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## **MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 26, 2007

### **Friends Board Appoints 2007 Officers**

LINDSAY- A new slate of officers for 2007 was appointed to the Friends of Kawartha Conservation on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board had delayed the elections to give new members a chance to consider the positions.

Janine Pilakowski of Little Britain accepted the nomination for president, Rob Arsenault, a student of Fleming College in Lindsay was named vice-president, and Bob Pool, a longstanding member of Friends, took on the position of secretary-treasurer. Chris Ellingwood, who served two terms as Friends president, will stay on as past-president. Barb Elliot, Kim Denison, Ellen Woodward and Ron Fevang, all of City of Kawartha Lakes, and Dennis Sage of Scugog, will sit as directors. Kawartha Conservation Chair Larry O'Connor, mayor of Brock Township, and Vice-Chair Lynn Philip Hodgson councillor of Scugog, will represent Kawartha Conservation on the Friends Board in 2007.

"I am pleased to take on this role in support of the environment, and I thank Chris for his valued leadership over two terms as president," says President Janine Pilakowski. "This year the Board's focus is on rebuilding after a period of inactivity. We invite our watershed communities to join us, whether by helping out at a shoreline planting, taking part in a clean-up effort, attending a Friends meeting, or just visiting a local conservation area."

Friends was formed in 1996 when concerned members of the community stepped up to help the conservation authority respond to a drastic cut in provincial funding. Friends' biggest project to date has been the replacement of the main boardwalk at Ken Reid Conservation Area. Friends raised \$60,000 for the project and donated hundreds of hours to build and install the new structure, completed in the winter of 2004. This past fall Friends received a \$50,000 EcoAction grant through Environment Canada, which they donated to Kawartha Conservation to help support several shoreline naturalization projects.

For more information about Friends, to join or to donate, visit [www.kawarthaconservation.com](http://www.kawarthaconservation.com) and follow the Friends link from the home page; email [lgoodwin@kawarthaconservation.com](mailto:lgoodwin@kawarthaconservation.com); or call Lezlie Goodwin at 705 328-2271 ext 233.

Friends of Kawartha Conservation is a community based, non-profit organization, working in support of Kawartha Conservation. Friends are dedicated to ensuring the conservation of natural resources. Becoming a Friend is a step towards securing a healthy environment, good water quality, and beautiful places for all to enjoy.

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**Photo Caption:** Vice-President Rob Arsenault, Past-President Chris Ellingwood and incoming President Janine Pilakowski will serve on the Friends 2007 Board of Directors.

**For more information please contact:**

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