

Indigenous Relations Unit 300 Water Street 4th Floor, South Tower Peterborough, ON, K9J 3C7

December 5, 2022

To whom this may concern,

Subject:Proposal to amend a boundary by regulation to add Crown land to Hungry LakeConservation Reserve – Public notice for a Category B project evaluation under the
Algonquin Land Claim Declaration Order

Since 1991, the governments of Canada, Ontario and the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) have been negotiating towards a settlement of the Algonquin Land Claim. A key part of these negotiations is the establishment of a recommended provincial park (Natural Environment Class) in the area of the Crotch Lake Conservation Reserve, to be named Whiteduck Provincial Park. This recommendation was included in the Algonquins of Ontario Agreement-in-Principle signed by the three negotiating parties on October 18, 2016.

Consultation was conducted regarding the proposed boundary for the recommended Whiteduck Provincial Park in fall 2020. As a result of stakeholder feedback on that proposal, the negotiation parties agreed to consider adding the Crown lands southeast of Big Gull Lake and south of Mink Lake, that were originally proposed as part of the recommended Whiteduck Provincial Park, to Hungry Lake Conservation Reserve instead. Unopened road allowances currently not included in the existing Hungry Lake Conservation Reserve boundary are also being considered for addition to the conservation reserve. A map is attached. The proposed boundary of the recommended Whiteduck Provincial Park otherwise remains unchanged.

This alternate proposal provides for the protection of the ecological, historical and cultural features of the area, while still maintaining recreational opportunities for the public to enjoy them. These were key objectives for these lands identified by the negotiation parties. This alternate proposal represents a willingness by all parties to help find a balanced approach to address stakeholder input.

In order to amend, rescind or establish boundaries by regulation under the <u>Provincial Parks and</u> <u>Conservation Reserves Act, 2006</u> (PPCRA) Ontario must assess the potential environmental effects associated with the projects and consult with the public, Indigenous communities and stakeholders who have an interest in, or may be affected by the project, as provided for in the <u>Algonquin Land Claim</u> <u>Declaration Order</u>, under the <u>Environmental Assessment Act</u> (EAA). You are receiving this public notice because you have been identified as a potential stakeholder or own property within 120 metres of the Hungry Lake Conservation Reserve and/or the recommended Whiteduck Provincial Park.

The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks invites you to comment on the following project (Category B) under the Algonquin Land Claim Declaration Order:

• Amending a boundary by regulation to add Crown land and unopened road allowances to Hungry Lake Conservation Reserve.

The official public notice and a detailed map are included with this letter.

Further general information about the Algonquin Land Claim can be found at <u>https://www.ontario.ca/page/algonquin-land-claim.</u>

Further information about this project, along with a summary of consultations to date on proposed additions to the provincial parks and conservation reserves system as part of the Algonquin Land Claim can be found at https://www.ontario.ca/page/algonquin-land-claim-additions-to-ontarios-provincial-park-system.

The County of Frontenac is assisting the province with direct notification to property owners within 120 metres. Only the primary rate payers on record with the county have received this notice directly. If there are multiple owners associated with your property roll number, we kindly request that you share this information accordingly, or have them contact us at the email or phone number below to request a copy be sent to them directly.

If you have questions about this project, or would like to provide comments, please contact us at 1-855-690-7070 or <u>eerfeedback@ontario.ca</u>. Comments will be received until **January 23, 2023**.

Sincerely,

Kirsty Dickson Indigenous Relations Coordinator