcoming details as I confirm which venue it is, etc.

Meanwhile, I hope that you enjoyed the recent Thanksgiving Weekend with you and your loved ones.

Cheers, Rick Beutler





After another great MoM cruising season, our annual End of Season Banquet is coming up soon ... when we get a chance to meet up and share highlights of this year, fun Miata stories, and wish each other well as the holiday season ramps up and snowbirds 'fly' south!

After visiting and considering different venues in the Orillia area, the one that checked all of our most requested items is (drum roll please) ... Tailwinds Bar & Grill Orillia! Many of us have fond memories of Tailwinds Bar & Grill from previous MoM events, and here is an opportunity to create more memorable moments together for both our new and long-term MoM members!

Here are the pertinent details below, including the select menu choices (attached to an email) for requisite pre-ordering purposes:

**WHO IS INVITED:** All Miatas of Muskoka members and their guest(s)

**DATE:** Sunday, November 5th, 2023

**TIME**: 1:00 pm to 3:45 pm with the following approximate times...

1:00 pm -- arrive and enjoy mingling with our fellow Miata members in the Pilot's Lounge (and order drinks if you wish)

1:45 -- our meals served from special events "the MENU" (**see attached in a seperate email**) which includes a "Miata Margarita" Vegetarian Pizza as Pizza of the Day, and 5 other most popular items

3:00 pm -- Dessert including Miatas of Muskoka slab cake

3:30 to 3:45 pm – Explore scenic outside waterfront property (weather permitting), farewells, and safe departures back home (please note that we need to exit Pilot's Lounge by 3:45 pm, for the next group event to set up after us)

**LOCATION:** Tailwinds Bar & Grill, 3449 Airport Rd, Orillia, ON L3V 6H6, at this link https://flyorillia.ca/tailwinds-bar-grill/ (please note that if COVID-19 restrictions are in place then masks may be required)

**MENU CHOICES**: a) Please view the attached menu and choose which item(s) you wish to enjoy. The corresponding prices to the left of the description are before tax and the 20% tip (since this is a large group event). Please also note that MoM will be continuing our practice of subsidizing (with a \$5 bill) the cost of tax and 20% tip (on food only) for all MoM member attendees. Beverages (including alcohol) are to be purchased individually as desired and are not included in the above fixed prices or the related MoM subsidy.

- b) Please complete the highlighted blanks below and send reply email to rickbeutler@hotmail.com letting me know who is attending, and how many of which items the chef needs to prepare. Accordingly, I need to hear back from everyone so I know every member has received the invitation.
- c) By Friday Oct 20th, please RSVP as either YES or NO by replying to this email at rickbeutler@hotmail.com, and if you are attending include the following highlighted information (since I need to advise the restaurant and Chef Steve in advance with final numbers and personal menu choices):

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# 'Great Family Memories': Kawartha Dairy turns 85 this year

ompany started by Jack and Ila Crowe in 1937 now

Reprinted from Orillia Matters company, still operated by the same family that started it back in the Ricardo Vigliano beginning," said Mike Crowe, director of product and capability development and third-generation family owner of the renowned Peterborough-area



Back then, he says, the newly renamed Kawartha Dairy didn't bear much resemblance to the larger stores you see today, like the one on Anne Street South in Barrie.

'At that time, it consisted of a small, simple, three-room building, where the cold storage area was cooled with ice cut from the lake," Crowe says.

It was a time when local farms provided the milk,

which was picked up in 80pound galvanized steel cans by wagons in the summer and by sleigh in the winter.

"In those days, all of the milk was delivered to homes by horse or to cottages by boat," he says.

In 1942, as the business continued to grow, Jack and Ila bought one of the other dairies operating in Bobcaygeon.

Kawartha didn't produce ice cream yet, which would change in the coming vears.

"A very significant moment was in the mid-'50s when Jack went back to school, at the Ontario College of

operates 10 stores, including one in Orillia.

Tack and Ila Crowe, founders of Kawartha Dairy, would be proud to see how their ice cream parlour became such a loved brand, said third-generation owner Mike Crowe. Image supplied

It was 1937 when Jack and Ila Crowe bought a small dairy in Bobcaygeon and planted the seed that blossomed into one of the most beloved familyrun ice cream parlours in the province.

"Kawartha Dairy has been proud to be a 100 per cent Canadian-owned



Agriculture in Guelph, to learn the craft of making ice cream," Crowe says.

The first ice cream store was opened in the 1960s in Minden, and in 2000 the company opened its

fifth location, in Uxbridge, to cater to people closer to the Greater Toronto Area.

Today, Kawartha Dairy operates 10 stores, including one in Orillia, and services a wide range of wholesale customers, from retail outlets to grocery stores and ice cream parlours.

When asked what makes Kawartha Dairy ice cream so popular, Crowe points to the freshness of its ingredients.

"Kawartha Dairy ice cream is unique because it is made with fresh milk and cream from local

farms within 100 kilometres of the plant, and then made into ice cream and packaged within 36 hours," he says.

After all these years, Crowe wonders what would surprise the first-generation entrepreneurs.

"I think our grandparents would be proud of the fact that Kawartha Dairy has become such a loved brand and continues to be part of many great family memories," he says.

As for Crowe himself, he says he's excited to see the many happy customers who have chosen to include Kawartha Dairy in some of their significant occasions.

"We hope to continue to help families make great memories and put smiles on our customers faces," he says.



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# Chez Macaulay Tuesday, July 11, 2023

It's always advantageous to have a Plan A and a Plan B when organizing an outdoor event. Well, we had to implement a Plan C this time! Let me explain. Here's my email to Doug:

Yesterday's plan for a short cruise followed by bocce



and then a potluck supper had to be substantially changed courtesy of Mother Nature. As of shortly after lunch, we were suddenly under a "Severe Thunderstorm Watch", so we decided that we had better change plans by cancelling the cruise (and likely the

bocce tournament), and instead, we asked everyone to simply come directly to our place at 4:30 for a likely indoor-only potluck supper and ice cream.

As it turned out, that was a wise decision...at the very time (3:00 PM) when we would have been meeting 12 cars for the planned cruise, we were in the middle of a major downpour and thunderstorm, followed by intermittent downpours and thunder most of the rest of the afternoon.



So, the event was entirely indoors, for 26 people...a bit of a challenge, but we managed to provide enough seating for everyone at various tables, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves regardless of the crummy weather. The range of potluck food choices was awesome, and I'm sure nobody went home hungry. For



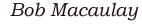
dessert, we provided 3 choices of Kawartha Dairy ice cream, and that also was well-received. All-in-all, it was a fun (and filling!) MoM social occasion.

It's great that our club members can be flexible and can adapt to change, even if it is at the last moment!











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### August 9-10, 2023

#### by Patty and Gary Walker, Cruise Directors

Seven little vehicles met in Thornton to embark on a leisurely drive to St. Jacobs for an overnight cruise under a sunny sky. Giggs were sweeping the lot of us. Thank you, Ed and Judy.

The comfort stop along the way was the usual park porta potty cleansed with Lysol wipes by the female travel leader aka Patty (Patty of Porta Potty fame). Ladies were to use the facility first as instructed.

Next stop was lunch at Boston Pizza in Waterloo, not far from our hotel in St. Jacobs. Some of us shopped on Main Street and we all checked in to the Holiday Inn Express and later met up for dinner at Jack's Restaurant, right next door to the hotel.

After breakfast in the hotel, our band of travelers split up to go to The Market right next door. We were on our own for lunch and there certainly wasn't any difficulty to find lots to eat there, especially the famous apple fritters. Yum!

It must be noted that the most determined shoppers had to be Susan and her sister as we can all see from the pictures of her car trunk and even the passenger seat. You gals deserve an award.

Heading home in the afternoon, our bio break was at yet another porta-potty stop on Hwy. #89. Again, those Lysol disinfecting wipes came in handy and both potties were made clean by the female

leader, Patty of Porta Potty fame.

Susan Wellman made an award at the corn roast for the cleaning effort and Susan and her sister should receive a similar award for their shopping prowess. Well done ladies!

Ice cream as usual to end a cruise was Kawartha Dairy in Thornton. A good time was had by all!











# Wednesday, July 26, 2023

#### By CD's Claude and Shelley Mikolainis

July 27 turned out to be a beautiful sunny day for a MoM cruise.

It was a lovely drive through many winding "made for Miata" roads of Parry Sound/ Muskoka districts. We had 10 cars and 18 attendees. We started in Bracebridge, travelled through Rosseau, Parry Sound, Whitestone, Magnetewan, Burks Falls, Minett, and Port Carling.

After the preliminary drive the previous week a detour was required out of Magnetawan due to the current construction on highway 520. The detour took the group northeast to Sundridge and then south to Burk's Falls.

Lunch at the Magnetawan Grill and Grocery

was well received by all. Plenty of space for our group, great food and service.

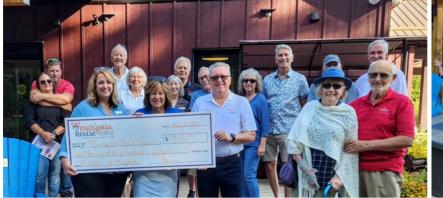
At Port Carling the group decided to forego the ice cream stop in Bracebridge as it was getting onto to 5 pm. We voted and only 2 wanted ice cream (sorry Patty and Maura).

Many thanks to our Group 2 lead Rick Vendor and both sweeps Rick and Shaun, Michael and Cathy.

#### Editor's Note:

This cruise was designated as the 2023 MoM charity cruise. It was decided at the AGM in April that all charitable contributions would be donated to *Mariposa House Hospice* (MHH) in Orillia. A minimum donation of \$25 per car, with additional funds through the club treasurer, made this cruise a very worthwhile fundraiser for this valuable community asset. An additional cruise, as part of an ICR, saw a number of Miatas congregate for a special cheque presentation. Thanks to all who drove on the cruise and to those who were unable to participate but supported via donation for their generosity as we raised a total of \$1,350.00.







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# Held at Susan and Gary Wellman's

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

#### Editor's Note:

Normally, ice cream runs don't necessitate a write-up for inclusion in the newsletter; often just a photo or two is all that is taken as a reminder of the event and the destination. This special ICR was particularly memorable because our club members congregated at the spacious property owned by the Wellman's, just north of Orillia, where Susan's rather unusual animals are kept. Alpacas, tiny horses and a llama are all sights we never see on an ordinary Miata cruise. We are all grateful to Susan and Gary for opening up their scenic property for our annual corn roast and for challenging us with some new games! Susan wrote a brief summary which is printed below.

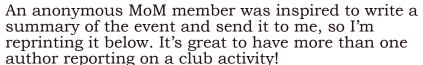








Great turnout! Weather was nice. 6 dozen corn eaten plus lots of salad and appetizers. Meet and great with some alpacas and Wally the llama. Axe throwing competition for all. Women's champ Cathy Gilbert. Men's champ Sandy.





#### ANNUAL MIATA CLUB CORN ROAST

The day had finally arrived and with much anticipation for the corn roast. Susan and Gary Wellman, two of our newest members had generously offered to host this popular event at their country home. A short cruise on scenic country roads not far from their home preceded the event.





A surprise would be waiting for us all after the cruise. Upon arrival at the Wellman's, we were greeted by Susan and her daughter who welcomed us with their Llama and Alpaca. How rare a sighting and how exciting it was to have the opportunity to see them up close. Susan had several other llamas, alpacas and mini horses for us to see. They were all so beautiful and a really nice experience.

The excitement didn't stop there as an axe throwing tournament using plastic axes was about to begin.







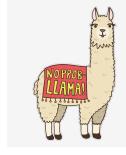
Many of our members had never tried this activity before, but it was such great fun.

The day finished with Gary roasting corn over the open firepit and Susan setting out a great selection of summertime favorite salads, appetizers, desserts and ice cream. It couldn't have been better.

Thank you, Susan and Gary!











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# Monday, August 21, 2023

#### by CD David Funnell

This was my first cruise as leader, and I need to thank Bob Macauley for working

with me on the route. I started with a route from my brother's Porsche club and Bob helped me modify it to suit our club. Road construction also dictated some changes. Lack of navigation skills almost drove more changes, but we recovered.





It was the first cruise ever for my friend Peter who acted as navigator. Perhaps I should have had Peter drive and navigated

myself, but of course I like driving my Miata. As it turns out, Peter and I were not as seamless about navigating as I like to think my wife Mae and I are. I apologize for a couple of wrong turns. Peter and I were enjoying the scenery and yakking along...oh are we supposed to turn now?

Participants included Bob and Carol, Rick and Brian as sweep (thank you), Mike and Catherine, Gord, and Phil. There was some 'part of route' participation.



We started at
Tudhope Park
and then drove
to Gull Lake
Park in
Gravenhurst.
We went to
Gravenhurst via
Rama Road to

Washago, and then part of Southwood Road. From Gull Lake Park we pressed on to Rosseau Waterfront Park where we had a picnic lunch. The butter tarts I packed for lunch were the envy of some. The weather was wonderful for being in parks by lakes.

From Lake Rosseau we headed south to Bala, and then took Muskoka District Road

38 to highway 400. 38 is a nice road to drive, with the advantage of extremely



good gas prices at Gibson's of Muskoka. Sadly, the tour director did not have the foresight to schedule a stop there. Maybe next year. Note that Gibson's sells ethanol free premium, which is potentially beneficial for winter storage.

There was a brief highway slog on Hwy 400 and then we wound our way to the Big Chute Marine Railway. The marine railway at Big Chute is amazing to watch. Equally (more?) important, we were able to buy ice cream at the marina.

From Big Chute, we took Upper Big Chute Road to Coldwater, where our navigations skills led to dispersal to our respective homes. The intent had been to end at Tudhope Park again, but everyone made it home.

# Kearney and Sand Lake Cruise

# September 20, 2023

What a wonderful day we all had! The day started off a little chilly but with lots of sunshine. Twenty-three members arrived at our start place in Bracebridge with smiles and eagerness for the day. We traveled backroads west of Hwy. 11, well off the beaten path, then north on many twisty roads. Roads where only birds seemingly live.

Our lunch stop was at Edgewater Park Resort on Sand Lake in Kearney. Their

dining room is lovely, the grounds and setting beautiful and relaxing.

The afternoon had us heading southeast traveling alongside Hwy. 11, then through downtown Huntsville. From there we took country roads to the picturesque village of Port Sydney.

David's Ğeneral Store in the village was our choice for ending the cruise. Here we enjoyed having our traditional ice cream treats. We chatted and laughed about the day, happy for the cruise and each other.

Our thanks to Bob Macaulay for his excellence in planning another great route. Thanks also to our other lead Bob and Carol and sweeps Rick, Judy and Ed.











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# September 6 and 7, 2023

#### Cruise Directors: Claude and Shelley Mikolainis

#### Editor's Note:

They say "a picture is worth a thousand words" ... well ... here a few thousand "words" about the summertime trip to western Ontario. The cruise directors left for a trip to Portugal (lucky people!) and to this point, have not been able to forward a write-up. Enjoy the photos

taken by some of the participants!























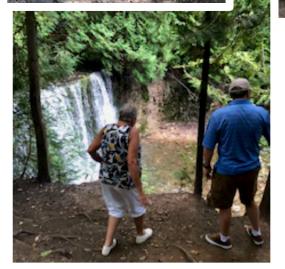




Inglis Falls Millpond

McCowan Falls

Inglis Falls







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# Wednesday, September 27, 2023

#### by CD's Ed and Judy Gigg

There was an enthusiastic albeit minimal turnout for the season's final ICR.....must be vacation time!!

Two teams of 5 participants each, played in an hour-long 5 pin bowling 'tournament' at Orillia Bowl. Although closely matched with Mike Fedorowich being 'the pro' on one team and Ed Gigg, the ringer on the other, our score keeper, Cathy Fedorowich, reported the final tally was a VERY close result! \* It's not whether you win or lose but HOW you play the game that counts\*

The cheering section was almost as large as the bowling section!

A special shout-out to Susan Wellman who, despite being a 'one-armed bandit', pulled her team to victory!

A cautionary note: Our MOM bowlers should NOT feel they qualify for any Master's level bowling.... practice and perhaps lessons would be highly recommended!

After we completed bowling, we meandered through Oro-Medonte and Springwater townships until we reached Jug City in Wyevale for our creamy soft twisty ice cream. While enjoying our ice cream outside, we celebrated Gord Bauldry's birthday.

YES, this was NOT Kawartha Dairy. But we do have some very serious converts other than the Gigg's - Terry Day is such a fan that, in fact, he took over as lead car when Judy & Ed got LOST on their 'mystery' tour!

Great Fun! Thanks Terry!















# Fall Colours Cruise, Thurs. Oct. 5, 2023

# by Michael Topping, Cruise Director

This year's annual Fall Colours Cruise was spiced up with visiting "renegades" from Ottawa as the Underground Miata Network blessed us with joining our tour. This resulted in 29 cars/54 attendees who embarked on this journey.



This year's run appeared to have hit the sweet spot as the weather had been nice and warm/sunny leading up to the event but was only slightly overcast meaning no sunburns on this day! The afternoon rain forecast was also incorrect, so it was tops down for the entire trip.

The group was in high spirits as they gathered in the morning at the Gravenhurst Gull Lake parking lot. After the staging of nearly thirty cars, and a small meet & greet session, we

set out winding our way through the local backroads, taking in the colours (and there where lots to take in) enroute to the pit stop in Rosseau.

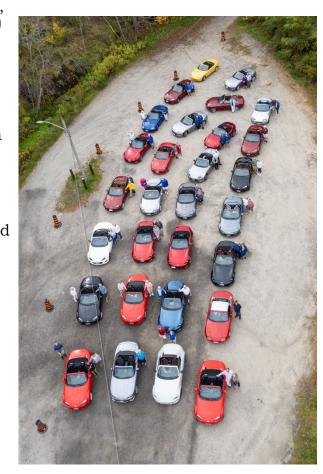
The four groups arrived at different times at our pitstop as Google Maps has a way of messin' with you.

A former Member showed up with his drone to take a couple groups shots for a very different perspective.

The second leg of the cruise continued through more Muskoka countryside (and more colour too) before stopping at the Memories of Muskoka for lunch. We were cozily seated inside, and the groups intermingled and got to know each other better, making future friends, I'm sure.

After lunch, the group meandered via the "long" way back towards Gravenhurst, and stopped for a very pleasant visit to the Marriot Rosseau Resort, where David Waugh, from the UMN, lined us up for a giant group photo. We continued our journey back to Gravenhurst, this time gathering at the Muskoka Wharf for the traditional MoM ice cream treat before dispersing.

Both groups are looking forward to getting together again next year in Ottawa.



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Fall Colours Cruise



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