



MARCH 23

Our final day together as a group started out a bit late. The JB-welded fan was cured and ready to install, but fortunately not needed for this near final leg of the trip. The temperatures were creeping into the upper 40°s now, so it was heaters off, vents open. We drove 382 miles to the Golden Arrow depot in Edmonton to drop off the truck for shipping back to Guelph, Ontario. Wireless service had miraculously appeared somewhere along the way and Kim received a steady stream of email updates for several miles.

Since we arrived a bit earlier than planned at Golden Arrow, Eric and Neal decided to press on further to Saskatoon and make camp there – another six hours driving for them. Remember, their trip still has many miles and hours to go, all the way back to Virginia. We said our goodbyes, took the final group photo for the Arctic Circle expedition, 2007 and prepared to load the 101 and 110 on the truck for their trip back to

Main: Abandoned shacks provide shelter if things get really bad.

Right: The group congregates around the 101, again.

Inset: Hot springs provided the most diverse mix of terrain I've seen in a long time.

Below: Final group photo of expedition team; (from left to right) Peter, Eric, Mike, Neal, me (Jim) and Kim.



Guelph. We'd be back together with the trucks in no time.

MARCH 24

After Mike and I made our way home (despite the best efforts of the airlines), we started to receive updates from the Virginia team of Eric and Neal. Here are some of the highlights, from Saturday, as written by Neal Brenner:

"Our day started at 6.30am local time. Again I am having difficulty with what time it is. My cell phone says one time, my insulin pump another, my test meter yet another and my watch or the clock in the room do not match any of them. We have moved in and out of so many time zones it is difficult to keep track. Typically we go with the hotel clock, however that was wrong due to daylight savings time.

"Our goal is to make it across to the US border. From there we will make a decision on what to do. With the winds mostly at our back and no big Land Rover to slow us down we average 65mph.

"3pm on the dot and we are at the border. There is a line of three cars behind us when we arrive and the guard asks us the typical questions of where we have been

and so on. When he asks us to open the back door of the truck for inspection we are concerned, but not for the reason you might think. Every time we've opened the back door, several things have fallen out and caused quite a mess. Thank goodness when we open it this time nothing decides to spill out.

"We have set our next goal for Fargo, North Dakota; another 320 miles down the road. Once we get a little further we will start calling for a hotel. Our ride continued and because Eric was unfamiliar with my phone and I was driving, we did not call ahead. 15 hours and over 760 miles later, we arrived in Fargo.

"First we go to the Holiday Inn Express expecting to get a room, but due to our continuing luck with hotels, they were booked solid. The clerk informed us that the Hampton Inn did have rooms and attempted to give us directions. Confused by these, I turned the GPS back on and it navigated us there. We'd be in Chicago if I had followed the clerk's advice!"

Later in the week, I received this final update from Neal Brenner:

"Today our goal is to make it out to at least Gary, Indiana, if not further. We are both determined

