

For Immediate Release

Madawaska Kanu Centre

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Whitewater Kayak Instruction in the Nation's Capital!

OTTAWA, Ontario - **Whitewater!** The very word is thrilling. And countless thousands, restless for exhilaration, have pursued its challenge. It has been an exciting road since Madawaska Kanu Centre started Canada's first whitewater paddling school on the Madawaska River near Algonquin Park, back in 1972. Carving out a unique program, that combines structured learning in a resort environment with a twist of European flare; entrepreneurs and national whitewater champions Hermann and Christa Kerckhoff learned that they were pioneers in their field. Years later they discovered they had started a phenomenon - the first whitewater school in the world!

This summer, MKC will be offering whitewater Kayak instruction in downtown Ottawa, at the "Pump House". The Pump House is a tributary of the Ottawa River managed by the Ottawa River Runners Club at the foot of Rideau Falls. If you long to be part of this very special experience '**MKC in the City**' will be offering entry level whitewater classes right below the Parliament buildings this summer.

"It's very exciting to be offering courses in downtown Ottawa," says Madawaska Kanu Centre president and ten-time Canadian kayak champion, Claudia Van Wijk, "with three rivers plus the World Heritage Rideau Canal converging in our Nations Capital, Ottawa is the perfect city to take your first step to becoming a whitewater paddler. "

This new program is designed to teach students the skills they will need to embark on their own paddling adventures. All equipment is provided and students are taught by experienced instructors. Prices start at \$120 for evening or weekend sessions.

For more information on **MKC in the City**, including prices and availability, contact Claudia Van Wijk at 613-594-5268 or paddle@owl-mkc.ca.