

Hitchhiking robot travels across Canada (Update)

14 August 2014, by Charmaine Noronha



This undated photo made available by Ryerson University in Toronto on Thursday, Aug. 14, 2014 shows hitchBOT in a car. The talking robot that's been hitchhiking rides from strangers to travel from Canada's east to west coast is nearing the end of its journey. Its final destination is Victoria, British Columbia, Canada which its creators expect it to reach by Aug. 17, 2014. (AP Photo/Ryerson University)

Going my way? A talking robot that's been hitchhiking rides from strangers to travel from Canada's east to west coast is nearing the end of its journey.

HitchBOT, a robot created by a team of Ontario-based communications researchers studying the relationship between people and technology, has used his garden-gloved thumb to traverse the Great White North. He's traveled from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Kelowna, British Columbia.

The robot's co-creator David Smith, who teaches in the department of communication studies at Ontario's McMaster University, said Thursday that the creators wanted to situate robotics and artificial technologies into unlikely scenarios and push the limits of what robotics is capable of.

Smith said its final destination is Victoria, British Columbia, which it should be reaching soon.



This undated photo made available by Ryerson University in Toronto on Thursday, Aug. 14, 2014 shows hitchBOT at home with its research team in Port Credit, Ontario, Canada. The talking robot that's been hitchhiking rides from strangers to travel from Canada's east to west coast is nearing the end of its journey. Its final destination is Victoria, British Columbia, Canada which its creators expect it to reach by Aug. 17, 2014. (AP Photo/Ryerson University)

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