Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems (T.R.E.E.), Inc.

c/o Peter Miller, 1101 Riverwood Ave., Winnipeg, MB R3T 1L5 p.miller@uwinnipeg.ca

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Little Limestone Lake Provincial Park Proposal Parks and Natural Areas Branch Box 53, 200 Saulteaux Crescent Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3 Attention: Ken Schykulski Rob Nedtiafko parksystem@gov.mb.ca

Dear Sirs:

Re: Little Limestone Lake Provincial Park Proposal

TREE strongly supports the creation of Little Limestone Lake Provincial Park and its classification as a natural park entirely designated as backcountry. We congratulate the province and Mosakahiken Cree Nation for their determination to protect Little Limestone Lake and nearby karst landscape.

That said, we find a large discrepancy between the stated goal of the proposal "to protect [Little Limestone Lake's] unique natural, cultural and recreation values" and the boundary of the existing proposal, which is limited to the lake and a 100 metre buffer around the shore. The buffer is not sufficient to protect either the caves identified as part of the natural and recreational values to be protected or the water quality of the lake itself.

To proceed with properly identified boundaries and a management plan, it is first necessary to identify the natural values to be protected in the area and the lake's surface and subsurface watershed. It is these that must be adequately buffered, not just the lake shore. I understand that Nature Manitoba and CPAWS have been working with the province to fund a study by marl lake expert Dr. Derek Ford to further this task. Once his work is done, a more adequate boundary can be determined and a management regime inside and outside the park can be created. We trust that the public and interested parties like ourselves will be kept up to date on these developments.

Sincerely,

Peter Miller, Vice President

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