



## Trent Ernst – Author & Researcher

Trent Ernst has been researching and writing the BC and Alberta Backroad Mapbooks for the better part of the last decade. In 2008, he started researching the entire Backroad Mapbook series, save for Quebec books. Trent has an uncanny knack for digging up often unheard of trails and places to explore.

Trent was born in Rosthern, Saskatchewan because his hometown of Waldheim, found 25 km (15 miles) down the road, was too small to have a hospital. The evening he was born, the townsfolk celebrated with a big party on Main Street, and fireworks lit up the evening sky.

It was only later he learned that it was the simply the annual 4H festival. Since that time, his life has been inexplicably linked with cows.

Trent spent his first 18 years in Waldheim, surrounded by wheat and wind and long, cold winters. He learned the art of alliteration during those wild winters, but it was only upon moving to Tumbler Ridge, BC after graduating high school that he discovered the magic of the mountains. Says Trent: “I remember the first time I went to see Kinuseo Falls, in Monkman Park. At the time, the only way in was along the old Monkman Pass Road, and there were five or six bridges that were washed out, so you could only go in late summer with a 4wd vehicle. I followed the path down to the base of the falls, and when I got there, I just stood and stared, enraptured. “When I left, instead of following the path, I climbed up between the path and the falls. As I did, I thought to myself ‘I wonder if anybody has ever stood right here, this very spot where I am standing.’ For a teenage boy from Saskatchewan, it was a heady experience, and it was the day that I truly fell in love with the wilderness.”

Since that time, Trent has dedicated as much time as he could to exploring the mountains. He spent the better part of the 90s living in the Lower Mainland and exploring the North Shore Mountains before returning to Tumbler Ridge, where he lives with his wife and daughters. He still spends as much time as he can exploring the wilds of BC and the Alberta Rockies.

When not writing mapbooks or exploring the wilderness, Trent plays drums for the band Heavy Things ([www.heavythings.ca](http://www.heavythings.ca)) and works as a wedding and portrait photographer. [www.eyefordetailphotos.com](http://www.eyefordetailphotos.com).