

PETITION

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WHEREAS Ontario now has 329 parks, 292 conservation reserves, and 10 wilderness areas, covering nine per cent of the province;

AND WHEREAS our parks now receive substantially less funding per hectare, per park, and per person in Ontario than they did in 1992-93;

AND WHEREAS the government of Ontario will contribute just \$15.3 million this year to help our parks meet their mandate as set out in law;

AND WHEREAS park user fees account for 78 per cent of the operating cost of Ontario parks, the highest rate of any province in Canada;

AND WHEREAS our provincial parks generate at least 14,000 person-jobs and \$390 million per year in economic activity;

AND WHEREAS this economic activity generates an estimated \$46 million a year in tax revenue for the province;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's provincial parks provide major economic, social, educational, and environmental benefits to the people of Ontario, visitors to our province, and Planet Earth;

WE THE UNDERSIGNED petition The Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

That the Ministry Natural Resources breathe new life into our provincial parks by tripling its contribution to park operating costs to \$46 million a year, and that this money be used to hire more staff to patrol wilderness areas, keep campgrounds and day-use areas safe, teach our children about our natural heritage, keep our parks clean and enjoyable, and help park users with reservations, directions, and supplies.

Name

Address

Signature

Name	Address	Signature