



Heart of the Continent Partnership

Working together to sustain and celebrate the lakes, forests and communities on the Ontario/Minnesota border

November 30, 2016

Mayor Roy Avis
City of Fort Frances
320 Portage Ave
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9



Dear Mayor Avis,

I am writing to invite you and your organization to consider contributing to HOCP's voluntary annual dues. Your annual support makes a huge difference in helping HOCP continue its mission to sustain and celebrate this wonderful cross-border region through collaboration. Most helpful to us would be if you can respond by the end of the first quarter, 2017. Thanks so much.

Because of the great work and participation of our many partners, this year was full of exciting developments for HOCP:

In March we hosted our first annual Science Symposium! The event, held on Friday, March 11, 2016 at the Rainy River Community College in International Falls, MN, was a huge success with over 70 attendees largely from the science communities.

Our partnership with National Geographic Society – the Geotourism Initiative – continues to flourish. The mass marketing campaign last spring/summer helped showcase www.traveltheheart.org geotourism site throughout the Midwest States and Ontario/Manitoba.

Our general meetings, the core of our coalition building, rotated to Voyageurs National Park to celebrate the National Park system's centennial. In Thunder Bay, at the Lakehead Conservation Authority, we explored the impact of nonprofits in conservation and the youthful energy of rock climbers in the Thunder Bay Region. We also held Recreational Tourism Summits at both locations to share ideas on sustainable recreation/tourism and demonstrate their benefits.

214 Main Street West
Atikokan Ontario
Box 218 P0T1C0
phone (807)598-1074
fax (807)597-2726
www.heartofthecontinent.org
hocp@heartofthecontinent.org

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phone (612)333-1858
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We look forward to the continued collaborations with you as we use this tool in the years ahead as a way to build our region and strengthen our ability to partner with each other. And we're asking for your support for the coming year:

Annual Dues Renewal: It's time once again to renew your voluntary annual dues to the Heart of the Continent Partnership. The level of dues paid is voluntary and on a sliding scale. Each partner chooses the level that works for them. We encourage you to make as strong a show of support as you can.

Use of Funds: The funds are used to cover general operating expenses of HOCP, as laid out and approved in an annual budget, especially coordinator hours and meeting costs. The steering committee has made it clear that the level of dues paid will have no bearing on the influence that the various partners will have in HOCP efforts. All partners, regardless of level of dues paid, will participate on an equal basis in all HOCP efforts, decisions, and initiatives.

Annual Dues Levels:

Supporting Partner: \$1000 - \$5000 per year
Sustaining Partner: \$500 - \$999 per year
Associate Partner: \$100 - \$499 per year
Participating Partner: \$10 - \$99 per year

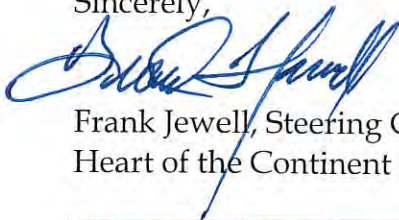
Payment: Please send checks by 3/31/17.

Please make checks payable to Heart of the Continent Partnership and mail to: Voyageurs National Park Association, memo line "annual dues," 126 N. 3rd St., Suite 400, Minneapolis, MN 55401

We will be glad to send you an invoice, as requested. Also, please email us at the address below to inquire about an electronic payment.

Thank you for your participation in and support of the work of Heart of the Continent Partnership. Please call me at 218-310-1028 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Frank Jewell, Steering Committee Chair
Heart of the Continent Partnership

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