

In The News

Back Track

Cottage Leases in Algonquin Park?

... again

Deadline for Comment: December 13

Despite acknowledging the ecological incompatibility of private cottages in a public park the Ontario government is proposing to extend these 305 leases to 2038.

This would be the 4th time the province has reversed the park's legal management plan.

Much of central Ontario is already 'Cottage Country'. **There is only one Algonquin.**

Since 1954, the cottages have been slated for removal, so that the park can be restored to its natural beauty. The current Park Management Plan contains direction to terminate all such leases on or before December 31, 2017.

Most of the cottages in the park sit on the shores of lakes and rivers, compromising fragile freshwater ecosystems. This shoreline development:

- Harms the wilderness atmosphere for which Algonquin is famous.
- Threatens ecologically sensitive shorelines with buildings, docks, invasive species, noise and pollution.
- Along with logging and other development, cumulatively harms the park's ecosystem. Parks must be managed for ecological integrity.
- Privatizes a public good. Parks are Crown Land owned by all Ontarians, not a select few.

Since 2006, the maintenance and restoration of ecological integrity has been enshrined as the first priority in Ontario's *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act*. Private cottages are inconsistent with the law and have no place in a public park.

The leases have been extended repeatedly since the 1950s

It's time to finally phase out leases in Algonquin Park! It's time to manage Algonquin Park as a park, for ecological integrity.

What you can do:

1. Read our backgrounder [here](#).
2. By December 13 go online to register your objection to extending Algonquin cottage leases [here](#).



**artisans
market
place**
December 6 - 9
401 Richmond Street West

The **401 Artisans Marketplace** celebrates 20 years of craft-making, art, and design at its finest this December. Our award-winning creative hub in the heart of downtown Toronto is host to over 20 local makers offering unique gifts for the holiday season. Meet the artisans in a festive atmosphere that makes shopping a pleasure and brings inspiration to your giving. This event is part of Frolic 2, 401 Richmond's annual open house that also features Artists Open Studio, Gallery Holiday Fundraisers, Shops and more.

LAUNCH: DECEMBER 6, 6:00 - 9:00 PM



**ANN & ARAYATA ARLUMIZÚ DESIGNS D.M. GOODS
CHRYSDDESIGNSJEWELRY ESRA GÜL STUDIO HATS BY SHE
HEARTS & BONES IRAN FROM INSIDE KIDDIES KNITS
LAVENDER-BLU LEAVES OF TREES LEIKEY DESIGNS
LET IT B DESIGNS MUSIDEUM NAOMI JONES APPARELL
PULCHRAGEMMA JEWELRY RENATA PODLOG POTTERY
SHE SAID JEWELRY SIGRID NATURAL SKIN CARE
SIMPLESMILES & CO. STITCH & SPOKE SWAETH
SUGAR DADDYS BAKED GOODS SWEET LEAF BATH CO.
SWIPE DESIGN | BOOKS + OBJECTS TORONTO CAT RESCUE
WILDLANDS LEAGUE**



Thursday 11:00 am - 9:00 pm
Friday 11:00 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

401 Richmond Street West at Spadina Ave.
www.401richmond.net

Images (front, clockwise from top left): Leikey Designs, She Said Jewelry, D.M. Goods, Renata Podlog Pottery, SimpleSmiles & Co., Let it B Designs, Ann & Arayata, Chrysdesignsjewelry (back) Swaeth

This Holiday Season..

Give a Gift that is Everlasting! In the last year we have achieved:

- 2.6 million hectares were withdrawn from mining and staking near Kitchenmahkoosib Innunuwig (650 km north of Thunder Bay). When the only potential industrial impact on an ecosystem is from mining, having an area off limits to mining means you have secured a future for that ecosystem. The First Nations of KI rely on the watershed of their lands and wanted this piece of it protected. We helped land this first time ever change in land use designation.
- An area the size of Yellowstone is now free from logging. 635,000 hectares were voluntarily removed from logging in Northeastern Ontario in a landmark project between Wildlands League and Tembec. Tembec revised their forest management plan to better accommodate for and plan for a more certain future for caribou.
- Within the forest management plan, increased protection for Algonquin Park from 22% to 35% and reduced the land base available for forestry operations, resulting in 49% of Algonquin Park being off limits to logging. This is the single largest increase in protection since the 1970s.