A Message from the Leaders of Fairness for Clear Lake

Dear Supporters and Community Stakeholder Groups,

As the leaders and volunteers behind Fairness for Clear Lake, we want to take a moment to reaffirm what we're working toward, what brought our community together in such a profound way, and why we remain steadfast in our efforts — not just today, but for the long term.

Parks Canada has a dual mandate: to **protect** and to **present**. That means ensuring Canadians can meaningfully experience and connect with the places we hold dear. When decisions limit access, disrupt traditions, or sever long-standing relationships between people and place, we begin to lose the very connection that inspires stewardship. If Canadians no longer see themselves reflected in our national parks, feel they no longer have a voice in their stewardship — or can no longer access them in meaningful ways — they will stop fighting for their future and their protection.

That's why we continue to call for a return to the "one boat, one lake" solution. Reinstating the January 28th policy announcement is not the conclusion — it is the first step toward restoring public trust in Parks Canada and beginning to rebuild the relationship with integrity.

What we are witnessing now is a profound breakdown in trust between stakeholders and the leadership at Riding Mountain National Park. It will take more than words to repair it. What's needed now — and in the months and years to come — is meaningful action, accountability, and a sincere commitment to restore relationships and rebuild confidence.

No major decision affecting Riding Mountain National Park, its people, or communities should ever be made without open, inclusive, and transparent consultation. Not about boats. Not about bikes. Not about trails – or any of the other things we've grown to cherish as visitors and residents. For years, each individual organization represented by Fairness for Clear Lake has called for a respectful, structured framework for engagement.

That is what brought Fairness for Clear Lake together — we are aligned to stand up for a better, more transparent way forward. It has been confirmed publicly by Parks Canada that the May 16th decision reversal was not based on ecology, but was instead prompted by a "potential, singular threat" of legal action. The responsibility now lies with Parks Canada to come to the table — to overcommunicate rather than underconsult — and to take real, measurable steps toward rebuilding trust with our communities.

Fairness for Clear Lake exists to protect the integrity of process, the wellbeing of people, and the future of this place we all love. We believe we can — and must — move forward together.

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Trevor Boquist, Clear Lake Cottage Owners

Association

Signed by:

Christian Robin, Clear Lake Cabin Owners
Association

Association

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