



Media Release – For Immediate Release

Kawartha Conservation Board of Directors re-elects Larry O'Connor as Chair, elects Donna Villemaire as new Vice-Chair

(City of Kawartha Lakes, January 17, 2008) Kawartha Conservation held its 29th Annual General Meeting (AGM) last night at the Kawartha Conservation Field Centre in Ken Reid Conservation Area. With over 40 people in attendance, the room was packed while the Board elected its members to the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, and made appointments to the Executive Committee.

Some of the guests included Mayor Ric McGee (City of Kawartha Lakes); Reeve Tom Flynn (Township of Galway-Cavendish and Harvey); Councillor Emmett Yeo (City of Kawartha Lakes); Councillor David Hodgson (City of Kawartha Lakes); Councillor Doug Elmslie (City of Kawartha Lakes); Councillor Howard Robinson (City of Kawartha Lakes); Councillor Gerald McGregor (City of Kawartha Lakes); Don Pearson, Conservation Ontario General Manager; Jim Kelleher, Lower Trent Conservation General Manager; Brian Fallis, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority Chair; and Dick Hunter, Otonabee Region Conservation General Manager.

The results of the elections and appointments are as follows:

Chair: Larry O'Connor (Township of Brock)
Vice-Chair: Donna Villemaire (City of Kawartha Lakes)
Executive Committee: Alex Ruth (Township of Cavan-Monaghan)
Jim McMillen (Township of Scugog)

Larry O'Connor said he is pleased to be re-elected as the Chair and to have Ms. Villemaire as the new Vice-Chair.

"We are going to work hard to move Kawartha Conservation forward in 2008, to ensure abundant clean water within a healthy watershed for present and future generations" he said. "The Board will meet for a full day in February for an important strategic planning session. We will take this time to determine the direction of Kawartha Conservation while working in the best interests of everyone in the Kawartha watershed."

At the meeting, Chair O'Connor also encouraged Mayor McGee to become active in the Lake Scugog Environmental Management Plan that Kawartha Conservation oversees. "This will have a positive impact on the drinking water that Lindsay takes from the river running from Lake Scugog, as well as benefit Sturgeon Lake, Pigeon Lake and all of the other downstream lakes," he said.

The next regular board meeting is on January 30, 6:30 PM at the Kawartha Conservation Administrative Office (277 Kenrei Rd.). The complete meeting schedule is posted at www.kawarthaconservation.com/about/board_meetings.html.

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For more information or to arrange interviews with Chair O'Connor, contact Brent Kulba, Kawartha Conservation Communications Specialist, (705) 328-2271 x220, bkulba@kawarthaconservation.com.

Kawartha Conservation is a watershed-based environmental organization focused on providing abundant clean water within a healthy landscape. It is one of 36 conservation authorities in Ontario providing natural resources management. The Kawartha watershed intersects portions of the municipalities of City of Kawartha Lakes; Scugog; Brock; Clarington; Galway-Cavendish & Harvey, and Cavan-Monaghan.

www.kawarthaconservation.com