

# CAA

MAGAZINE

- Wildlife Rehab Heroes
- Your Towing Questions Answered
- Road Tripping Done Right

SUMMER 2024

## SWEET, SWEET SUMMER

SAVOUR THE SEASON OF FUN AND ADVENTURE



# SMOKE SIGNALS

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...Progressive jackpot starts at \$1,000,000



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PHOTOGRAPHS: (THIS PAGE) STEPHANIE FODEN, (COVER) SASKATCHEWAN WANDERER TOURS



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# On Your Mark, Get Set—Go Explore Summer with CAA!

HELLO, VALUED CAA Members, clients and customers.

It's that time of year when we prepare and plan for summer vacations and staycations.

Many families think about what to pack for their summer journeys. Whatever your luggage or backpack contains, make sure you have your CAA Membership Card with you—and take it wherever you need to go. And here's a bit of advice—best to renew your CAA Membership before you head out.

There are so many Membership benefits to enjoy for your home, car, travel, pet insurance, air travel planning and bookings, car rentals, hotel accommodations, passport and visa information, foreign currency, theme parks, cruises, attraction and entertainment tickets—and let's not forget the hundreds of CAA Rewards® Partners offering great discounts and savings.

We just reopened the CAA Battery Depot in Regina, which has a super selection of batteries for automobiles, motorcycles, ATVs and marine craft, as well as commercial and specialty batteries. Did you know that WestWorld Tours is owned and operated by CAA Saskatchewan and that it will be celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2025? Why not contact one of our experienced Travel Consultants for more information and book a tour to that anywhere-in-the-world destination you've always dreamed of? And did I mention the exceptional CAA Roadside Assistance available to Members 365 days a year, 24/7? As always, you can count on

CAA for sound safety advice on driving, cycling, air passenger rights, consumer education, the CAA School Safety Patrol and school zone safety, and much more.

Thanks to CAA, we've got you covered in many ways to help keep you and your loved ones safe. I've met many of the professional and courteous staff working at the 11 CAA Stores in nine communities in our province, and I know they are ready, willing and able to help with whatever you need to enhance your lifestyle and make it stress-free and enjoyable.

And now with the \$10 CAA Value Membership, you can enjoy all the CAA perks, discounts and benefits without paying for roadside protection. This membership plan is perfect for those who don't own a vehicle and who are bike and bus commuters, rely on their vehicle manufacturer's warranty—and love to save money.

To our CAA Members, thank you for your membership and being part of the CAA Saskatchewan family. To clients and customers, consider becoming a CAA Member. We have a range of membership plans—you can pick the one that fits your lifestyle.

Please feel free to reach out to us at [notify@caask.ca](mailto:notify@caask.ca) with any questions, comments or suggestions on how we can better serve you.

Stay safe and take care. CAA



Richard G. Ahenakew  
Chair  
CAA Saskatchewan Board of Directors

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NORTHWEST  
TERRITORIES**

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TO THE WORLD'S  
BEST AURORA.**

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AURORA VILLAGE GAWAIN JONES / NWTT



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#spectacularnwt

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PHOTOGRAPH: ADAM GONZALES/UNSPASH

**Member Letters**

**EXEMPLARY EMPLOYEES**

I was extremely pleased with the service I received from Jennifer Gartner at the CAA Regina East Store. She was knowledgeable, professional and provided me with a quick and efficient air ticketing experience.  
—Bert Y.

Thank you, Donna Watts from the CAA Regina North Store, for your expertise and quick responses. You are amazing!  
—Julie M.

We thoroughly appreciate the help we received from James Gorman with organizing our travel insurance. It's always a pleasure to work with him. He's quick to reply to our many questions and he goes the extra mile to obtain accurate information if it's not already at his fingertips. James, your professionalism gives us a great deal of comfort. Thanks again for all your assistance.  
—Cynthia Y. and Randall W.

I've just returned from a trip that I booked with CAA Travel Consultant Sydney Zaharychuk and it was fabulous! The hotels she booked for us were great—wonderful locations, great breakfasts and the rooms were good. The excursions were amazing! I will certainly be in touch when I decide where my next journey will take me.  
—Karen L.

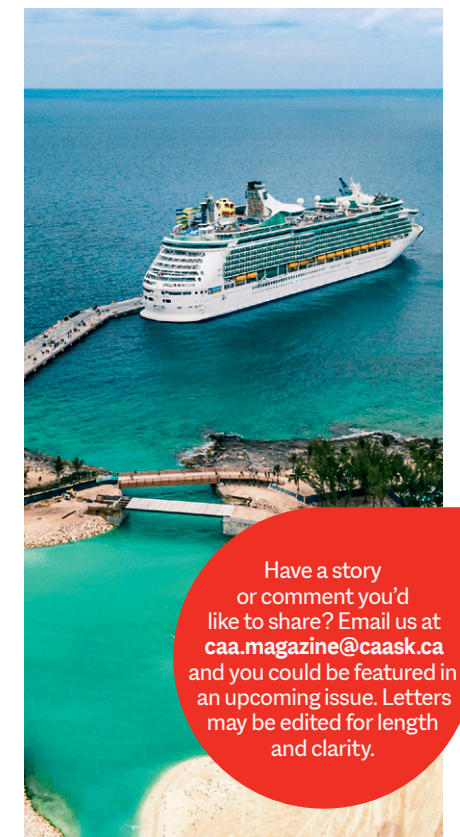
Thank you, Erica Boyle from the CAA Regina North Store! You were a blessing to me today. Oftentimes, people help us and we say, "Thanks," but for what you've done, a simple thanks is inadequate. Thank you for helping and caring. You've made a real difference.  
—Maxine

**GREAT SERVICE IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY**

Thank you, CAA Saskatchewan, for your excellent service in response to my inquiry about my change from the Premier to the Basic plan. I really appreciated the polite conversation during my call.  
—Lionel D.

**THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES**

Thank you, Candace Glenney, for your guidance in booking our trip and tipping the cruise staff off about our 25th wedding anniversary. We had an amazing time! The food was fantastic, the staff were accommodating and the entertainment was enjoyable. Most of our excursions were good and the scenery was exceptional. We made a lot of memories!  
—Linda and Darrel N.



Have a story or comment you'd like to share? Email us at [caa.magazine@caask.ca](mailto:caa.magazine@caask.ca) and you could be featured in an upcoming issue. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.



## COLLECT, PROTECT AND DROP OFF YOUR USED BATTERIES.

Used batteries contain toxic materials that can cause ecological harm if they end up in landfill, so they should never be thrown out. The Recycle Your Batteries, Canada! program makes it easy to recycle instead.

Just collect them in a non-metal container, protect the terminals with electrical tape, and drop them off at one of our 10,000 convenient drop-off locations. You can find them at major retailers and municipal depots.

Learn more at [RecycleYourBatteries.ca](https://RecycleYourBatteries.ca)



# RADAR

Mac the Moose, in Moose Jaw, by Saskatoon artist Don Foulds, lays claim to being the world's largest moose sculpture.

## Pit-Stop Pleasures

By Claudia Laroye

**THE ICONIC** Trans-Canada Highway (TCH) is one of the world's great roads. With fantastic eats and attractions—some less famous than others—across the country, don't miss pulling over for these 14 top stops.

### ATLANTIC CANADA

- St. John's in N.L. hosts one of the Mile 0 markers of the Trans-Canada Highway (the other is in Victoria, B.C.). It's also where you'll find a monument to Terry Fox's 1980 Marathon of Hope.
- Stretch your legs in Hartland, New Brunswick, home to the world's longest covered wooden bridge.

### ONTARIO

- In Mattawa, spot the towering wooden statue of Big Joe Mufferaw, one of several oversized effigies in the Ottawa Valley.
- West of Sudbury, stop at Serpent River Park to stretch, spy Kennebec Falls and stock up on snacks at the Trading Post.
- Savour Thunder Bay's Finnish heritage with pancakes at Kangas Sauna and

“  
With  
fantastic  
eats and  
attractions—  
some less  
famous  
than others—  
across the  
country,  
don't miss  
pulling over  
for these 14  
top stops

enjoy ice cream at local institution Merla Mae Drive-In, scooping since 1951.

### MANITOBA

- East of Winnipeg, pause in Richer for lunch and a round of mini golf at Geppetto's.
- Explore the region's agricultural past at Pete's Center Canada Heritage, a free open-air farm machinery museum.
- Near Saint François Xavier, view the White Horse Monument commemorating an Indigenous legend.

### SASKATCHEWAN

- Snap selfies with the 10-metre-high steel-and-concrete Mac the Moose sculpture on the grounds of Moose Jaw's visitors' centre.
- Stretch your legs with a stroll past the murals of rural Whitewood; the Market Day mural depicts 1895 town life.
- Visit the miniature Grain Elevators in Grenfell, then observe the life-size version at Paterson Grain Elevator.

### ALBERTA

- Stop at the Saamis Tepee and Saamis Archaeological Site in Medicine Hat. Below the Indigenous interpretive centre is one of the most important archaeological sites of the Northern Plains.
- Enjoy coffee and a bagel at Rocky Mountain Bagel Company in Canmore.
- Admire the breathtaking view of the Bow Valley and Mount Rundle at Vermillion Lakes in Banff National Park.

PHOTOGRAPH: JOHNNY W3/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



Use your membership to get a discount on the Parks Canada Discovery Pass. A CAA Travel Consultant expert can help you plan your trip. Visit [caask.ca/travel](https://caask.ca/travel) to learn more.

THE LOCALER  
**Anne Chase**

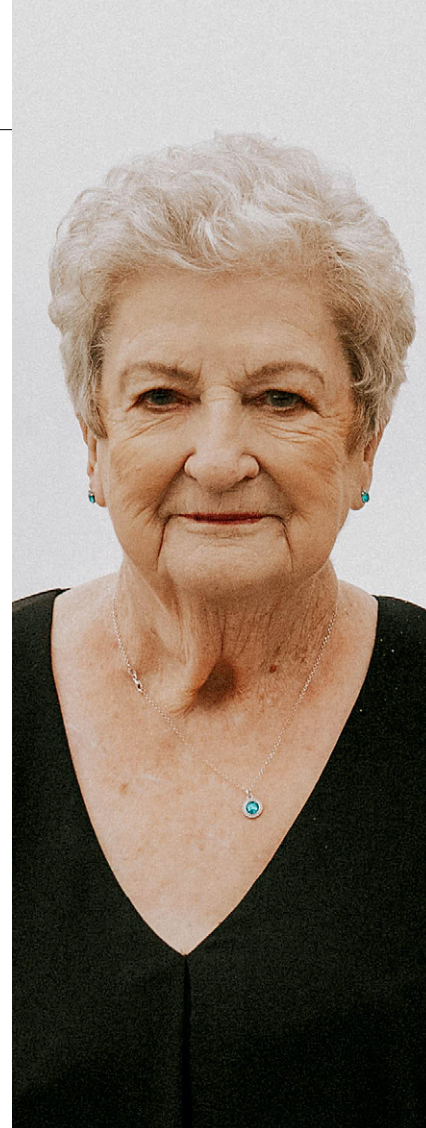
WHETHER COACHING RINGETTE, delivering Meals on Wheels or canvassing for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, volunteering was always a big part of Anne Chase's life. But after being successfully treated for ovarian cancer more than two decades ago, Chase shifted the focus of her volunteer work, becoming one of Saskatchewan's leading advocates for women's health.

"I was very fortunate with my own experience. I had surgery relatively quickly and didn't require any further treatment," Chase says. "As I learned more about the disease and supported other women through their journeys, I learned that women in Saskatchewan didn't have the same access to specialists and treatments as women elsewhere in Canada and the world. Fortunately, some of that has now changed."

Chase has spent the past 26 years advocating for better treatment options and improved support for Saskatchewan women diagnosed with ovarian cancer. Along the way, she founded the Saskatchewan Ovarian Cancer Survivors (SOCS) support group and helped bring the Ovarian Cancer Canada Walk of Hope, held annually in September, to Regina. She successfully lobbied the provincial government for \$1 million in funding in 2020 and became the first representative from Saskatchewan on Ovarian Cancer Canada's national board of directors. And Chase has been instrumental in improving the standards of care for women in her home province. "Saskatchewan went from having no specialists to hiring six gynecologists and moving the gynecologic oncology program under the purview of the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency," she reports. "The Premier [of Saskatchewan] acknowledged my dedication and advocacy in bringing about these important changes."

When not lobbying the government and attending conferences around the world, Chase remains dedicated to helping individual women who are undergoing treatment, whether that means accompanying them to medical appointments or providing support over the phone. "Being diagnosed with cancer is a devastating blow," she says. "It's important to know you're not alone."

— *Jeremy Freed*



Through activism and advocacy, Anne Chase is creating better outcomes for women diagnosed with ovarian cancer.



**Nominate a Localer.** We'd love to hear about people doing great things in your community. Send ideas to [caa.magazine@caask.ca](mailto:caa.magazine@caask.ca) and they could be featured in an upcoming issue.



THE ONE

**Tilley LTM5 Airflo Hat**

Sport this versatile outdoor hat, which is rated UPF 50+ and has a lifetime guarantee. It features Tilley's signature mesh ventilation panels, a slim brim and water-repellant fabric that ensures it has the buoyancy of a bobber. Wear it out on the lake, or wherever your summer adventures take you.



**Hats on, hats off.** Visit your local CAA Store to shop Tilley's wide variety of men's, women's and children's hats.



PHOTOGRAPHS: (FROM TOP) COURTESY OF JORDAN DUMBA PHOTOGRAPHY; COURTESY OF TILLEY



Cruisers and street rods and rat rods, oh my! Classic car shows are the perfect place to talk shop and see rare vehicles up close.

**Memories for Miles**

Gear up for classic car shows across the continent | *By Lisa Mesbur*

CLASSIC CAR FANS, start your engines—there's no shortage of shows to hit this summer.

**ATLANTIC NATIONALS**

—MONCTON, N.B. July 3-7

The biggest classic car show in Atlantic Canada, this auto extravaganza attracts enthusiasts with 2,000 classic cars, cruises, street parties, shows and contests.

[atlanticnationals.com](http://atlanticnationals.com)

**GRANBY INTERNATIONAL/VOITURE ANCIENNES DE GRANBY**

—GRANBY, QUE. July 26-28

Granby is sometimes called the classic car capital, and the 30,000+ attendees at this annual festival in the Eastern Townships know why. Nearly 3,000 pre-war, 1940-1992 models, hot rods and mods are on display.

[vadg.ca](http://vadg.ca)

**BURLINGTON CAR SHOW**

—BURLINGTON, ONT. July 6

This family-friendly event and fundraiser features vehicles from all decades—think muscle cars, cruisers and European sports cars—and takes place on a walkable stretch of Brant Street in downtown Burlington.

[burlingtoncarshow.ca](http://burlingtoncarshow.ca)

**HERITAGE CLASSIC CAR SHOW**

—STEINBACH, MAN. July 20

Roll into Steinbach's Mennonite Heritage Village for a full day of classic car love. Stroll through 16+ hectares of vehicles on display and grab your earplugs for the annual muffler rapping contest.

[heritageclassiccarshow.com](http://heritageclassiccarshow.com)

**BENT WRENCH RUN**

—MOOSEJAW, SASK. June 16

Brought to you by the classic car buffs at Those Guys Car Club, this annual show and shine in Wakamow Valley just may be the perfect Father's Day activity. Keep your eyes peeled for rare antique and vintage rides, from Model Ts to tricked-out rat rods.

[facebook.com/groups/BentWrenchRun](https://facebook.com/groups/BentWrenchRun)

**STREET MACHINE WEEKEND**

—LETHBRIDGE, ALTA. July 13-14

Wide-open spaces just beg for a revving engine and this annual event doesn't disappoint. The largest show of its kind in southern Alberta includes adrenaline-pumping drag races, a show and shine, and a classic car cruise.

[streetwheelers.com](http://streetwheelers.com)

**SOUTH OF THE BORDER:**

**IOLA CAR SHOW AND SWAP MEET**

—IOLA, WIS. July 11-13

With more than 134,000 annual attendees and 2,500 classic vehicles from all eras on display, it's no surprise that this massive festival has been thrilling car fans for more than 50 years.

[iolaoldcarshow.com](http://iolaoldcarshow.com)

**WOODWARD DREAM CRUISE**

—DETROIT, MICH. August 17

The granddaddy of car cruises takes over Detroit and nine surrounding communities, turning 16 miles of historic Woodward Avenue into a parade of 40,000 street rods, muscle cars and collector and special-interest vehicles.

[woodwarddreamcruise.com](http://woodwarddreamcruise.com)

**PEBBLE BEACH CONCOURS**

**D'ELEGANCE—PEBBLE BEACH, CALIF.**

July 11-13

Since 1950, the flagship event of Pebble Beach Automotive Week has folks going to the 18th fairway of Pebble Beach Golf Links. Come for the historic automobiles; stay for the latest concept-car debuts.

[pebblebeachconcours.net](http://pebblebeachconcours.net)



PLAYLIST

## What Songs Do You Road-Trip to, Rooky?

Following the release of his album *Iridescent* early this year, Nigerian-born, Regina-based Rooky plans to head out on tour across Western Canada this summer and fall. His music—and the music he loves to listen to—is all about rhythm. “My playlist features a mix of various sounds from the prairies of Saskatchewan to the soundscapes of Lagos and beyond. These days, I have been paying attention to the various rhythms of the sounds coming from Africa and the diaspora communities across the globe. Other days, it’s a chaotic mix and a blend of genres.”

**Gas Me Up (Diligent)**  
Skeptak

⏮ ⏪ ⏸ ⏩ ⏭

- Vibe Out** : Tems
- IDK** : Wizkid ft. Zlatan
- Canadian Burger** : Rooky Kamiz
- Wonder** : TOVA
- Hallucinate** : ADEOLUWA
- Forgive Me** : MeenahMo
- Symfonia** : Ariel
- Tinko Tinko (Don't Play Me for a Fool)** : Obongjayar
- JiuJitsu** : Merv xx Gotti

*Songs may not be appropriate for everyone. Listener discretion is advised.*



Take a hike, off Highway 40, to view a local botanical anomaly of misshapen aspens.

THE END OF THE ROAD

## The Crooked Bush

Make a pit stop on your next road trip, at this botanical mystery located off Highway 40, near the village of Alticane—a cluster of eerie aspen trees with mysteriously gnarled branches that coil and turn towards the earth. Walk the twisted grove’s creaky, cracked—yet pedestrian-safe—boardwalk, if you dare.



Since 1973, the Games have attracted athletes from across the province.

HOT SPOT

## Saskatchewan Summer Games

From July 21 to 27, watch as today’s kids become tomorrow’s elite athletes at the Saskatchewan Summer Games—a biennial sport, culture and community event ([saskgames.ca](http://saskgames.ca)). The town of Lloydminster is set to host more than 1,800 participants for a week of multi-sport competition, from track and beach volleyball to wheelchair basketball. Next stop for many of these young athletes? The Canada Games and North American Indigenous Games.

PHOTOGRAPHS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): COURTESY OF CAPTURED BEYOND TODAY; JASON YODER/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO; COURTESY OF SASKATCHEWAN GAMES COUNCIL

PHOTOGRAPHS (FROM LEFT): EMERSON PETERS/UNSPASH; XUAN NGUYEN/UNSPASH



Check out that doggone breeze. Is your pet ready for the road?

## Pet Onboard

Keep your furry friend safe on road trips

**GOING ON FUN ROAD TRIPS** with the whole family takes planning—even more so if you’re bringing your furry friend along. Here are five tips to make sure your dog or cat enjoys their summer vacation as much as you do.

**START TRAINING EARLY.** If your pet isn’t accustomed to car travel, start with short drives to help them get used to the motion and sounds. Familiarize your pet with the carrier before the trip by leaving it open in your home and placing treats or toys inside.

**PLAN A PET-FRIENDLY ROUTE.** As you map out your trip, find rest areas, parks, and accommodations that welcome pets, and plan for regular breaks to allow your dog to stretch their legs and relieve themselves. Aim for a break every two to three hours—much the same timing for drivers on long trips.

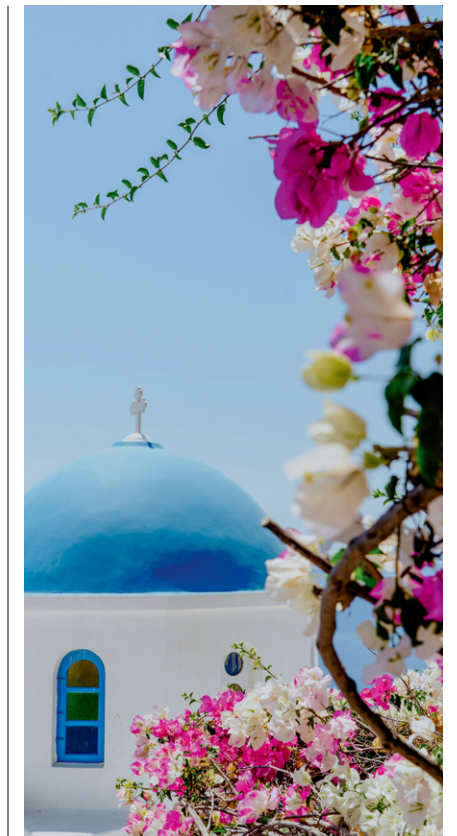
**UPDATE THEIR TAGS.** Ensure that your pet has a collar and proper identification tags with up-to-date contact information in case they get away from you.

**INVEST IN A GOOD SAFETY SYSTEM.** Use a proper restraint system—like a dog seat belt, car harness or travel crate—to keep your pet secure while driving. If you’re using a travel crate, bring familiar items from home, such as a favourite toy or the dog’s bedding, to provide a sense of comfort.

**GET A LITTLE EXTRA INSURANCE.** Just like us, pets can face unexpected bumps along the road, from minor accidents to sudden illnesses. Best to be prepared for the unexpected.

Pet insurance can be your safety net, offering financial reimbursement for eligible vet bills and medical expenses. CAA Members receive a preferred rate of 12% off for coverage through Pets Plus Us pet insurance plans, so you can travel worry-free knowing your pet is protected and can see any vet in Canada and the U.S. Plus, you have holiday-trip cancellation coverage if your pet has a medical emergency.

Visit [caask.ca/insurance/pet-insurance](http://caask.ca/insurance/pet-insurance) to learn more.



*Mamma Mia*, here I go again. My, my, how can I resist you?

## It’s Showtime

...coming soon to a theatre near you

**FROM ANTICIPATING** the rise of the curtain to the ring of the applause, there’s nothing like the buzz of live theatre. And wherever you find yourself, 2024 is a bumper year for taking in a show. Here is one upcoming performance you just can’t miss.

**MAMMA MIA**  
July 17-21  
**Regina Performing Arts Centre in Regina**  
Whether it’s the first time you’re seeing *Mamma Mia* or your 40th, this joyful romp through ABBA’s greatest hits is a guaranteed good time—even with the tenuous plot about a woman who’s getting married and decides to celebrate by inviting to the ceremony the three men who might be her father. Catch you grooving in the aisles, Dancing Queen!

# LET YOUR PASSION DEFINE YOUR LEGACY



Your passion for Canada's natural spaces defines your life; now it can define your legacy. With a gift in your Will to the Nature Conservancy of Canada, no matter the size, you can help protect our most vulnerable habitats and the wildlife that live there. For today, for tomorrow and for generations to come.

**Order your Free Legacy Information Booklet today!**

**Call Jackie at 1-877-231-3552 x2275 or visit [DefineYourLegacy.ca](https://www.natureconservancy.ca/defineyourlegacy)**



## Pack It Up

Get road-trip ready with smart packing strategies

By Gillian Berner

**THE TOUGHEST PART** of a road-trip adventure? Packing. The key to an amazing road trip is sticking to the essentials and getting creative with how you maximize your vehicle space.

**THINK LIKE A MINIMALIST** Although it's tempting to bring everything you can think of, less is more on a road trip. Focus on the necessities and resist the urge to overpack. Not only does this ensure less crowding and more legroom, it minimizes the frustration of digging through too much stuff.

Start by prioritizing safety and helpful tech—emergency and first aid kits, a battery jump starter and jumper cables, a car phone charger with extra USB ports and cables, your CAA Membership Card and warm blankets (which can double as picnic blankets at scenic stops). A power inverter can also come in handy to charge bigger devices that require outlets. (Before you start packing, don't forget to check that all seat belts are in good working order and car and booster seats are correctly installed.)

And because not all rest stops are created equal, it pays to bring body wipes and extra toilet paper, along with garbage bags to corral trash and dirty laundry. And don't overlook hydration. Large, insulated water bottles are crucial, especially in the warm summer months, as are insulated travel mugs for coffee on the go.



**The key to an amazing road trip is sticking to the essentials and getting creative with how you maximize your vehicle space**

**CREATURE COMFORTS** Still have plenty of room left? Consider some nice-to-haves to sweeten the trip. Travel pillows can make the journey more comfortable, as will noise-cancelling headphones. Day bags are a smart idea if you plan to stop for hikes or beach breaks along the way, and a



small soft-cover cooler ensures refreshing drinks on hot days.

Minimize fast-food stops and ward off “hangry” moods with sweet, salty and healthy snacks for every craving. And once you tire of podcasts and karaoke, you'll be glad you brought space-savvy entertainment, such as a deck of cards, online trivia or conversation-starter card games. Travelling with kids? Provide them with colouring books and games, and download the [CAA Family Safety Booklet](#).

**GET ORGANIZED** A well-packed car requires systems. Organize the trunk and back seats to keep emergency and “just-in-case” items tucked away, while making your everyday supplies (toiletries, water, snacks, chargers) easy to access. It helps to group similar items together in packing cubes or a car trunk organizer, so you don't have to unpack everything to find what you're looking for. Consider using compression cubes for clothing and pack them in duffel bags rather than hard-shell suitcases that take up more space. If your vehicle is on the smaller side, go with reasonably priced waterproof rooftop cargo carriers for extra storage. **CAA**



**Safe driving advice** is always available at [caask.ca/safety](https://caask.ca/safety). Visit [caask.ca/travel](https://caask.ca/travel) to learn how a CAA Travel Consultant can help you plan the perfect road-trip route and book accommodations and attractions along the way.

PHOTOGRAPH: MINISERIES/STOCK



# Driving Around the world

CAA Members who travel for a living share tips on navigating international roads

By Wendy Helfenbaum

**PLANNING TO DRIVE** in another country? With a little preparation and some solid advice, you'll feel confident in no time.

**BEFORE YOU LEAVE**  
**LEARN THE LOCAL DRIVING RULES.** Research traffic laws and common road signs in advance, advises Robin Esrock, author of the series *The Great Global Bucket List: One-of-a-Kind Travel Experiences*. "There might be local quirks," he notes, "so a quick Google search for driving tips and tricks is useful."

Travel writer Mary Charleson recommends learning some basic, useful words in the country's language—such as "stop," "turn left" (and "right") and "horn." And ask the car rental agency about tolls, parking and local-specific regulations. "I learned in Spain that it's against the law to drive wearing flip-flops," she says.

**GET AN INTERNATIONAL DRIVING PERMIT.** An IDP provides the translation of a Canadian driver's licence in 10 languages. Most car rental agencies will ask to see it. CAA is the only authorized issuer of IDPs in Canada—an IDP is valid for one year and costs \$31.

The IDP allows local police to understand your licensing qualifications, says Charleson. "This was important in Spain when I rented 150cc scooters, which require the equivalent of a Class 6 motorcycle licence."

## AT YOUR DESTINATION

**DON'T RUSH TO GET BEHIND THE WHEEL.** Take some time to observe traffic flow, suggests travel writer and photographer Vanessa Dewson. "Take a taxi and watch how they and other vehicles are driving. Look at road signs and traffic lights, and if anything doesn't make sense, ask the driver or take a photo and look it up."

**NAVIGATE LIKE A PRO.** "A GPS can be your friend, guiding you down roads and through roundabouts," says Steve Gillick, president of Talking Travel. "In Ireland, when I missed a turn, the GPS yelled, 'Wrong way!' and kept me on course. In Japan, the GPS told me when I'm going too fast, too slow or was too close to the centre line."

**EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.** In rural areas, you may encounter obstacles on the road—say, wandering livestock—so stay alert. Darcy Rhino, a travel photographer and writer from Little Harbour, N.S., has driven in Spain, France, Ireland and Indonesia. He drives defensively when abroad. "I stay in the slow lane and rely on a passenger to navigate until I'm used to driving there."

**ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE.** CAA offers assistance in 32 countries. Dewson keeps her CAA Membership details handy, including the phone app. Gillick suggests getting the car rental company's emergency number as well as the local equivalent of 911. **CAA**

## DRIVING ON THE LEFT

Driving on the opposite side of the road takes some practice, notes Robin Esrock, but you can do it. "Just remind yourself to stay in the correct lane and not allow your brain to shift into automatic mode."

Here are additional, useful tips:

- Get an automatic transmission.
- Take it slow and easy.
- Get to know the interior of the car, as its controls may be located in unfamiliar places.
- Have your co-pilot do all the navigating, so you can concentrate.
- Be extra vigilant around pedestrians.



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## What's Your Favourite...?

Accomplished painter and CAA Member **Diana Chabros** sets her sights on southwestern Saskatchewan

By Nicole Keen



Artist Diana Chabros and her painting *The Gap: Paradise Lost* (Samskara series); Prairie Wind & Silver Sage Eco-Museum.

**WHEN ARTIST DIANA CHABROS LEFT BEHIND** Regina for Val Marie, she knew she wanted to be closer to what she “needed to paint.” She also opened Sky Story, a bed and breakfast, to share the rugged beauty of Grasslands National Park with others. Through Sky Story, Chabros gives guests a unique opportunity to see the land through the eyes of a professional artist—and finds plenty of visual inspiration along the way.

**What's the best thing about living in Val Marie?**

The proximity to the land and being able to gather stories locally. Things that I witness, things that I hear on Coffee Row. Those are the kinds of things that inform my paintings.



**What's Coffee Row?**

At the [Val Marie] Hotel. It's a regular thing for people to go [there] about three o'clock in the afternoon—farmers, ranchers, other people—to go and have a snack or a coffee or a piece of pie or whatever.

**Do you have a favourite local art gallery?**

There's a lovely little spot at our local eco-museum—the Prairie Wind & Silver Sage Eco-Museum—called the Cloakroom Gallery. I love that little space. I've shown there before and I would love to show there again.

**Where do you suggest visitors have dinner?**

There's the Harvest Eatery and Blind Boar in Shaunavon. It's almost an hour's drive from here, but it's a beautiful drive through the Frenchman Valley. And I love to recommend The Nightjar Diner in Swift Current. The owners are art lovers, so they try to showcase various artists within the restaurant.

**What is one of your most memorable wildlife encounters?**

When my partner and I take a drive out to Grasslands, the bison are sometimes congregated by the road just as you drive into the park. If we have our drums with us and we start drumming and singing, they crowd right around. They're quite drawn to it.

**Who inspires your work?**

Gregory Hardy is one of my absolute favourites. His work is so moving when he paints any part of Saskatchewan, but in particular, when he paints the southwest.



**In late summer we get mist in the valley. Some people find it eerie, but I just find it magical**

**What's summer like in Val Marie?**

You really have to like heat when you come down to the grasslands in the summer. The [colour] palettes are beautiful here [and] the air quality. In late summer we get mist in the valley. Some people find it eerie, but I just find it magical and very profound. **CAA**

PHOTOGRAPHS: (FROM LEFT) COURTESY OF DIANA CHABROS; COURTESY OF PRAIRIE WIND & SILVER SAGE ECO-MUSEUM



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# Straight and Narrow

Saskatchewan non-profit STR8 UP calls upon Indigenous teachings and practical support to help former gang members become healthy, responsible citizens

By Yuki Hayashi

**WHEN LEAD CHAPLAIN** Father Andre Poilievre at the Saskatoon Correctional Facility was faced with questions from at-risk youth on how to change their lives, the eventual founder of STR8 UP led with honesty: "I don't know, but we will figure it out together." This community-focused approach is what drives STR8 UP, a Saskatchewan non-profit that helps people break free from gangs, addiction and crime.

With chapters in Saskatoon and Prince Albert, STR8 UP assists 400 individuals per year, offering 16,000 different supports and services, which includes 100 addiction referrals. The team does outreach within local communities as well as provincial and federal correctional facilities, offering a variety of services ranging from practical to spiritual.

Free tattoo removal, for instance, can help individuals reclaim their identity by erasing stigmatizing gang affiliations, which can be a barrier to employment and community reintegration. Transitional lodging provides a safe, sober space where recently incarcerated individuals can get help securing permanent housing and access to education and/or employment training. Traditional sharing circles and other Indigenous cultural and spiritual activities also help participants connect to their heritage and communities.

These services, along with transportation, health, family and child-care assistance can be life-changing, but it doesn't happen overnight. As STR8 UP notes, "The recovery process for ex-gang members is a long and slow process; it is not an event.... Most STR8 UP members who have fully recovered have devoted up to seven or eight years of their life to this journey."

"I'm fortunate to get the chance to see first-hand the life-altering changes people make and the genuine excitement they show when talking about their achievements," says



Russ Misskey joined STR8 UP as executive director in 2020, when the non-profit initiated its first transitional housing program.

executive director Russ Misskey.

With its slow but steady culturally informed approach to healing and recovery, STR8 UP provides the opportunity for a redemption arc, something so many people, regardless of their personal history, deserve. This journey includes mandatory stops, such as leaving a gang, dealing with addiction and being truthful and humble in interactions with others. It's through this process that participants become better partners, parents and community members.

Misskey sums it up well. "When someone transitions from a life of dysfunction, addictions, crime and trauma to a place where they have completed university, are working at a good job or owning their own business, parenting their family while assisting others following a path similar to theirs—it is a truly inspiring thing to see and be a part of." **CAA**

“When someone transitions from a life of dysfunction... it is a truly inspiring thing to see and be a part of”

PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY OF STR8 UP



**Is there an organization in your community that people need to know about?**

We'd love to hear about it! Get in touch at [caa.magazine@caask.ca](mailto:caa.magazine@caask.ca).



(Opposite page) Our Volkswagen van, parked in the village of Corippo, in Ticino, and a rainbow over the Verzasca Valley. (This page, from top left) The medieval-style Ponte dei Salti River for a view that seems straight from a fairy tale; João Antunes—head chef at renowned restaurant-hotel Villa Emden, on the Brissago Islands—picks herbs for dinner; Corippo, Switzerland’s smallest municipality, has just 10 permanent residents. A local foundation preserved this historical spot by converting it into an *albergo diffuso*, meaning “scattered hotel,” where guests can stay in one of its many cozy houses.

# Swiss Snaps

Experience three distinct European cultures in one country, all within a five-hour drive

By Stephanie Foden

**IN A COUNTRY SMALLER THAN** Nova Scotia, it’s incredible to find the kind of beauty that’s condensed into Switzerland’s borders. And as we rolled along the roadways, each turn revealed something new, set against the majesty of the Alps. In a vintage Volkswagen van, my partner and I set out to explore the cultural mosaic that is Switzerland.

Close ties with France, Italy and Germany have made the languages and traditions of these neighbouring countries an intrinsic part of Swiss culture. Our trip took us from a delightful world of pasta, gelato and Vespas in Ticino to the cobblestone streets of Lucerne and on to the shores of Lake Geneva, where we savoured croissants in a French café. And although the roads got steep, travel time from one spectacular place to the next was minimal—just a two-hour drive from Ticino to Lucerne, then two more hours to reach Lake Geneva.

## TICINO

In the canton of Ticino, Swiss precision meets *la dolce vita*. Here, the Alpine backdrop seamlessly blends into palm trees and shockingly blue glacier-fed lakes that look like they could be part of the Mediterranean. Italian language and culture take centre stage, and the local cuisine’s delightful fusion of flavours was exemplified by a saffron risotto I won’t soon forget. Walk the shores of lakes Lugano and Maggiore, stroll through the subtropical botanical garden on the Brissago Islands and explore vibrant towns in the Verzasca Valley.





(From left) The Mount Pilatus Aerial Cableway climbs to the top of the mountain, at an elevation of over 2,000 metres (6,900 feet) above sea level. On clear days, visitors can marvel at the panorama of 73 Alpine peaks; my partner, Maciek Wala, aboard the world's steepest cogwheel railway, which travels from the village of Alpnach to Pilatus Kulm.



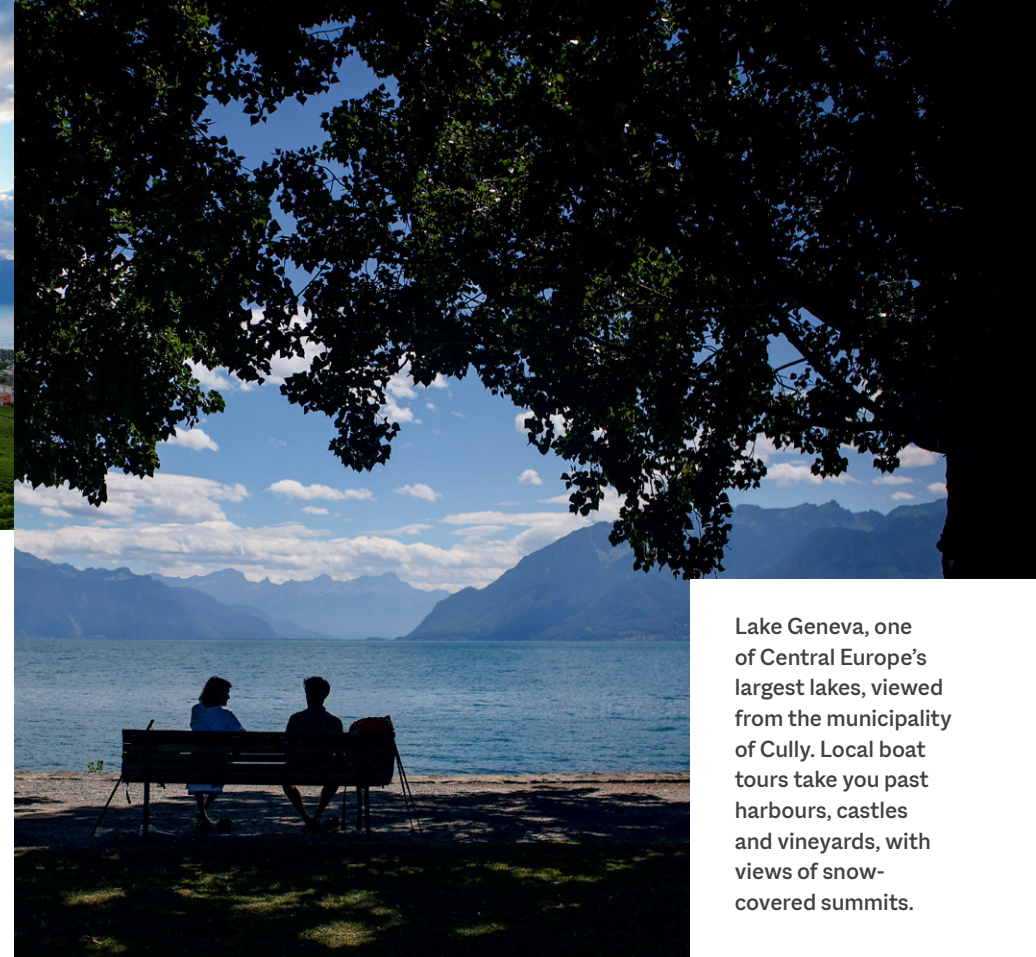
## LUCERNE

Every Swiss-German cobblestone street in Lucerne tells a story. This enchanting city, situated on the shores of Lake Lucerne and surrounded by snow-capped mountains, combines Germanic charms from the Middle Ages with modern sophistication. Stroll across the picturesque Chapel Bridge, charter a boat to explore the lake and visit nearby traditional villages. Don't miss out on the breathtaking views from above—the summit of Mount Pilatus is accessible by cable car or cogwheel railway.

The Chapel Bridge in Lucerne, Europe's oldest covered bridge, was constructed in the 14th century as part of the city's fortifications.



The sunny terraced vineyards of Lavaux are warmed by light reflected off the surface of Lake Geneva and heat stored in the surrounding stone walls. (Below) Hike the 32-kilometre (20-mile) footpaths from Ouchy, a popular lakeside resort in Lausanne. Along the way, view the sculptures and informative panels about local viticulture, then stop by a wine cellar for a sip.



Lake Geneva, one of Central Europe's largest lakes, viewed from the municipality of Cully. Local boat tours take you past harbours, castles and vineyards, with views of snow-covered summits.

## LAKE GENEVA

Sample world-class wines and indulge in gourmet delights here, in Switzerland's French-speaking region, nestled within a mild microclimate. It boasts picturesque lake vistas, charming small towns and the famous Lavaux Vineyard Terraces—a UNESCO World Heritage site, where grapes have been grown since the 11th century. Some of these wineries now produce the country's prestigious Grands Crus vintages. From the upscale restaurants and accommodations to the spas and museums, our every encounter along Lake Geneva's shores exuded a distinctly French flair. **CAA**

*STEPHANIE FODEN is a freelance documentary photographer and member of Boreal Collective and Women Photograph. She has worked with National Geographic, The New York Times, TIME, The Globe and Mail, ESPN and Travel & Leisure.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

While you can use euros in Switzerland, the country's official currency is still the franc. CAA Members can order foreign currency online at [caask.ca/travel](https://caask.ca/travel) to get the best rates, with no fees.



**Planning a European road trip?** Contact your local CAA Travel Consultant for information about an International Driving Permit (IDP), travel insurance and foreign currency (available at the CAA Regina North Store and CAA Saskatoon Store). CAA is the only authorized source in Canada for IDPs. Visit [caask.ca/travel](https://caask.ca/travel) to learn more.

The rocky ridges of Mount Monolith, reflected off the surface of Divide Lake in Tombstone Territorial Park.



# Northern Exposure

Driving underneath the midnight sun, from Whitehorse to Dawson City, illuminates the beauty of the Yukon | *By Tara Franco*

**ABOVE THE 60TH PARALLEL** north, from May through July, day turns into night and back into day with an almost imperceptible shift. The setting sun barely skims the horizon before rising into a new dawn. Then and there, the days seem endless, as do the opportunities for adventure.

To make the most of it, rent an RV in Whitehorse and set out on the North Klondike Highway, which stretches 530 km (329 miles) to Dawson City. It's the same route followed by 19th-century prospectors who came looking for gold, and there are still many treasures to be found along the way.

## Whitehorse

Stock up on supplies in Yukon's capital city before hitting the highway. Stop at Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs, just a half-hour drive from the city, to indulge in some pre-trip R&R at the recently renovated spa. The hot pools are great for getting intel from fellow road-trippers on the best local scenic spots.

## Braeburn

A must-stop whether you're coming or going is Braeburn Lodge, just over an hour north of Whitehorse, which serves



Clockwise from top left: a rock pool at Eclipse Nordic Hot Springs; historic houses in Dawson City; Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation performers at Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre; Whitehorse and the Yukon River; a cinnamon roll from Braeburn Lodge.

up their world-famous cinnamon buns the size of dinner plates. Not for the faint of heart (or small of stomach), these treats have been attracting visitors for over 20 years.

## Carmacks

This small town of roughly 500 residents punches above its weight in cultural and historical significance. Learn about the area and the Northern Tutchone First Nation people who live here, at the Tagé Cho Hudän Interpretive Centre. Or stretch your legs for a stroll on the boardwalk along the Yukon River.

## Dawson City

At the end of the Klondike Highway, you'll find the wooden sidewalks of Dawson City, once the centre of the Klondike gold rush. Visit the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre for its galleries and an overview of local history. Enjoy breathtaking panoramic views from the Midnight Dome just outside of town. Then, if you're still up for adventure, head an hour and a half up the Dempster Highway to Tombstone Territorial Park, where the tundra begins.

And it's between pit stops when the allure of the Yukon really hits you. Unwind on long stretches of highway, past pristine boreal forests and snow-topped mountains—all under the bright northern sky. **CAA**

## Tips for the Road

**Fuel up** It's not always easy to find gas, so get it when you can. If you can do so safely, secure a couple of gas cans on the outside of your camper van or trailer to ease the stress between stops.

**Boondocking** Camping on Yukon public land is permitted, provided that a few rules are followed (including camping at least 30 metres from the centre line of most roads). Not sure which spots are public? Use the GeoYukon interactive mapping app to find the right spot to lay your head.

**Ride safely** CAA Plus RV and Premier RV Memberships provide all the benefits of a CAA membership, including CAA Roadside Assistance for your owned or rented RV.

Visit [caask.ca/rv-membership-coverage](https://caask.ca/rv-membership-coverage) to learn more.

PHOTOGRAPHS (LEFT) PETER O'HARA & JENNA DIXON, (OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) GOVERNMENT OF YUKON/ANDREW STRAIN, ADOBE STOCK, GOVERNMENT OF YUKON/CATHIE ARCHBOULD, DESTINATION CANADA, MONIQUE SONG



# AROUND the BEND

Road-tripping through Big Bend Country in West Texas reveals surreal landscapes alongside wild and wonderful attractions

By Truc Nguyen

WIDE OPEN SPACES and flat stretches of highway abound in the Lone Star State, which boasts more than 127,000 kilometres (79,000 miles) of pavement. And Big Bend Country in the southwest corner of Texas, which includes Far West Texas and the Upper Rio Grande region, offers some of the most strikingly beautiful landscapes in the U.S., including mountains, rivers and desert. A road trip is the best way to take it all in at your own pace.

“A road trip is the best way to take it all in at your own pace”

## HISTORIC EL PASO

We began our grand Texas adventure in the border city of El Paso, on the Rio Grande, that was part of Mexico until 1848. One of the oldest cities in Texas, El Paso has a fascinating, complex history and distinctive cultural mix. Even the local food is different here, according to David Varela, our Downtown Walking Tour guide. “Our Mexican food is not anywhere near Tex-Mex—it is not cheese-heavy, salt-heavy or heavy in bread or flour.”

I savoured pork *carnitas* with house-made corn tortillas at Ámbar Restaurante, in The Plaza Hotel Pioneer Park, and relished the refreshing flavours of shrimp *aguachile verde* (a traditional Mexican dish of fresh seafood marinated in lime

juice) at Lapa Lapa Seafood & Drinks.

Once you’ve eaten your way through El Paso, it’s time to get moving—but not before dropping by Rocketbuster to browse “Boss lady” Nevena Christi’s one-of-a-kind footwear. This is where celebrities Leon Bridges, Kendrick Lamar and Taylor Swift get their handcrafted cowboy boots.

Switch to hiking boots for a trip to Franklin Mountains State Park, just a 25-minute drive from El Paso. With more than 160 km (100 miles) of trails across 11,000 hectares (27,000 acres), this magnificent park is an excellent introduction to the Chihuahuan Desert’s fascinating flora and fauna. The park’s superintendent, Cesar Mendez, recommends September through March to go hiking for glimpses of local wildlife—deer, javelinas, foxes, skunks, rabbits and bobcats.

## MARVELOUS MARFA

From El Paso, drive roughly three hours to Marfa, where “ghost lights” have been spotted for more than a hundred years.

These mysterious orbs, which occasionally appear on the horizon just after sunset, are one of the many oddities that draw people to this one-traffic-light town.

Marfa is also renowned for its vibrant creative community. At its heart is The Chinati Foundation, established in 1986 by the world-famous American minimalist artist Donald Judd. Here you’ll find large-scale works by Judd and his contemporaries, including John Chamberlain (best known for his crushed-car sculptures) and light artist Dan Flavin. Book a guided tour or take a quiet stroll through the museum grounds, populated by Judd’s untitled works. View his slab concrete pieces framed by the desertscape for a beautiful meditative experience.

The Judd Foundation offers guided tours to see more of the artist’s works at various locations in downtown Marfa, including his former residence and studio.

Expect the unexpected when shopping in town, where boutiques reflect the city’s quirky, yet sophisticated aesthetic. You’ll find very stylish vintage clothes, for example, at Raba Marfa. At the store-cum-gallery Wrong, I was drawn to the colourful souvenirs and artworks—and decided I *must* have a resin popsicle by Marfa resident Lisa Chestnut.

## SCENIC TERLINGUA AND BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK

From Marfa, we drove for about two hours to Terlingua, best known for its ghost town, where you can see abandoned buildings from its heyday in the 1880s as a

(This page, from left) Handcrafted boots at Rocketbuster in El Paso; Buck Johnston, artist and co-owner of the store-cum-gallery Wrong, in Marfa. (Opposite page) One of Donald Judd’s 15 untitled works in concrete on the grounds of the Chinati Foundation.

PHOTOGRAPH: ARCHIVE PL/ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHS: (FROM LEFT) COURTESY OF ROCKETBUSTER; ALEX MARKS/COURTESY OF WRONG



# HELLO, NEIGHBOURS!

bustling mining town. It's a good home base from which to explore Big Bend National Park. We stayed in spacious yurts at Terlingua Escondido and enjoyed glorious sunrise and sunset vistas.

In Terlingua, set aside time for a trail ride with Big Bend Stables. The half-day Chihuahuan Desert Ride winds through an old mercury mine, a mesa and part of the Indian Head Trail. Visit Many Stones, a local rock shop, if you want to bring home a geode or local gemstone.

And be sure to schedule at least a full day for exploring Big Bend National Park, one of the largest (although least visited) national parks in the continental U.S. For great photos, take the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive and stop by Sotol Vista and the Santa Elena Canyon Overlook. And if you have the time (and energy) for a day hike, go for the moderately challenging Lost Mine Trail for breathtaking panoramas of the Chisos Mountains, the desert and several canyons.

## MARATHON AND BEYOND

After Big Bend, we headed to the town of Marathon, where the picturesque historic Gage Hotel is located, for stargazing in the 39,000-square-kilometre (15,000-square-mile) Greater Big Bend International Dark Sky Reserve. Even though it was a cloudy evening, we were able to see Jupiter, Saturn and the Andromeda Galaxy through the Dobsonian Reflector telescopes at Marathon Sky Park.

We made one last stop before flying out of Midland—Monahans Sandhills State Park. For just a few dollars, you can rent a plastic disk and try sandboarding on the park's vast field of rippling sand dunes.

In just a week, our road trip through Big Bend Country took us to some remarkable locales, from the rugged terrain of the Chihuahuan Desert and the majestic Chisos Mountains to historic El Paso. Everything is indeed bigger in Texas and that includes our adventure on the road. **CAA**

*TRUC NGUYEN is a freelance style and travel writer for many publications, including Elle Canada, CBC Life and The Globe and Mail. Previously, she was a senior editor at Flare and an associate editor at American Vogue Living.*



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(From left) Los Portales, a Gage Hotel property in the town of Marathon, has Pueblo-style adobe-brick rooms; Gage Gardens span 27 acres of native plantings, fruit trees, fountains, ponds and a nine-hole putting green.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE GAGE HOTEL



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# Wild at Heart

The fox you spotted on your hike may have spent time in an animal rehabilitation facility. Meet the people who volunteer to protect wildlife

By Paul Gains



**I**T MAY BE TOUGH OUT THERE IN THE WILD, but the spots where birds and animals cross paths with civilization pose more challenges due to traffic, power lines and urban sprawl. Fortunately, devoted wildlife rehabilitation centres step up to care for the sick and injured, going to extraordinary lengths. And it's donations and volunteers that keep them running, along with a love for the creatures they help.

"We are the only provincial wildlife helpline. No one else in Canada does what we do," Bonnie Dell says proudly. Although Dell—executive director of the Saskatoon-based Wildlife Rescue Society of Saskatchewan (WRSOS)—and her volunteers don't always handle wildlife directly, their role is pivotal.

"We have one phone number for the whole province that people can call," she says. "And we can answer wildlife questions, help with wildlife conflicts and, if they have injured or orphaned animals, we can help."

First, the team determines if an animal is truly in need of assistance. Deer, for instance, will often leave fawns unattended for hours while foraging, which prompts well-intentioned but unwarranted rescue calls. Trained volunteers decide if the animal requires help and, if it does, which licensed rehabilitation centre or veterinarian can take it.

All too often, help from WRSOS is needed. Road and building construction that bisects wildlife habitat or interrupts migratory routes leads to auto collisions. Then, there's disease and the effects of climate change that threaten habitats. Plus, urban expansion brings wild animals and humans into closer contact, which can be harmful for both.

An orphaned moose is released into the wild after being successfully rehabilitated at the Wildlife Rescue Society of Saskatchewan. A skunk kit is cared for at the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation.



PHOTOGRAPHS (THIS PAGE FROM LEFT) COURTESY OF WRSOS; COURTESY OF AIWC. (OPPOSITE PAGE) © JOEL SARTORE

## CREATIVE CROSSING

One of the best ways to help wildlife is to prevent unwanted interactions with humans that can cause injury. When Parks Canada invested in two wildlife crossings that were built over the Trans-Canada Highway in 1997, auto collisions with wildlife dropped by 80 percent.

Coupled with dozens of underpasses used by reptiles, rodents and small mammals, the Banff project has saved the lives of animals and humans. Delegations from around the world have visited the site to see how they might implement similar structures in other countries.

Other wildlife crossings have since been built in other provinces to similar results. The installation of fencing along critical sections of the Trans-Canada Highway has been extremely successful in keeping large animals off the road. Eco-passages in Bruce Peninsula National Park in Ontario direct snakes, reptiles, turtles and other small critters into tunnels that run underneath the highway.



A wildlife crossing bridge built as part of the Banff Project.

At the Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation (AIWC), in the hamlet of Madden, a team of volunteer drivers is on standby to rescue a wide range of species—from squirrels to black bears, along with reptiles and amphibians. The team is not permitted to take in coyotes, wolves, cougars and grizzly bears (grizzlies would invariably dig their way out of any outdoor compound).

Collaborating with the University of Guelph, AIWC has established a program that arranges for veterinarians to come and help for set periods of time, letting them gain the experience to move into roles that require wildlife care. "We are really lucky to have a veterinarian on staff," says Scottie Potter, AIWC's communications coordinator. There are many rehab centres that do not have that setup, he notes.

Meanwhile, in Manitoba, whose black bear population is estimated at nearly 30,000, the province is fortunate to have Black Bear Rescue Manitoba (BBRM). Judy and Roger Stearns started BBRM in 2018 on their four-hectare (ten-acre) property in the town of Stonewall, where they tend to the many orphaned or injured cubs rescued every year.

Three years ago, they treated 32 cubs,

which required building an additional 930 square metres (10,000 square feet) to the facility. Fortunately, Roger is in the construction business and was able to enlist the help of friends and volunteers for the project. BBRM relies on donations of dog kibble, milk and fruit to feed the cubs. And although there are a few volunteers, the couple do most of the hands-on work themselves. Human contact with the bears is limited, as the goal is to eventually release them back into the wild.

"We always remember the ones we couldn't save," says Roger. "I have sat with them on my lap [until ] they pass away."

No rehabilitation practitioner can save every creature encountered, but each successful recovery-and-release is cause for celebration, and the joy that comes from helping wildlife energizes the next mission. **CAA**

*PAUL GAINS has been a full-time freelance journalist for 29 years and has been published in numerous publications, including The New York Times, Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, GQ, Outside and Canadian Geographic.*

## HOW TO HELP

What to do if you find an injured animal in the wild

- Don't approach the animal too closely and keep other people back, as well as pets.
- Call a licensed rescue centre or local humane society before intervening and let the wildlife rescue experts coach you—they can help determine if an animal needs assistance.
- Some wildlife rehab centres don't have enough volunteers and may ask you to bring an injured bird or small animal to them. Keep a blanket and a cardboard box in your car, just in case.

## LOCAL RESOURCES

Visit [wrsos.org](http://wrsos.org) to learn more about the Wildlife Rescue Society of Saskatchewan or call their hotline at **306-242-7177**. You can also try Salthaven West Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre ([salthaven.org](http://salthaven.org)), in Regina, which has cared for thousands of animals in the last decade.

## A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO



Towing opens up a whole world of road-trip possibilities, but it pays to do your homework before setting off

By Matt Bubbers

Illustrations by Guilherme Henrique

**WHETHER YOU'RE LOOKING** to haul a Jet Ski to the nearest lake, or you want to rent a camper trailer for a road trip across Canada, learning how to tow can be a game changer. But there's a lot to consider before hitting the road.

### KNOW YOUR VEHICLE

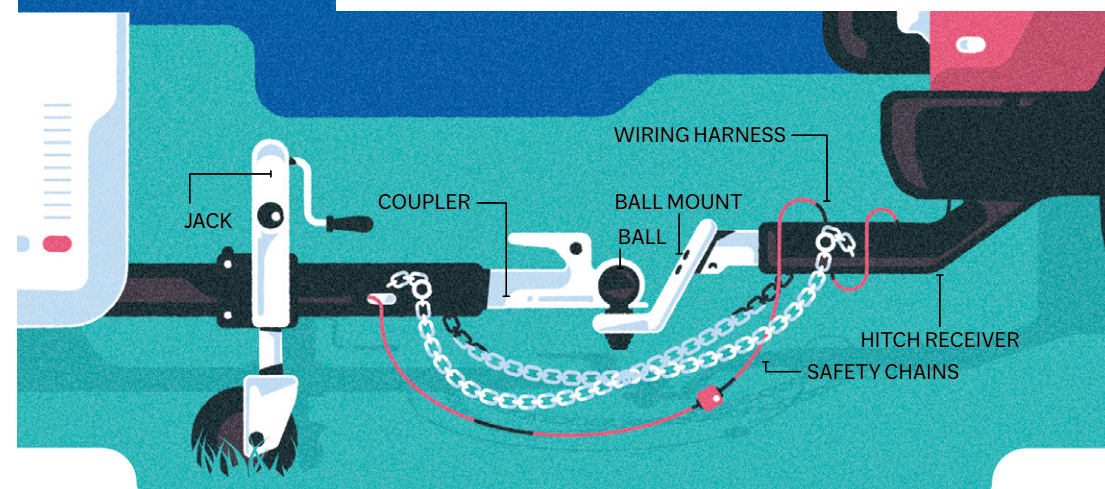
Check your owner's manual to find out if, and how much weight, your vehicle can tow. If you're still not sure, ask your dealer or contact the manufacturer.

"If a truck's limit is 10,000 pounds, you wouldn't want to tow more than 7,500 pounds," says Peter Kreis, VP operations

and automotive for CAA Saskatchewan. "I never exceed 75 percent of my [tow] limit." Why? Staying well under the limit leaves a margin of safety, plus it puts less wear on your vehicle and makes for a better towing experience.

That said, a tow vehicle is a hefty investment, and buying one that is clearly over your basic needs can be prohibitive. For drivers who will occasionally be close to maxing out their vehicle's towing capacity, consider investing in some additional gear to make the journey safer—sway-control bars help mitigate side-to-side trailer movement, and a weight-distribution hitch can help to level the trailer and tow vehicle.

### WHAT GOES WHERE?



### TIP

There are different sizes of receivers, hitches and balls, and each part is stamped or labelled with its maximum weight rating. Remember, it's the lowest-rated component that determines how much you can haul.

### TOWING TERMS

Here are some key terms and numbers you'll need to know before hitting the road

**TOW RATING** This is a best-case-scenario measure of a vehicle's maximum towing capacity. It doesn't account for passengers or cargo. (Find this and other key stats in the owner's manual or driver's door-jamb sticker.)

**TONGUE WEIGHT** Also known as tongue load, it's the amount of the trailer's weight (when loaded) that rests on the ball. As a general rule, it should be 10 to 15 percent of the loaded trailer's weight.

**PAYLOAD CAPACITY** The maximum permissible weight of all passengers and cargo, and the tongue weight.

**GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR)** The maximum permissible weight of the vehicle plus passengers and cargo plus the tongue weight. Trailers have their own separate GVWR, too.

**GROSS COMBINED WEIGHT RATING (GCWR)** The maximum permissible weight of the vehicle plus the trailer plus passengers and cargo.

**GROSS TRAILER WEIGHT (GTW)** The total weight of a trailer plus its cargo.

**CURB WEIGHT** The weight of the vehicle, ready to drive, without any optional equipment, passengers or cargo. Often found in the owner's manual. You'll want to know this when calculating how much your vehicle can tow while staying under its GVWR, GCWR and payload capacity.

### HOW MUCH CAN YOU TOW?

Never haul more than your vehicle's tow rating. Simple, right? Not so fast. It's not enough to merely ensure you're under the tow rating—drivers must also be careful not to exceed their vehicle's GCWR, GVWR or payload capacity. This is where you'll have to do some math. The formulas look like these:

- $GCWR \geq \text{gross vehicle weight} + \text{gross trailer weight} + \text{passengers and cargo weight}$
- $GVWR \geq \text{gross vehicle weight} + \text{tongue weight} + \text{passengers and cargo weight}$
- $\text{Payload capacity} \geq \text{tongue weight} + \text{passengers and cargo weight}$

Since you most likely do not have a weigh station in your driveway, you'll need to estimate all weights as best you can, then crunch the numbers to determine how much you can safely tow.

### HOOKING UP THE TRAILER

Once you've crunched the numbers to figure out how much you can haul, it's time to hitch up



1

If possible, have a spotter outside the vehicle to guide you.

2

Line up your vehicle's hitch with the trailer's coupler.

3

Raise the trailer's coupler, using the jack, so the ball can slide underneath when reversing.

4

Reverse the vehicle slowly toward the trailer until the ball is directly under the coupler, then engage the parking brake and shift into park.

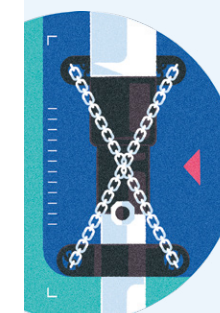


5

Using the jack, lower the coupler, securing it with all necessary bolts and locking pins. (You can test the connection by slightly raising the trailer back up on the jack—if the coupler comes off the ball, it's not secured properly.)

6

Attach the wiring harness and safety chains. The chains should be connected in a crisscross pattern, forming an X under the coupler.



7

Retract the jack.

8

With your spotter, check that the trailer's lights and signals are working. Do a walk-around to double-check all connections.

**Need insurance?**  
For auto, travel or recreational insurance, connect with a CAA Insurance Broker at [caask.ca/insurance](http://caask.ca/insurance).

## LOADING UP THE TRAILER

Once the trailer is hitched up, it's ready to be loaded with your gear

In general, when dealing with a cargo trailer, you'll want to load it after it's hitched. Park on a level surface with the parking brake engaged and chock the trailer's wheels by placing a sturdy wedge or block against the tires, so they can't roll.

The goal for loading is 60/40—60 percent of the cargo's weight should be ahead of the trailer's axle (think: the trailer's wheels) leaving 40 percent behind the axle. That's critical to ensure the safe handling of your tow vehicle and it'll also help keep 10 to 15 percent of the trailer's weight on the tongue. Last but not least, secure the load with appropriate chains, ropes or ratchet straps.

### TIP

It's a bit like Tetris, loading everything properly. Load the heaviest item first and try to position it just ahead of the trailer's axle to get that 60/40 weight split.



## DRIVING WITH A TRAILER

Adapt your driving when towing a heavy load



**MAKE SURE YOUR VEHICLE IS IN GOOD CONDITION.** All fluids should be topped up and tire pressures correct. If necessary, install tow mirrors that extend out past the regular mirrors to provide a better view of what's behind the trailer.



**SLOW DOWN AND LEAVE EXTRA SPACE.** Accelerating and braking takes significantly longer when towing a heavy load. For that reason, it's crucial to leave much more distance between you and the vehicle ahead than you normally would.



**SWING WIDE.** Take corners wide and keep an eye on the trailer in your mirrors to avoid hitting the curb or worse.



**CHECK FOR CLEARANCE.** If you've got a tall load, watch for low-hanging obstacles, like tree branches and electric wires.



**TAKE CARE WHEN REVERSING.** Backing up can be intimidating, but don't sweat it! Take it slow, ask a friend outside to spot you, and take advantage of new technology like trailer-mounted back-up cameras where possible. Backing up with a trailer can be counterintuitive, so if you can, practise in a parking lot. And be patient—this is a tough skill to master.



**CHECK EARLY AND OFTEN.** Soon after you set off, pull over somewhere safe and check that the trailer, its load and all connections are snug and secure. Make it easy on yourself and find a spot that you can easily exit without much manoeuvring.

*MATT BUBBERS writes regularly for CAA Magazine, specializing in car culture and transportation. He is a columnist for the Drive section of The Globe and Mail and writes for a variety of publications in Canada and the U.S.*

## TOWING WITH AN EV

The good news: EVs offer an instant surge of low-end torque that makes for an especially smooth towing experience. The bad news: Driving range plummets when towing. How much range is lost depends on the type of trailer and weight of the load. A real-world test by Consumer Reports found Ford's F-150 Lightning and Rivian's R1T were both reduced to less than a third of their normally rated range when towing 10,000 pounds (4,536 kilograms). You'll need to charge more often but many public EV chargers aren't set up to accept vehicles towing trailers. In order to plug in, you may have to uncouple the trailer. It all adds up to a longer journey, so plan accordingly.

### Need a tow?

There are three ways to connect with CAA Roadside Assistance: Request online at [caask.ca/automotive](https://caask.ca/automotive), call 1.800.222.4357 or download the CAA Mobile App.

SPONSORED

## The Pinnacle of Performance

How Shell V-Power® NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline is redefining *premium*

By Sean Deasy



**SHELL STRIVES TO ENGINEER** superior fuels that seamlessly trace from the pinnacle of motorsport excellence to the everyday road, pushing the boundaries of quality and performance. The latest result of those efforts: the new and improved Shell V-Power NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline—a fuel that will rejuvenate your engine's performance.

### The power of high-tech fuel formulas

What's added to gasoline to impact its performance and efficacy differs from brand to brand. A formulation that enables gasoline to clean the engine as it operates—eliminating or reducing the buildup of carbon residue—also heightens the fuel's power and performance.

"It's a very sophisticated additive technology," says Sarina Arnold, Shell's technical lead for fuel product implementation and technical services in the Americas, of the formula that goes into Shell's improved premium offering. And a key focus is keeping the engine clean. "Performance actually is derived from maintaining your engine as the manufacturer intended—it is not designed to perform in a dirty state."

Better performance comes from being innovative—and from teamwork. The strength of Shell's fuel innovation is reflected in its partnership with Scuderia Ferrari—one of the longest running associations in Formula 1™ history. Lessons from the track are applied to the fuels available to Shell's customers on the road.

In fact, the Shell V-Power racing fuel used in Ferrari cars when they compete in the Formula 1 series contains 99 percent of the same types of compounds as Shell V-Power NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline available at the pumps.

### What's different about the new Shell V-Power NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline?

While past formulations of Shell V-Power NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline have focused on engine protection, Shell has added new performance benefits to this latest version while maintaining all of its previous protection benefits. The fuel was designed to quickly reach the surfaces of critical engine components, forming a protective barrier against four threats to an engine—deposits, wear, corrosion and friction.

Now Shell V-Power NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline removes up-to 100 percent\* of performance-robbing deposits to rejuvenate an engine's performance. The unique deposit-eradicating technology in the premium fuel targets and destroys deposits and protects against future build up in the most critical part of the engine: the fuel injector. This frees the flow of fuel, so you get optimal burn for peak performance and a revitalized cleaner engine.

It is important to note that you should always use the fuel grade that is recommended by your vehicle's manufacturer. For vehicles that manufacturers recommend operating on premium fuel, continuous usage is key: it helps engines receive the maximum performance and protection benefits that the fuel is designed to deliver.

Shell V-Power NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline represents the latest generation of premium performance fuel and is the result of more than a century of experience in fuels innovation. And it is now at a Canadian Shell-branded service station near you.

CAA is proud to be partnered with Shell Canada, and extend everyday savings to Members of 3 cents per litre, and 10% on convenience retail and carwash purchases.\*\*

### Limited-time offer:

Use your CAA Membership to save 5 cents per litre on Shell V-Power® fuel until Aug. 31, 2024.\*\*

Visit [caask.ca/shell](https://caask.ca/shell) to learn more.

\*In gasoline direct injection engine fuel injectors with continuous use of Shell V-Power® NiTRO+ Premium Gasoline. \*\*At participating locations. Conditions apply. Trademarks and registered trademarks are property of their respective owners. Shell trademarks are owned by Shell Brands International AG.



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# INSIDER

## Let's Hit the Road

The sky is clear, bags are packed and an exciting destination lies ahead. Our summer guide will help you make the most of the season, whether you're staying local, going on a road trip or getting ready to take flight.



SUMMER 2024



## Road-Trip Essentials

Streamline your road-trip prep with these packing tips

AS ROAD TRIP SEASON approaches, Peter Kreis, VP automotive and operations at CAA Saskatchewan offers a quick reminder of things to keep in mind before heading out into the great wide open. “Check your tire pressure and oil—all the basic maintenance checks on your car. Whether it be winter or summer, all the same essentials apply,” he says. And then, once your vehicle is in tip-top shape, get ready to roll with these tips.



**Pack right** Make a list and check it twice. Pack essentials where they can be easily retrieved. Do not block sightlines—consider a rooftop cargo box if you have too much stuff.



**Entertainment** Pre-make playlists and cue up audio books. Ensure all electronics are charged, synced and ready. If you must fiddle with devices, pull over. Eliminate distracted driving and focus on the job of safe driving.



**Snacks** Pack a variety of easy-to-eat snacks for all passengers and water. Plan ahead to visit CAA Reward partners along the way for essential fuel stops and save!



**Safety** Ensure seatbelts, child car seats and air bags are functioning and consider a pet harness for Rover. Visit [caask.ca/shop](https://caask.ca/shop) for CAA roadside safety kits. Pack a battery charger for mobile phones. More advice available at [caask.ca/safety](https://caask.ca/safety)



**Insurance** Call your CAA Insurance expert to ensure you are covered for trip interruptions and medical emergencies while travelling—they can advise you on any extra coverage needed beyond your provincial health plan. Visit [caask.ca/insurance](https://caask.ca/insurance)



**CAA Membership** Apply or renew before you head out, for roadside assistance coverage that follows you, not your vehicle, whether you're the driver or a passenger. Visit [caask.ca/membership](https://caask.ca/membership) to learn more about Membership.

Visit [caask.ca/insurance](https://caask.ca/insurance) to learn more.



### CAA Gets You There

Ready to see the world? CAA can help get you moving in several ways

#### Consult a CAA Travel Consultant

Call a CAA expert or visit one of 11 CAA Stores in Saskatchewan. Find out more at [caask.ca/travel](https://caask.ca/travel) or call 1-800-564-6222.

#### TripTiks and Travel Guides

Visit [caask.ca/travel/travel-planning](https://caask.ca/travel/travel-planning) to create your own travel itinerary and map based on CAA's recommendations. You can also explore a library of specialized guides to destinations in North America, Mexico and the Caribbean.

#### Discover CAA Reward Partners

Visit [caask.ca/membership/rewards](https://caask.ca/membership/rewards) and discover exciting attractions and destinations around the world where CAA Members enjoy a discount.

## Off the Beaten Path

Discover new adventures on roads less travelled | *By Dick Snyder*

WHEN THE TRAVEL BUG bites, but you're not sure where you want to go, turning to a CAA Travel Consultant is the surest way to get inspired, especially when you're looking for something unique and, well, a little bit different.

Think of a CAA Travel Consultant as a well-travelled friend—someone who knows all the interesting spots and who can help make sure you have the best experience possible. It all starts with a phone call or visit to a CAA Store. You'll meet a member of the team managed by Terry Kaszas, CAA Saskatchewan's general manager of travel services, whose 30 years of experience means he knows how to source the ultimate adventure for any traveller.

When Kaszas first meets with CAA Members, it might be to book a single flight. But he treats that as just the start of their journey working together. Next, they might chat to book a sun destination or a week in London. As their interest—and confidence—in travelling grows, Kaszas is there to help Members work up to their dream trip—perhaps a 28-day tour of Europe, a river cruise or an African safari.

The more he gets to know his clients, the better. “I phone my clients when I know they have had a grandchild, or similar milestones. Two of my very first clients are now two of my best friends.”

Getting to know a client's preferences means asking a lot of questions.

“What are you interested in—history and culture, food, adventure...—and how active are you?” Kaszas might query. “If they're looking at foodie experiences, I'd suggest getting to South America, Asia or Europe. I'd start with those destinations and see how comfortable they are with going overseas, and how far they want to go overseas.”

This is where extensive connections with global travel professionals becomes crucial. Kaszas and his team travel on their own, of course, but they also glean travel intel from industry conferences, networking and reaching out to their colleagues at other CAA Clubs.

For adventurous travellers, Kaszas suggests Southeast Asia or South America, two regions that he says offer amazing experiences for travellers interested in less “touristy” destinations. “I've been fortunate to see many places in the world,” he says, and South America is now big on his list. “A food and wine tour through Argentina and Chile? The beaches of Brazil...the Amazon? We can offer all of those experiences. We can offer everything. I mean, if you want to climb a mountain, we can get you there.”

The sky—or, more correctly, the world—is the limit. “It's about how adventurous you want to be,” Kaszas says.

Leave the rest to him.



## Get Personal with WestWorld Tours

Exploring what makes this tour operator—nearing its 25th anniversary—so extraordinary

By Dick Snyder

**WESTWORLD TOURS** launched in 2000 with an aim to fill a need among mature travellers for top-notch premium motorcoach tours escorted by seasoned travel guides. Good times, spectacular destinations and camaraderie galore—that was the goal, along with delivering a highly personal travel experience that would come complete with priceless memories. What makes WWT experiences so magical, returning clients say, is the one-on-one attention from the guides, who take the time to ensure each guest's needs are well taken care of.

Next year, WWT celebrates its 25th year. Commemorate the milestone in style by joining the exclusive anniversary tour to the majestic Southwest! Embark on a journey filled with breathtaking landscapes, rich cultural experiences and unforgettable memories.

A travel company that has been thriving for nearly a quarter century must be doing something right. We asked Koral Hrominchuk, who's been guiding tours for more than 20 years, to tell us what makes WWT so special.

PHOTOGRAPH: WICHANDUANGSRI/ISTOCK

PHOTOGRAPH: HENNING BORGENSEN/UNSPASH

### Upcoming tours

From the many WestWorldTours coming up soon, Hrominchuk picks two that have her particularly excited.

#### Best of Thailand

Nov. 25 – Dec. 9, 2024

An exhilarating journey through the enchanting landscapes and vibrant culture of Thailand, from the golden temples of Bangkok to the cultural haven of Chiang Mai and the serene beauty of mist-kissed mountains and ancient temples.

#### African Adventure

May 7 – 23, 2025

WWT's maiden Africa trip took place last May, and Hrominchuk is excited to build on that incredible tour to South Africa, Zambia, Botswana and Zimbabwe in 2025. "The memories and experiences were nothing short of epic," Hrominchuk says. This trip involves safaris, game drives, bush walks and river cruise safaris with a balance of urban and rural experiences.

### EXPERIENCE

Hrominchuk started at WWT in April 2001 and her experience as a tour director goes deep. In fact, her family worked in the tourism industry. "I grew up around motorcoaches and worked in the family business," she says. "My dad was a motorcoach driver." That early experience taught her how to take care of travellers at a personal level. "I love the always-rewarding experience of watching our guests enjoy bucket-list destinations and seeing the joy of travel through their eyes."

### PLANNING

The team at WWT curates all components of the tour and packages it together, and then Hrominchuk or another tour director joins and guides guests in their journey.

"Creating that seamless experience is important to me. Also, providing an atmosphere where our guests feel comfortable, safe and happy—and enjoy the other guests. I like to say that it's not just the destinations, it's the people you share it with that contributes greatly to a successful group tour."

### PERSONAL SERVICE

CAA Member Randy Seiferling booked a seven-day river cruise on the Danube, directed by Hrominchuk, and he says enthusiastically: "My wife and I had an amazing time. Koral was with us for the entire time, offering her professional experience, personal attention and guidance. In fact, even before the tour started, my wife and I enjoyed our phone conversation with Koral, who reviewed the itinerary with us and asked us if we had any questions. This certainly made us feel even more secure and comfortable."

### REPEAT TRAVELLERS

For nearly 25 years, WWT has seen many guests return, the surest indicator of satisfaction. Says Hrominchuk: "I know they have been positively impacted when they come back and join us many times on many more tours. Repeat clientele says it all."

Visit [westworldtours.com](https://www.westworldtours.com) for a whole world of ideas.

“A travel company that has been thriving for nearly a quarter century must be doing something right





### Property Insurance Help

For help with property insurance, whether it's for your home, cottage, condo, apartment or recreational vehicles, boats and more, contact your local CAA Insurance Agent at [caask.ca/insurance](http://caask.ca/insurance) or call 1.800.564.6222.

Visit [caask.ca/insurance/home-tenant-condo](http://caask.ca/insurance/home-tenant-condo) to download the Property Checklist.

## Sow the Seeds for Fire Safety

Turn your yard into a resilient outdoor space | *By Dick Snyder*

**THIS SUMMER, TAKE A MINUTE** to consider fire safety when planning the season's plantings and yard projects. While prettying up your yard, think about how to minimize the dangers that can result from wildfires or an incident involving fire at a neighbouring property.

Landscaping measures that are fire-safe can also encourage biodiversity, inviting pollinators and creating inviting habitat for native species of birds and animals.

The essence of "fire-smart" landscaping is to use fire-resilient plants and trees along with landscaping elements such as driveways, lawns and gravel to create fuel breaks. Avoid highly flammable plants that have aromatic leaves or needles and papery or flaky bark, such as cedar, juniper, pine and spruce trees, as well as tall grasses, especially close to your house.

Fire-resistant plants have supple leaves and water-like sap, or a low amount of sap and/or no resin material. Examples include maple, silverbush and climbing rose, and grasses like fescue or sedge. Fortunately, the choices for fire-resistant plants are numerous and you can ask your local garden centre for suggestions.

To get tips and information, download the FireSmart Guide to Landscaping at [firesmartcanada.ca](http://firesmartcanada.ca). This national program helps Canadians increase resilience to wildfires by outlining general best practices for reducing negative impacts of fire.

The guide includes a plant list based on hardiness zones, which makes it easy to choose the right plants for your property. Plants that require less water but are still fire-resistant include saskatoon berry, forsythia and raspberry. There are dozens of recommended plants on the list, divided into categories—trees, bushes, vines and ground cover, grasses, annuals, bulbs and perennials/biennials.

#### Other tips to consider:

- Avoid bark and pine-needle mulches—try gravel or crushed-rock mulch instead.
- Don't pile firewood against the house.
- A mowed lawn is a fire-resistant lawn—grass that's less than 10 centimetres in height is less likely to burn intensely.

More than 90 percent of homes damaged or destroyed by wildfires are ignited by embers, according to FireSmart. Therefore, maintaining a 1.5-metre perimeter of non-combustible material around the home will reduce the chance of ignition by wind-blown embers.

Whether you are making major alterations to your property or merely doing some annual planting and maintenance, applying these landscaping principles will help reduce the risk from fires—and make your property look great, too.

PHOTOGRAPHS: (THIS PAGE) KARAMYSH/ADOBE STOCK, (OPPOSITE PAGE) ANCHYI/ISTOCK

## Thanks a Bundle

**THESE DAYS, EVERYONE IS LOOKING FOR MORE WAYS TO SAVE MONEY.** CAA Members can start by bundling their home and auto insurance. The savings are immediate—up to five percent on auto and 10 percent on home policies. And there are considerable benefits beyond savings—that's where the CAA advantage really kicks in.

Think about it this way. By bundling insurance products with one company, you'll be dealing with a single point of contact—an employee of one of Canada's most trusted brands.

This becomes important if an incident occurs—say, a fire in your garage that also damages your car—that involves two or more different policies, says Lori Madsen, general manager of insurance services at CAA Saskatchewan. Making a claim is stressful enough, she points out, but that stress is exponential if you're dealing with two or three different insurance companies.

"With a CAA bundle, you will deal with just one company, one adjuster and, if applicable, one deductible," she says. "If your house insurance has a \$1,000 deductible and your auto has a \$200 [deductible], we'll apply the \$1,000 deductible and you don't have to pay your auto deductible."

That's the "all under one roof" advantage that CAA is about, notes Madsen. Personalized service like this can be worth more than money—it also gives you peace of mind. "Let us take care of all of this for you. Let us be your stress reliever."

Visit [caask.ca/insurance](http://caask.ca/insurance) to learn more about the benefits of bundling your insurance.



### The War Amps

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# Vehicle Data, Privacy and You

Our modes of transportation are also collecting information | *By Dick Snyder*

**THE WALLS** may very well have ears, but in 2024, so do our vehicles...not to mention eyes and all sorts of ways to collect data. From inside the cabin, connected to the vehicle's mechanics, to outside of the body, these data collection points are observing everything you do with the vehicle—when you do it, how you do it, what's it like out when you do it, and who is with you.

Now that the average age of vehicles on the road is 12 years, says Ian Jack, vice president of public affairs at CAA National, most of them are basically state-of-the-art reconnaissance machines. "We're at a point where an awful lot of people have screens sitting in the middle of their dash and it's very clear there are a lot of computers at work."

The central question is: Who controls that data? Well, it's not you, that's for sure. CAA believes this is an issue of

paramount importance—on par with privacy issues around smartphones, online services such as Google and Facebook, and virtual tech assistants such as Alexa and Siri.

Recent polling by CAA found that three out of four Canadians say they were unaware that when they purchased their vehicles, they granted to auto-makers the ownership of data collected.

Sounds a bit sinister, doesn't it? Well, when you don't own your privacy, you don't own your identity—or, at least, the security of your identity is at risk.

"What happens right now is that almost all of us sign away our privacy rights and rights to our data," Jack notes. There's a lot of money to be made selling your data for marketing or other purposes—automakers know this very well.

"You certainly don't have any choice, which is the other thing we're pressing

for," he says. "You might decide that you want your favourite corner garage, not your dealer, to be the recipient of your service data. It's a matter of consumer awareness and consumer choice."

Almost all the sensors and mini-computers that have been installed in vehicles over the years are there for legitimate purposes, according to Jack. "And a lot of them are road-safety-related and we support that. It's when you connect them all together and when you think about transmitting that data wirelessly that we start to get concerned—and that's where we're at now."

CAA continues to advocate for driver's rights around this issue. In the meantime, drivers of newer vehicles and new buyers should understand that their data is being collected and could be repurposed, shared or sold. Pay attention to the fine print.

Visit [caask.ca/about-caa/advocacy-safety/consumer-education](https://caask.ca/about-caa/advocacy-safety/consumer-education) to learn more.





SAFE  
Summer  
DRIVING ADVICE

1. Eliminate distracted driving.
2. Adjust your vehicle settings and tend to passenger needs before you drive.
3. Buckle up. Ensure seat belts are used by all occupants.
4. Secure children in properly fitted car or booster seats.
5. Drive according to weather and road conditions.
6. Slow to 60 km/h on Saskatchewan highways for tow truck operators, first responders, and highway workers.
7. Remember CAA Roadside Assistance is available, 24/7, 365 days a year.

caask.ca/safety

PHOTOGRAPH: (THIS PAGE) METAMORWORKS/ISTOCK; (OPPOSITE PAGE) COURTESY OF NOUN PROJECT

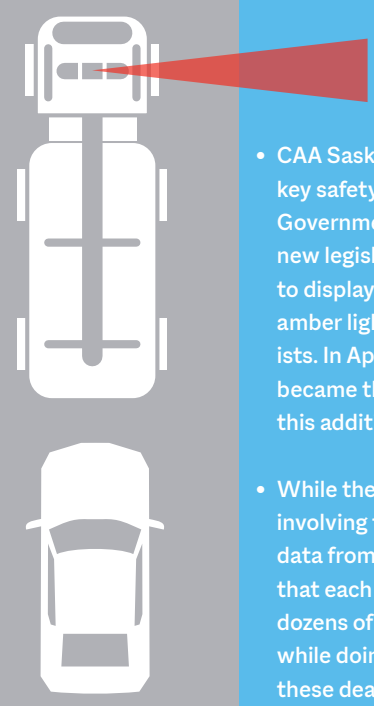
# Slow Down Move Over—Every Time

**WHEN YOU ARE DRIVING**, safety should always be top of mind—yours and the folks outside of your vehicle. That includes tow truck operators, construction crews and first responders such as paramedics, law enforcement officers, firefighters and highway patrol staff, who are extremely vulnerable working on our highways.

It's crucial—as well as the law—for motorists to reduce speed and slow down to 60 kilometres/hour for all first responders working on Saskatchewan highways and change lanes if possible when approaching these workers. CAA Saskatchewan has long advocated for the introduction of Slow Down Move Over legislation. To raise awareness, CAA Saskatchewan recognizes the second Tuesday in May as CAA Slow Down Move Over Day. This year, it's May 14.

**Here's what to keep in mind:**

**Be Alert and Aware.** Watch for flashing lights, reflective pylons, signage, high-visibility clothing and other indications that first responders are present on or at the side of highways. In the Regina area, CAA Saskatchewan's fleet is equipped with a HAAS navigation system that alerts drivers in advance of approaching tow truck operators on duty. HAAS plans to have all major manufacturers onboard, with four currently secured.



**Reduce Speed.** When you see a stopped first responder vehicle or other signs of activity, you must decrease your speed to 60 km/hr on Saskatchewan highways and roads.

**Slow Down Move Over: Background**

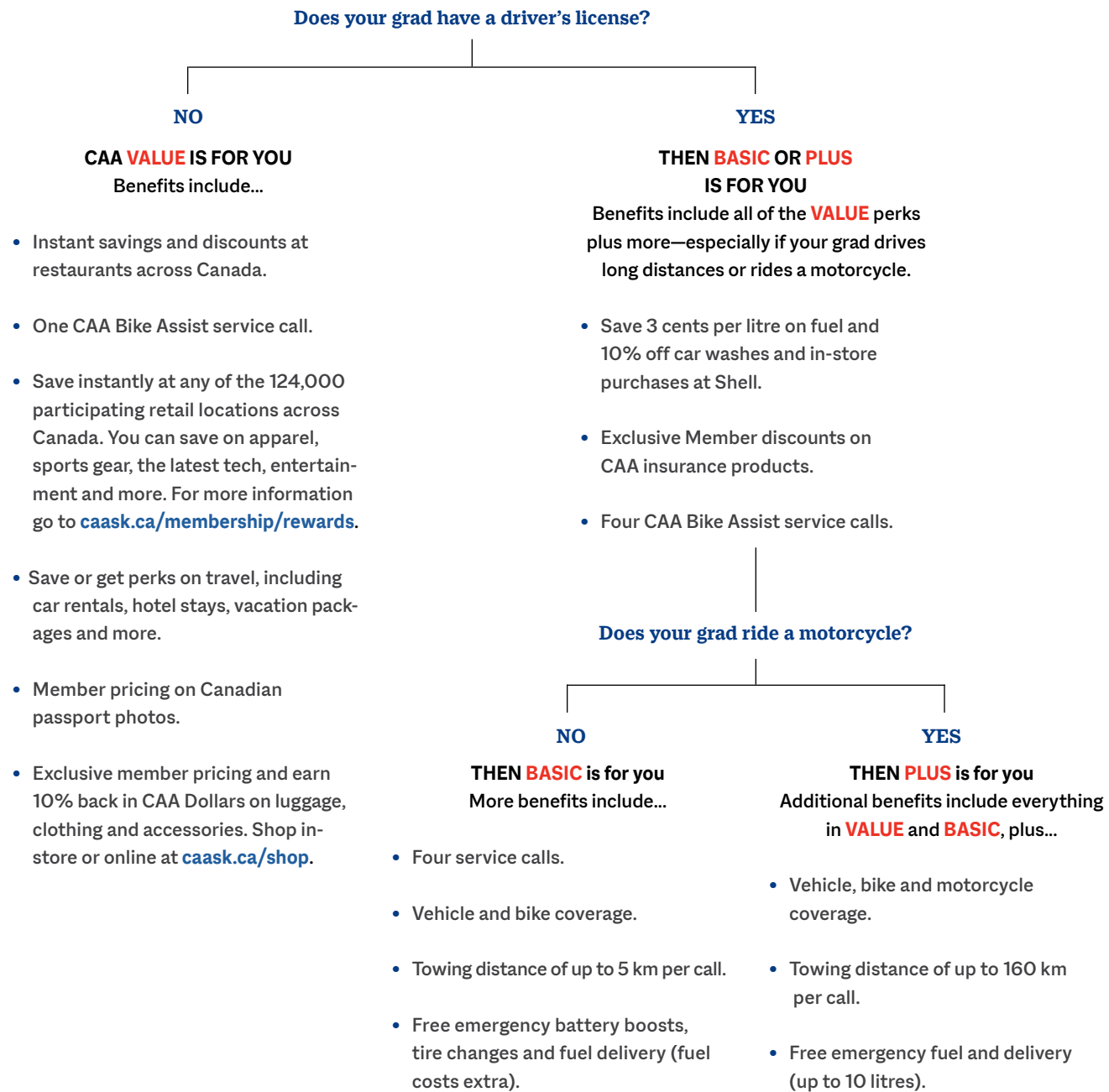
- In January 2021, a tow truck operator was involved in a serious collision while working on a highway near North Battleford, Saskatchewan.
- An Oshawa tow truck driver was killed in 2019 while assisting a motorist on a highway near Durham, Ontario.
- A tow truck operator near Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, was struck and killed in 2017 while working during a blizzard.
- CAA Saskatchewan worked with key safety stakeholders to lobby the Government of Saskatchewan for new legislation allowing tow trucks to display blue lights in addition to amber lights when assisting motorists. In April 2017, Saskatchewan became the first province to permit this additional safety precaution.
- While the exact number of collisions involving tow trucks is unknown, data from CAA National indicates that each year in North America, dozens of tow operators are killed while doing their jobs. Each one of these deaths is entirely preventable: Slow down move over.

Visit [caask.ca/slowdownmoveover](https://caask.ca/slowdownmoveover) to learn more.



# Graduating to Greater Things

CELEBRATE THE STUDENT IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD WITH A CAA MEMBERSHIP—it's a gift that gives two ways. They enjoy the perks and security of all the member benefits, and you enjoy peace of mind knowing your grad is in safe hands. Plus, they get to take advantage of some amazing savings with CAA partners. Here's how to pick the membership level to suit them best.



For more information on additional road assistance services or to purchase a membership, go to [caask.ca/membership](https://caask.ca/membership) or call **1.800.564.6222**

## ARE YOUR TOYS READY FOR SUMMER?

Protect your toys and enjoy the outdoors. Member savings available. Talk to a CAA Insurance Consultant to review all your insurance needs.

1.800.564.6222 | [CAASK.CA/RECREATIONAL](https://CAASK.CA/RECREATIONAL)

## STRANDED, DELAYED, CANCELLED? WE'VE GOT INSURANCE FOR THAT.

CAA MEMBERS SAVE 10%\*

Protect yourself and your loved ones by packing CAA Travel Insurance<sup>1</sup> on your next vacation.

1.800.564.6222 | [CAASK.CA/TRAVEL](https://CAASK.CA/TRAVEL)

\*Applies to CAA Members in good standing with dues paid in full by membership expiry date. 10% savings applies to the total premium excluding applicable taxes. Minimum premiums apply. Excludes visitors to Canada Insurance. Terms and conditions apply. <sup>1</sup>CAA Travel Insurance, an Orion Travel Insurance product, is underwritten by Echelon Insurance. Certain exclusions, limitations and restrictions apply. Subject to change without notice. A medical questionnaire is required if you are 60 years of age and older

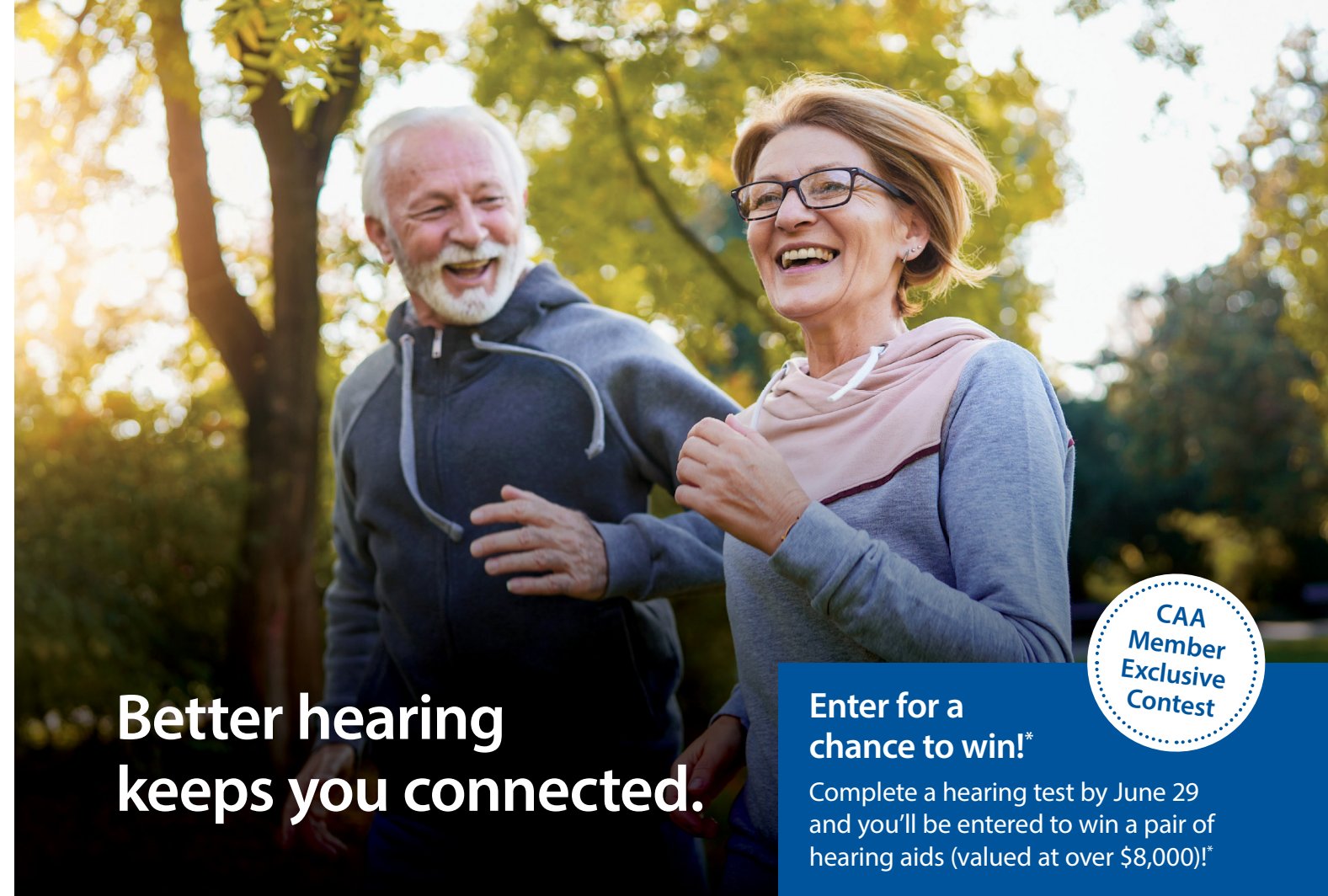


WHERE IN THE WORLD?

# Salt Waters

Just over an hour's drive southeast of Saskatoon, this unique saltwater lake known for its buoyant, healing waters is sometimes described as the "Dead Sea of Canada." Its high mineral concentration makes floating effortless for beachgoers.

PHOTOGRAPH: CAREY SHAW



## Better hearing keeps you connected.



Enter for a chance to win!\*

Complete a hearing test by June 29 and you'll be entered to win a pair of hearing aids (valued at over \$8,000)!\*

As a CAA Member we want to help you take care of your hearing health. Complete a free hearing evaluation\*\* before June 29th and you could win a pair of hearing aids!\*

To be entered, simply visit [connecthearing.ca/contest-caa](https://connecthearing.ca/contest-caa) and fill out the form to schedule and complete a full hearing test by June 29 at your local Connect Hearing clinic. Learn more at [connecthearing.ca/contest-caa](https://connecthearing.ca/contest-caa) or call 1.866.948.0660.

**CAA Member Benefits:**

- ✓ Save up to \$2,000 on a pair of Select level hearing aids\*\*\*
- ✓ 15% off everyday listening products
- ✓ 5 years of free batteries with hearing aid purchase
- ✓ CAA Members always get our lowest price!

Prioritize your hearing health and you could win a pair of hearing aids!\*

1.866.948.0660 • [connecthearing.ca/contest-caa](https://connecthearing.ca/contest-caa)



**Think you know where this is?** Send us a note at [caa.magazine@caask.ca](mailto:caa.magazine@caask.ca) with your guess for your chance to win a set of High Road CargoCube™ Storage Bins, courtesy of CAA Travel. Check out [caask.ca/shop](https://caask.ca/shop) or visit your local CAA Store for a selection of travel merchandise. The location will be revealed in the fall 2024 issue. Learn more at [caask.ca/where-in-the-world-contest](https://caask.ca/where-in-the-world-contest).

Last issue's Where in the World? was Cochin Lighthouse.

\*No purchase necessary. Closes June 29, 2024 at 5:00p.m PT. Open to residents of Canada (excluding Quebec). Enter at participating Connect Hearing clinic locations. To be entered to win, visit [connecthearing.ca/contest-caa](https://connecthearing.ca/contest-caa) to register and complete a full hearing test at a Connect Hearing clinic within the contest period. Must have a valid CAA membership to win. Full rules on-site and at: [caa.connecthearing.ca/contest-rules](https://caa.connecthearing.ca/contest-rules). One (1) prize available consisting of two (2) hearing aids, a hearing evaluation and consultation at a Connect Hearing clinic in Canada; ARV: \$8,660. Skill-testing question required. Odds depend on the number of eligible entries. \*\*Hearing evaluations/tests are free for customers over the age of 18. Fees may apply where specific testing for employment purposes, reports, a copy of your results or the completion of an application is required. See clinic for full details. \*\*\*Private clients only. Offer is not applicable with Hearing Care Plan. Cannot be combined with any other offer, rebate or previous purchase and is non-redeemable for cash. Save up to \$2,000 on a pair of Select level Sonova hearing aids; 15% off Advanced level; and 10% off Standard level with a valid CAA membership. This offer is a tiered rebate determined by which level of Sonova Hearing Technology purchased. Offer expires September 30, 2024. Lyric, Bone Anchored Hearing Solutions, Econo aids, Non Sonova and AB products excluded. Offer available at Connect Hearing locations. See clinic for details. \*\*CAA and CAA logo trademarks owned by, and use is authorized by, the Canadian Automobile Association. CAA Rewards™ used by the Canadian Automobile Association.



# Donate Your Car To Help Canadians Fight Kidney Disease

The Kidney Foundation of Canada supports people affected by kidney disease through the delivery of programs, services and investments in vital kidney research. When you make your car a Kidney Car, you're driving change and providing hope.



## Free Tow

Kidney Car provides free and fast towing.



## Tax Receipt

Every vehicle donation is eligible for a \$700+ tax receipt!



## Hassle-Free

From logistics to paperwork, we take care of it all.



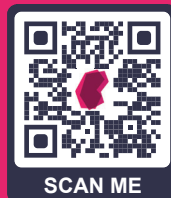
## The Trusted Choice

We've earned the trust of tens of thousands of Canadian donors who have chosen Kidney Car.



## Ready to make a difference?

Donate your car today to Kidney Car. Scan the code with your phone to get started!



# kidneycar.ca