



ONTARIO
PARKS



Quetico Provincial Park

108 Saturn Ave. Telephone: 807-597-6971
Atikokan, ON Facsimile: 807-597-6185
P0T 1C0 www.OntarioParks.com

May 1st, 2017

Subject: **Opportunity to Comment on the Revised Preliminary Park Management Plan- Quetico Provincial Park**

A preliminary park management plan for Quetico was released for public review in late September 2013 for a 60 day review period. Prior to this stage of planning, the engagement with Lac La Croix First Nation and other First Nations had been very limited to non-existent due to a number of factors. Ontario Parks staff met with Lac La Croix community members in early December 2013, where the creation of an advisory committee to revise the park plan was discussed. Staff were invited to Lac La Croix for a community meeting in early April 2014. The meeting included a fish fry, drumming, prayers and songs, and community members took turns speaking. The Lac La Croix Park Management Advisory Committee was formed and met from July 2014 until March 2015 to review the preliminary park plan. A number of themes emerged from these discussions:

- The Shared History and Relationship between Lac La Croix and Quetico
- Phase-out of motorized guiding
- Cultural heritage resource management
- Fish and wildlife resource management
- Changes to zoning (wilderness, nature reserve zones)
- Opportunities for youth

The committee produced a recommendations report that was approved by Chief and Council in June 2015. That report consists of text revisions that are reflected in this revised preliminary park management plan.

Ontario Parks staff met with Seine River First Nation and Lac Des Milles Lacs First Nation in 2015, and comments made at these meetings are also reflected in the text of this revised preliminary park management plan.

Ontario Parks staff also considered the detailed comments regarding the 2013 preliminary park management plan, received from ENGOs such as the Quetico Foundation and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), and has adjusted management direction to remove the W3 zone, remove direction for the development of long distance trails and added reference to invasive species, including the development of an invasive species strategy.

At this time, you are invited to review the revised preliminary park management plan and to provide comments that you feel should be considered in the development of the final (approved) park management plan.

MNRF is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority of Ontario's Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006. Your comments (not including personal information) will become part of the record of consultation and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may be used by MNRF to follow-up with you upon request or when required. It will also be used to send you information about future MNRF initiatives involving this protected area. Please indicate in your response if you do not wish to be notified of new initiatives. If you have questions about the use of your personal information, please contact Michèle Proulx, Park Planner, 435 James Street South Suite 221D Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S7, 807- 475-1477, michele.proulx@ontario.ca.

This is the last step in the park planning process before a final plan is developed. The park management plan will guide land use, recreation, operations, planning, research, protection and development in Quetico Provincial Park for the next 20 years.

Comments may be submitted to the address above, from **May 1st until July 4th, 2017**. Notice of the Opportunity to Comment on the Revised Preliminary Park Management Plan is also posted electronically on the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) registry at www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/.

Hard copy of the revised preliminary park management plan is also available by visiting or contacting:

- Ontario Parks Northwest Zone, Suite 221D, 435 James Street S., Thunder Bay (807) 475-1321
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Atikokan Area, 108 Saturn Ave. Atikokan, ON (807) 597-2735
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Fort Frances District, 922 Scott St, Fort Frances, ON (807) 274-8605

A PDF version of the revised preliminary park management plan can be obtained by contacting michele.proulx@ontario.ca.

Ontario Parks maintains a contact list for the plan review. Individuals and groups on the list will have subsequent planning information sent to them by mail. If you do **not** wish to receive further information relating to the plan review, please inform Ontario Parks by calling 807-475-1477.

Yours truly,



Trevor Gibb
Park Superintendent
Quetico Provincial Park
(807) 597-5018
trevor.gibb@ontario.ca