



Prairie Born Writer Longs for the Wild Rose Province

For Saskatchewan born writer, Trent Ernst, his love of the wilderness and especially the province of Alberta has been a long association. Since he was a child he dreamt of the mountains and their majestic allure. It was this longing that has driven Trent to become one of the main writers for the popular Backroad Mapbook series. Trent has recently just helped complete a new outdoor recreation guidebook for Southern Alberta called *Backroad Mapbook: Southern Alberta*. The new publication was one of the more satisfying challenges in his writing career.

“I have always had this unbelievable drive in me to explore and to especially explore the foothills and Rocky Mountains.” said Trent. “I still remember vividly when I first saw those mountains, jutting through the flatland like this massive wall. It’s truly amazing when you travel west from the prairie and suddenly they come into view.” added Trent.

Trent originally started writing for the Backroad Mapbook series about seven years ago and has extensively explored both the BC and Alberta sides of the Rockies. “After a decade or so some people call me an expert, but I’ll be the first to tell you that I still learn so much with every day that I explore out here. The terrain is massive and I’m truly lucky I have a job that demands me to travel this magnificent province.” continued Trent.

Trent has set roots in Southern Alberta as well. “My best friend and I have started a small photography company in Medicine Hat that has really started to pick up speed.” said Trent. “I’ve always wanted to settle down in Alberta and this is the first step to that process” noted Trent.

Determined to make a living out of writing and photography, Trent has worked tirelessly at perfecting his research, writing and photography skills. This pattern continues today as he has helped establish the Backroad Mapbook series as the top selling outdoor recreation guidebook series in both Alberta and Canada. Through the research trips he has been able to develop a good base of outdoor photographs that have helped the Medicine Hat based photography business.

“Having travelled extensively from coast to coast it is amazing to experience the unique character of the country and meet all the different people. But still after all these years and all the travel I’ve done, I always feel at home in Alberta.” says Trent. “...and in particular in Southern Alberta, no offence to everyone Calgary and north, but I’ll take a few degrees warmer in the winter and in the summer down here if you know what I mean...” laughs Trent.

Trent has been instrumental in helping make the mapbooks better. With new topographical features and easier to read maps, the recreational information virtually jumps out from the pages. The detailed maps, combined with the writing listing all the outdoor activities in a given area, will help people explore the Great Outdoor with ease and confidence. The Backroad Mapbooks can be found at leading bookstores and outdoor stores throughout the province or visit

www.backroadmapbooks.com for more information. Some of the photographs from Trent’s research trips can be found on www.eyefordetailstudios.com.



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