

KALL MORRIS INC

KEEPING SPACE CLEAR FOR ALL

April 16, 2021

To the International Dark Sky Association:

With pleasure we write this letter of support for the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge to become an International Dark Sky Park.

The Keweenaw Peninsula is remarkable to residents and visitors, as it stands out among the Upper Peninsula, let alone Michigan, the entire Midwest, and as a highlight of the United States for its access to nature and availability of outdoor recreation. The abundance of natural beauty extends from the stones and shores to the skies above it, as Lake Superior shields the Keweenaw from the far-off cities that visitors flock from. With this northern and remote position coupled with low light pollution, daytime visitors have been treated to nighttime vistas overhead for decades, enjoying otherwise-unavailable views of the Milky Way, natural constellations, and the conveniently located Aurora Borealis. The identification of this outdoor abundance by the Dark Sky certification of Keweenaw Mountain Lodge would help promote these properties while securing them for future visitors and generations.

As a relatively undisturbed and remote segment of the American continent, tourism to the area is as important to the education of visitors as it is vital to the area economy. The Keweenaw is home to an amazing array of nationally and internationally renowned environmental attractions, building on the prestige of the entire Upper Peninsula for both the casual and committed adventurists. With the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge's location in famed Copper Harbor, this Dark Sky park will join as a jewel in the crown among Isle Royale National Park, the repeatedly awarded Copper Harbor Mountain Bike Trails, and the distinguished Mount Bohemia Resort. These already-present natural attractions demonstrate the community partnership philosophy that extends these outdoor opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

In conclusion, the certification of Keweenaw Mountain Lodge as an International Dark Sky Park would preserve the present potential of unobstructed and undiluted views for visitors of the near and continued future. We strongly encourage the International Dark Sky Association to support the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge's efforts and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,



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