



May 28, 2012

Bill Goodwin  
Upper French River Cottagers Association  
Chair, Crib Dock Policy Committee

**RE: Crib Docks in the Upper French River – French River Provincial Park**

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of October 11, 2011 on behalf of the Upper French River Cottagers Association regarding policies for new and expanded crib docks in French River Provincial Park. Your letter provides a clear outline of your membership concerns.

In 2007, the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act (PPCRA) and associated regulations came into force. The PPCRA allows for the extension of the term of an existing private non-commercial lease, land use permit or licence of occupation, but it does not permit the issuance of new private non-commercial leases, land use permits or licences of occupation required to occupy land in a provincial park. Crib docks occupying regulated park land (i.e., river bed and/or shore allowance) are a form of land occupation and would require a form of tenure consistent with the PPCRA and regulations.

Recently, the Minister of Finance, introduced Bill 55, Strong Action for Ontario Act (Budget Measures), 2012. Bill 55 proposes some amendments to existing statutes – including the PPCRA. Bill 55 proposes to amend Section 14 of the PPCRA to enable the development of a provision in regulation (i.e. O. Reg. 347/07 and O. Reg. 319/07) that will prescribe specific limited circumstances in which new private non-commercial tenure, land use permits (LUP) can be issued. The Bill can be viewed at [http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills\\_detail.do?locale=en&Intranet=&BillID=2600](http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/bills/bills_detail.do?locale=en&Intranet=&BillID=2600)

The intent of the proposed amendment as it relates to Section 14 is to address those specific limited circumstances where the issue of private tenure in the form of a LUP to authorize occupation of a regulated park or conservation reserve may be appropriate. Crib docks are one of the specific limited circumstances that will be considered during the development of this regulation amendment.

The legislative amendments are still proposed at this time. In the event that Bill 55 is passed regulation amendments associated with the PPCRA will be required before a LUP could be issued. This process, including a consultation process beyond Bill 55 is expected to take a year or more.

I would be pleased to discuss this further with you.

Yours truly,

  
Chuck Miller -  
Park Superintendent, Ontario Parks – French River