

John Dunn

Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society

“Ellesmere Light”

An innovative summer expedition across Canada's northernmost island

The Expedition

The Lightweight Challenge:

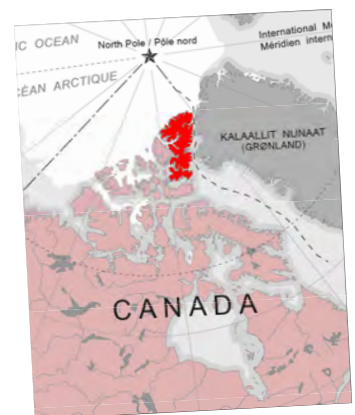
The aim of this expedition was to make a long, lightweight, summer journey in Canada's high arctic; using as little equipment as possible. We also wanted to do the journey unsupported and therefore had to carry enough food for 55 days. The challenge was to travel with this load over some very varied terrain. We began in mid-June, pulling a sled on the melting sea ice for 250 km. Then we put wheels on the sled and hauled it overland for a further 250 km and finally we hiked for the last 250 km. Vital pieces of equipment included an 800 gram tent and a 1.4 kg boat. **This expedition was all about doing more ... with less. In fact it was amazing how little “stuff” one really needed in order to undertake such a challenging journey.**



The Presentation

80° North & beyond:

Ellesmere Island is way up there; basically it's the last bit of Canadian land before the North Pole. **This presentation will celebrate the spectacular high arctic wilderness of Ellesmere Island and recount the many challenges we faced as we worked towards our goal.** I shot a lot of video, so there is interesting footage us solving a bunch of problems; scary, cold river crossings being high on the list. Good animal encounters too; especially some memorable arctic wolf encounters. And let's not forget the weather; the first half of the trip was ridiculously warm (up to 20°C) and we actually had to search for shade when trying to sleep under the midnight sun. Global warming? Sure felt like it.



Ellesmere Light was supported by the



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For more information please contact John: jdunn@arcticlight.com