

## **Arnold Bay, Panton to Kingsland Bay**

**Date:** 9/30/2004

**Distance:** 15 miles

There are spectacular pockets of fall color on the lakeshore and the birds are migrating south in great numbers. We saw about 14 loons today as we paddled from Arnold Bay to Kingsland Bay. As we paddled around Button Bay, wave upon wave of Canada geese flew in, honking loudly, until there were perhaps a thousand of them feeding in the bay. Further north we saw an equal number of cormorants. We also spotted an otter, a mink, a mole and one kayaker going the other way. We shared a special unspoken camaraderie with the kayaker that we three alone were out enjoying this most incredible fall day on the lake, in a way no one in a larger boat could appreciate. At the Maritime Museum we stopped to look at the gunboat Philadelphia and found ourselves directly in the line of sight of it's largest gun. When hailed by the gunboat guide and asked if we were "friend or foe" , we quickly answered "friend", realizing the vulnerability of our position. It is clear that the sun is making its arc further south in the sky, the days are getting shorter, the water is clearly getting colder but we are hoping for at least one more week, perhaps two, of paddling. Tomorrow we head to Cumberland Head.