



October 30, 2002

Re: East Paint Lake Park Reserve Consultation

Public consultation on the East Paint Lake Park Reserve to date has confirmed a high degree of interest in the area from both the public and the mining industry.

The responses received during and after the meetings in Thompson and Winnipeg earlier this year have indicated considerable support for the reuniting of East Paint Lake Park Reserve with Paint Lake Provincial Park, and for protected status for the park reserve area.

A significant piece of information respecting interpretation of the mineral potential for the Thomson Nickel Belt is the CAMIRO study being prepared by the mining sector. The results of this study are expected to be made available within the next several months.

As East Paint Lake is located on the Thomson Nickel Belt, this information is important to the decision-making process respecting protected status for this park reserve. As a result, the province has extended the Park Reserve status of East Paint Lake for a further five years to enable the public review to include this information. A further round of meetings to review options for the park reserve is proposed to be held six months after the study results have been made available to the mining industry in general.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the East Paint Lake Park Reserve. For additional information on the East Paint Lake Park Reserve or on the consultation process, please contact:

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Information on this and other park consultations can also be found at [www.manitobaparks.com](http://www.manitobaparks.com)