**Congratulations to Ainsley Doleman, the K - Grade 8**

**First Place Winner of the 2021 Farley Mowat Writing Contest**

*Into The Wild Wind*

Ainsley Doleman

Grade 6 French Immersion

Ganaraska Trail Public School, Port Hope

*It was a cold February night. The wind was wild, and the trees swayed with every breeze. I was on a long trip where I'd been walking for a few days. It was very cold ! I was so cold my toes would fall off, if I’d had any left from a few hours ago. I'd gotten pretty far on the part of the flat land I could see. When I reached into my pocket to grab my cold piece of moose that I had brought with me, I realized it was gone! Then I looked down and to my surprise I saw the cutest little Husky pup ever. With grey splotches around his head kind of like a scarf and he had one little paw that was white like snow and had icy blue eyes. Wait but what was that in his mouth, I took a closer look and saw my moose meat! And the little guy had eaten every bite of it! But he was so cute I couldn’t get mad at him he was probably just hungry like I was. But now I had nothing to eat. I Leaned down and petted the little Husky pup who’d I had named Frost. Frost followed me I felt a strong bond for the little pup now, so I picked him and carried him in one hand while the other hand was frozen solid and shivering. So for a while I had a backpack, heavy snow boots, a thick fur coat, and a little Husky pup called Frost to carry to Arviat. I was from Whale Cove to Arviat all on my own. Well before I met Frost. I took a few deep breaths to just breath in all the lovely landscapes surrounding me. A few days had past and I was still walking, and I was about to just quit and head back home to my lovely town, but I had come to far to give up so I kept on going Just then I saw a town! Could it be Arviat? Did I get lost? I ran as fast as my legs could carry me which wasn’t very fast because of my heavy snow boots. Well how would you like to wear heavy snow boots that together weigh up to 2 bricks! Well, that’s how I was feeling. When I got there around 4 hours after I had seen it from far off in the distance. When I looked around, I knew I had reached my destination, Arviat. Arviat was as beautiful as I had imagined it, homes lined the streets as people were trying to get places and some were even wearing heavier boots then I was. I went to a hotel to rent a room while I stayed in Arviat. As soon as I laid on that bed, I think I must have dozed off because when I woke up it was the next day and Frost was just chasing his tail like all dogs or in this case puppies do. I looked out my window to see the glittery and sparkly snow that had fallen the night before. The street was quite quiet at this time, but I was so eager to do everything that I put on all my snow gear and headed down towards the lake, and since I was on the eastern part of Nunavut, I was going to the Maguse Lake. Where I was super excited to go ice fishing! After I rented a fishing rod, I made a nice hole in the ice and waited and waited and waited and after a few hours of waiting I felt a tug on the rod, and I started to reel it in and I caught a fish! I was so very excited that I had caught a fish and after a few hours of waiting and reeling in fish and being excited for myself I decided to head back to the hotel and take a rest after all being on a lake all day is tiring, so I dozed off. The next day I woke up because Frost’s paws were in my face and moving everywhere. Today I'm going to explore the village I said. Suddenly I was startled when Frost fell onto the floor by pushing himself off the bed! When I finally got outside, I realized that today was the 18th of February and that's the day I head home. So, I quickly ran back inside packed my stuff grabbed Frost and sprinted towards the airport just down the road. When I got there, I looked at my watch and I only had 2 minutes left to get on the plane I ran to the gate and the lady was just about to close it when Frost jumped out of my arm and ran toward the lady and knocked her right over! Oh my gosh I was so embarrassed! As the lady got kisses from Frost all over her face and I said sorry to her numerous times and when they said 1 minute till the plane was about to leave, I told the lady my problem and she said she'd put Frost in the pet area in the plane for me and told me to hurry if I wanted to catch my flight, so I thanked her and did as she instructed. I got into my seat and sat there wondering if Frost was ok and then the pilot told everyone to put, they’re buckles on, and we took off and that's when I saw the nice lady who’d Frost had knocked over waving to me. That's when I told myself everything was all right and that's how I ended my vacation knowing that everything was perfect. The perfect end to the most perfect vacation ever.*