

25 August 2014

**RE: Letter of Affirmation for the Sustainability Tracking and Rating System
Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism Program**

The Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism program (ORPT) is a unique program in Canada offering integrated learning of theory and practice in nature-based outdoor recreation. Our pedagogy is founded on place-based learning where students are given the opportunity to think about their role in the “places” they conduct their leisure activities, and the impacts this has on both the human and non-human inhabitants. We are committed to integrating student learning in working with and for a variety of community organizations within the regions we serve, through community service learning pedagogy and research. The innovation demonstrated by ORPT attracts many students to Lakehead; the bulk of our student population comes from highly urbanized southern Ontario, and the unique features of our program, located within the relatively rural and natural landscape of northern Ontario, provides an opportunity for high impact learning and connecting students to the region. We feel very privileged to be working with students through our programming, where issues of sustainability are embedded both within our curriculum and place.

I am pleased to confirm that the information in this submission is correct.



Rhonda Koster,
Director, ORPT