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Halifax man claims Grand Prize in The Great Trail Treasure Hunt

Over 8,000 entries submitted to The Great Trail Treasure Hunt
during eight-week contest

When he moved from Toronto to Halifax for love, Patrick Klein-Horsman already thought he was pretty lucky. Winning the grand prize for The Great Trail Treasure Hunt was luckier than he ever could have imagined.

Patrick and his girlfriend, Teanna Sparks, decided to hunt for box 42 on The Great Trail of Canada in Halifax with their dogs, Koda and Keilah. They found the lucky box in a small garden on the Halifax waterfront – coincidentally, the same spot where the couple had their first date!

It was a perfect start to an amazing adventure that led them to the grand prize win. In all, Patrick found five treasure boxes in total, which qualifies him as a treasure hunt 'superuser'.

Patrick's prize is a veritable treasure trove, and includes an expedition cruise along the coast of Newfoundland from One Ocean Expeditions, gift certificates for two pairs of boots from KEEN Footwear, a Nikon COOLPIX camera, a SPOT X 2-Way Messenger, a Parks Canada Discovery Pass and a one month supply of CLIF Bars. The total estimated value of the prize is over \$18,000 – loot that would surely rival the legendary hidden treasure of Captain Kidd on Oak Island.

"I am overwhelmed by the win! My girlfriend and I are really looking forward to this vacation," says Patrick. "It's our chance to connect and be closer to each other while seeing a part of Canada we've never been to before."

In another twist of fate, the grand prize winner of last year's treasure hunt was also from the Halifax area. Last year, [Janet Shellnut](#) was named the overall winner after finding a box just days before the 2018 contest ended.

This year's treasure hunt commenced on June 19 and quickly captured the imaginations of young families, outdoor enthusiasts and geocachers across the country. Throughout the eight-week contest, thousands of Canadians took to the Trail and found treasure boxes, with over 8,000 entries submitted before the treasure hunt ended on August 18.

"We are thrilled for Patrick and for everyone who ventured out on The Great Trail of Canada and enjoyed this year's treasure hunt," said **J r mie Gabourg, Vice-President, Communications and Marketing at TCT.**

“Although we had high expectations for the treasure hunt this year, they were exceeded when we found out that over 8,000 entries had been submitted and almost 400 participants found five or more boxes,” Mr. Gabourg added. “That level of engagement and belonging is what’s great about our national Trail, and the world needs to know!”

This year, treasure hunters also had the chance to earn the title of “superuser” if they found five or more boxes during the contest. Gina Anderson, a treasure hunter and mom from Yukon who found 93 boxes, claimed the coveted Superuser Package Prize.

“Canadians have been exploring the The Great Trail in droves this summer in the quest to find great prizes in this second year of the treasure hunt,” **says John Geiger, CEO of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society.**

“Congratulations to Patrick, our lucky grand prize winner, who will enjoy a fabulous experience on Canada’s east coast next summer, courtesy of One Ocean Expeditions.”

After the success of this year’s treasure hunt, TCT and Canadian Geographic look forward to planning for another rendition of the treasure hunt in 2020.

TCT and *Canadian Geographic* gratefully acknowledge the support of the following sponsors: [One Ocean Expeditions](#), [Quench Trip Design](#), [KEEN Footwear](#), [Nikon Canada](#), [Clif Bar & Company](#), [The Royal Canadian Mint](#), [SPOT Satellite GPS Messenger](#), [Parks Canada](#) and [The Globe and Mail](#).

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