



Box 60, Pauingassi, Manitoba, R0B 2G0

Phone: (204) 397-2371 Toll Free: 1-877-529-8866

Fax: (204) 397-2145

February 1, 2007

Honourable Gary Doer
Premier of Manitoba
Room 204 Legislative Building
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0V8

fax 204.949.1484

Dear Premier Doer;

Re: Permanent Protection of the Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Protected Area

We are writing to express our full and unconditional support for Poplar River First Nation's efforts to secure permanent protection for the Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Protected Area and to endorse their *Asatiwisiye Aki Lands Management Plan*.

Our First Nations have been neighbours for centuries and our close relationship with Poplar River reflects the connections between our peoples. Along with Poplar River and three other First Nations, we are signatory to an Accord that commits us to work together in a shared vision of managing and protecting the ancestral lands and resources of our respective First Nations.

Poplar River is the first of our Accord First Nations in Manitoba to complete a lands management plan and we are proud of their accomplishment. Their plan represents years of dedication, hard work and an unwavering commitment to the vision of Poplar River's Elders.

More than a year has elapsed since Poplar River released the *Asatiwisiye Aki Lands Management Plan* leaving Poplar River First Nation ready to move forward with permanent protection and management for these lands. We urge the Manitoba Government to act immediately to permanently protect the Poplar/Nanowin Rivers Protected Area.

We are confident that your government recognizes the urgency as well as the significance of protecting these lands.

This will be an important day for members of Poplar River, and also for all Manitobans

Our request for interim protection for our traditional lands also remains outstanding. We trust that we will see action from the government concerning this matter in the near future as well.

We look forward to celebrating the day when permanent protection is in place for Poplar River First Nation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Harold Crow', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chief Harold Crow

Pauingassi First Nation

Copy to: Poplar River First Nation