

End to End Hike Diary: Hike 3

It was a dark and stormy day! Isn't that a great opening line? That is how Alex Bissett described the day of the hike that he led on Saturday, May 1st, 2005. It was a heavily overcast day with rain most of the time and the temperature did not rise above 10 degrees Celsius.

Four hikers arrived from Kingston to join the 16 hikers from the Ottawa area. They met up at Steeple Hill and Fallowfield Road. Councillor Janet Stavinga, when she started us off on the end-to-end hike on April 30th asked that we think of the settlers who landed at the site of the Rideau Trail trailhead (Richmond Landing) and the Rideau Conservation Authority as we went by Richmond and the hikers did just that near the end of this 15 kilometre portion of the hike to Kingston.

Along the way to the day's destination at the end of Ottawa Street just west of Richmond, the hikers stopped for a brief lunch break in the rain beside the Jock River. As you might imagine, the break was not too long since the rain was coming down at a steady rate.

Although the day was wet (it rained steadily for about 80 percent of the time) the hikers were in very good spirits and enjoyed the hike. Most of the walking was along country roads. The route goes along the Jock River and then alongside the Richmond Lagoons as it enters the village of Richmond. There was still plenty to see and enjoy along the way.

We are looking forward to the next leg of the hike. Hopefully the weather will improve but of course, with that will come the bugs. The hikers will, as usual, take the appropriate measures of protection.