

THE CANADIAN COTTAGE TRADITION



First of CottageClub cottages were completed in 2009.

The Canadian love affair with “going to the cottage” began in the 1920’s. Weekends and summer months were joyful occasions - just about everything but the kitchen sink would be loaded onto trams, railway platforms and into early motorcars to simple cottages, hours away, that began sprouting along lakes and rivers.

Fishing, canoeing, boating, berry picking and ball games were hugely popular. Evenings in those early days (with no electricity) were social affairs for all ages. Dances, sing-songs, musicals and storytelling around the camp-fire were occasions spent

long into summer evenings with stars overhead shining bright. “Cottages”, are still handed down today from generation to generation and valued for their time-honoured tradition of family gatherings. The same love of fresh air, woodland’s magic and shorelines revisited, time and time again, still remains.

Neighbours drop in and friends and family visit - ‘cottage life’ is all about community.

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The first cottage on the north shore of Ghost Lake. Glenbow Archives NA 2139-3.