

# Algonquin

## Public Notice for a Category B Project Evaluation: Replacement of the Rock Lake Campground Access Bridge



The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), Ontario Parks is inviting public comment on its proposal to undertake the construction and replacement of the existing campground access bridge crossing Rock Creek leading to Rock Lake Campground, Algonquin Provincial Park. The bridge is located within the park’s designated development zone; all work will be contained within this zone. This project is being undertaken in accordance with the current approved management plan for the park.

Algonquin Provincial Park is a 772,300 hectare (ha) natural environment class park located approximately 42 kilometres east of Huntsville and 134 kilometres west of Pembroke. The park

provides recreational opportunities such as camping, interior tripping, swimming, day use, wildlife viewing, canoeing and in the winter cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

A recent bridge inspection identified the Rock Lake Campground bridge as requiring replacement to ensure the long-term safe operation of the structure. The existing structure is a single lane bridge with a pedestrian sidewalk. It is 4.9 m wide with a length of 12m and a span across the creek of approximately 6m. This will be replaced with a new single lane bridge and an independent pedestrian sidewalk structure. The new structure will be approximately 7m wide, 18.5m long and a span across the creek of approximately 11m.

Construction is planned for the fall, following campground closure. Negative effects to the ecological integrity of Algonquin Park are not anticipated and the project may have a potential net benefit as the creek's opening size at the bridge will be wider, allowing the river to regain a more natural flow pattern at the bridge location, and will reduce upstream effects. Ground disturbance will be largely contained within the existing disturbed roadway and the footprint of the bridge abutments on the banks of the river.

The proposal is being evaluated as a Category B project under *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves (Class EA)*. A Notice of Completion will be sent to those who submit comments or request further notice when the project evaluation is finished. The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ontario Parks may proceed to implement the project without issuing a further general notice.

Comments must be received within the 30-day comment period which ends on **April 25, 2021**.

For more information on the project, to submit comments or to request further notice, please contact:

**Beth Cragg**

Park Planner

Algonquin Zone, Ontario Parks

451 Arrowhead Park Road

Huntsville, Ontario, P1H 2J4

Phone: (705) 571-2739

Email: [beth.cragg@ontario.ca](mailto:beth.cragg@ontario.ca)

All personal information included in your request – such as name, address, telephone number and property location – is collected, under the authority of section 30 of the *Environmental Assessment Act* and is collected and maintained for the purpose of creating a record that is available to the general public. As this information is collected for the purpose of a public record, the protection of personal information provided in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) does not apply (s.37). Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information remain confidential.