

ZENEA Time Traveler July Update

At ZENEA, “Appreciate Every Moment” is one of our core philosophies. This is how we approach our business as well as our personal lives. As a show of our appreciation, we’re so excited to announce our fundraiser for [Habitat for Humanity Canada](#). Introducing...[The ZENEA Time Traveler Fundraiser!](#)

Total KMs Travelled in July: 1,978 KMs

Stop #1: Niagara Region with [@RJKama](#)

July 1-4

“One of the greatest things about the watch collection is how we’re all bonded by this one universal love of watches, from so many different people with different backgrounds and different interests.” – RJ Kama

I arrived at the first stop on my trip, Niagara Falls, Ontario, on Canada Day where I was greeted by my gracious host, RJ Kama. RJ is a highly regarded watch collector in Ontario and we had a blast hanging out together! We went to the Falls, and then to nearby Crystal Beach. The weather was beautiful!

I am always so excited to visit Niagara Falls, one of the most impressive views in Canada, and widely regarded as one of the wonders of the world.

In RJ’s words:

“It’s funny, I never come down to the touristy part of town unless I’m showing an out of town visitor around... and yet every time I am here, I am impressed by the power of the falls...”

After our fun day at the Falls, we went to nearby Crystal Beach to soak in some sun. One of the great things about this country, is there is so much to explore, including some absolutely beautiful beaches, like Crystal Beach just between Port Colborne and Fort Erie.

After our beach day, we decided to kick back and enjoy another Canadian tradition—Rye Whiskey. RJ treated me to a 43-year old Canadian Club, Canada’s oldest age statement whiskey.

RJ told me a bit about the whiskey:

“Bottled at 45% ABV this one has some heat to it, and the barrel influences are very welcomed to add some vanillins, cinnamon spice, and leather to the maple syrup and brown sugar flavours inherent in Canadian whisky.”



Stop #2: Montreal with [@MarcTime2Watch](#) July 7-10

I arrived in Montreal just in time for the NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs, which the Montreal Canadiens were playing in. MarcTime2Watch, another Canadian watch collector was generous enough to let me stay with him for my time here.

Marc had this to say:

“Look what just arrived, in time for Game 5 of the [#stanleycup](#) playoffs! The [#zeneawatches](#) [#uladiver](#)!!! Welcome to Montreal and let's hope you bring the [#montrealcanadiens](#) some luck!”

Unfortunately, I was unable to bring luck to the Montreal Canadiens, however it was so fun soaking up hockey culture in a city that is at the heart of the Canadian hockey scene.

The next day, we went on a Tim's run, and had some delicious double double coffees from Tim Horton's. A true Canadian classic!

To end off my time with Marc, he cracked another bottle of Canadian Whiskey for us to enjoy. Boy, do these Canadians like their whiskey! Here's what Marc had to say about the whiskey we drank:

“Like [@rjkama](#) I am finishing my time with the [@zeneatimetraveler](#) sipping on some fine Canadian Whiskey. This is a bottle of 150th Anniversary [@jpwisers](#) Red Letter. Came in this beautiful presentation box. I am really honored to have been a part of this project to raise awareness and support [@habitatcanada](#). Just wish I had been travelling with it... We are supposed to visit the Maritimes late this summer, perhaps it will find its way back to me again... Who knows! Godspeed Uladiver!!!”



Stop #3: “The Ultimate Canadian Bagel Debate” in Montreal with [@StrapsCo](#) July 16-18

By now, I was a few weeks into my year long journey across Canada. I was having too much fun in Montreal, so our founder Jason made some phone calls to arrange for me to stay with our friends over at [StrapsCo](#), a fantastic Montreal-based company that sells high quality watch bands.

We went to a bakery in Montreal, where I learned a little bit about the history of bagels in Montreal. Here’s what StrapsCo had to say:

“The ultimate Canadian debate of the Montreal bagels. Montreal is known for our fire oven baked bagels with white sesame seed. The best bagels in the world! And the ZENEA is enjoying it starting from the middle 😊”

After the bagels, we headed over to the Atwater Market, a Montreal staple and one of the best places to pick up fresh fruits and veggies. We enjoyed some delicious falafel and then walked off the calories along the canal.



Stop #4: Downtown Toronto with [@TimeToGo1978](#) July 16-18

Stuffed full of bagels, whiskey, and falafel, I hopped on a plane to head back to Downtown Toronto, where I spent a few days with [TimeToGo Travel and Timepieces](#), who hosts a YouTube channel and Instagram page reviewing watches like me! The weather was beautiful and it was a great day to enjoy some outdoor activities in the city.

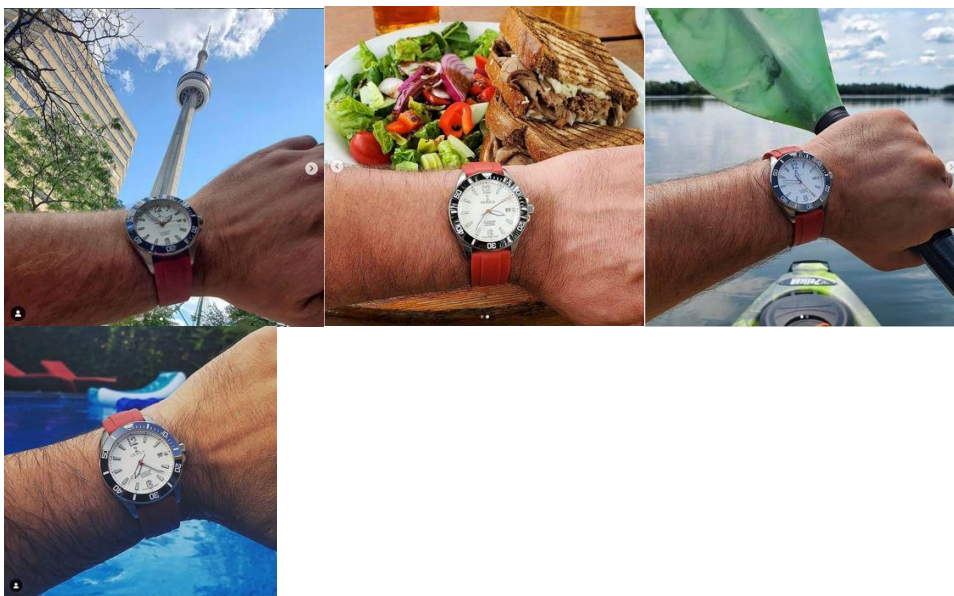
Here's what TimeToGo1978 had to say when I arrived:

"The Ula Diver from [@zeneawatches](#) just showed up today. Perfect companion for a day downtown Toronto. I'm happy to be taking part in the Canada wide year long tour of the watch to help raise funds for Habitat for Humanity."

TimeToGo1978 and his wife had decided to take a little drive outside of the city to Cambridge, Ontario to go kayaking in Valens Lake Conservation Area. He invited me and I happily tagged along. It's so nice being on the lake with the sun shining down, and a different kind of hustle and bustle from that of the city—The hustle and bustle of wildlife! After our paddle, we stopped to have roast beef sandwiches and salad at a local restaurant.

Finally, we relaxed by the pool, a much needed break from all the excitement I've had over the last couple weeks.

Since I'm so close to ZENEA founder Jason's hometown of Thornhill, ON, I'm thinking about stopping in to visit him before I really get going on my cross-Canada journey. I'm sure he's worried sick about me!



Stop #5: Thornhill, Ontario with Jason Hutton

July 25-29

I decided to head home while I'm in town, to spend some time with Jason before I continue on my journey. We went for a walk with Benny in Pomona Mills Park, a Jack Russel Terrier who was staying with Jason for a few days. After that we went shopping for dinner at the [@galleriasupermarket](#) in Thornhill. One of the things Jason always loved about Thornhill and the Toronto area is the diverse collection of cultures and foods in almost every neighbourhood. We love going on culinary adventures together!

After dinner, we went for a walk where Jason taught me a little bit about Thornhill, and helped me take a picture on the wrist of Benjamin Thorne. Here's what Jason had to say:

"The ZENEA Time Traveler on the wrist of Benjamin Thorne, one of the original inhabitants of the area and who the town of Thornhill is named after. First settled in 1794, Thornhill is now part of the municipality of Markham Ontario.

This particular statue was erected in 2017 in front of the Thornhill Community Centre as part of Canada's 150th birthday. It was July 1, 1867, that the British North America Act united the British provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and Ontario into the Dominion of Canada."

After telling Jason about the great time I had with RJ Kama, he decided he wanted to take me down to Niagara-on-the-Lake, so we got some bagels from Bagel Nash, one of Jason's favourite bagel spots in Thornhill, and headed off on a drive back to Niagara.

We had craft beers from [Silversmith Brewing](#) and Fish & Chips from [The Harp Irish Pub](#). I can already tell I'm going to need a new strap with all the weight I'm going to put on, on this trip!

I'll be posting another journal entry in a month's time with details on the next leg of my trip, but if you want to follow along on my journey day by day, make sure to follow me on Instagram [@zeneatimetraveler](#)



How Can I Get Involved?

The purpose of this campaign truly is to make a difference in the lives of as many Canadians as possible. We encourage you to donate to Habitat for Humanity using the link below.

If you can't donate right now, that's okay! Follow the ZENEA Time Traveler on Instagram ([@ZENEA Time Traveler](#)), and make sure to check back on our blog to see all the latest from the watch's journey. Help us build a community and generate awareness for Habitat for Humanity Canada by liking & sharing on social media with your family and friends, too!

If you are interested in participating or have other ideas for how you can help support this fundraiser, we are always open to connecting!

[Contact Us](#)[Donate Now!](#)[Follow on Instagram](#)

About ZENEA Watches

ZENEA Watches was founded in 2019 by Jason Hutton in Toronto. Fascinated by history and our connection to the passage of time, Jason is building ZENEA around the core principle of appreciating every moment.

Designed in Canada, and hand assembled at our Swiss factory, ZENEA timepieces serve as a reminder to take a moment to appreciate the world around you. Manufactured by some of the highest regarded Swiss watch makers, all ZENEA timepieces are built to stand the test of time.

Whether it is for yourself, or a gift for a loved one—With each ZENEA timepiece, we hope to inspire you and your family to appreciate every moment, and the goodness of all people.

[Learn More](#)[View Collection](#)