

De la Rosa reaches Pond Inlet, poised to launch the crossing

Received in Ottawa by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society alongside the Ambassador of Spain
Pond Inlet, Nunavut (Canada) · July 15, 2026

Spanish explorer Antonio de la Rosa has arrived in Pond Inlet, in the Canadian Arctic, and is preparing to launch a solo, unsupported crossing of more than 3,000 kilometres through the Northwest Passage, departing officially from Cape Liverpool, on Bylot Island.

The expedition will combine paddling with a modular two-section Sunova prototype board and sled hauling across ice, as conditions dictate. De la Rosa will travel alone, without resupply and without a support team, through one of the most demanding environments on the planet.

Ahead of his journey north, the explorer was received in Ottawa by the Royal Canadian Geographical Society (RCGS), accompanied by the Ambassador of Spain to Canada, Alfredo Martínez. The visit consolidated an institutional bridge between the two nations around polar exploration and environmental awareness — a Spanish tradition the ambassador framed within more than five centuries of history.

During the meeting, the ambassador highlighted the role of modern adventurers in building bridges between nations and raising awareness about Arctic conservation. The explorer summed up their shared vision:

“Modern exploration must serve to protect the world we inhabit” — Antonio de la Rosa

The arrival in Pond Inlet was not without difficulty: the technical equipment reached the community almost on the same journey as the explorer himself, after several days of logistical delays and with partial transport damage. Conditions on arrival included rain, temperatures between three and four degrees Celsius and a demanding wind chill.

From the shoreline, De la Rosa described a phenomenon that captures the changing nature of the contemporary Arctic: in just one or two days, easterly winds pushed the pack ice westward, clearing the intended navigation corridor. This kind of rapid ice mobility is among the phenomena the expedition will document during the crossing.

Departure is expected approximately two days after arrival, weather permitting. Throughout the crossing, the expedition will maintain satellite communications for updates and interviews.

Fact sheet

Distance	More than 3,000 kilometres
Departure point	Cape Liverpool, Bylot Island (via Pond Inlet, Nunavut)
Mode	Solo, unsupported — no resupply, no support team
Main equipment	Modular two-section Sunova prototype board and sled
Institutional support	Embassy of Spain in Canada · Royal Canadian Geographical Society
Safety	Equipment carried in accordance with Canadian Arctic regulations for solo travel

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