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MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Local Conservation Authorities Seek Chair for Water Committee

Local Conservation Authorities are seeking individuals who may be interested in heading up a multi-stakeholder committee that will be responsible for developing plans aimed at the protection of municipal drinking water supplies.

Last October, the Province of Ontario passed the *Clean Water Act*. The Act is focused on preventing the contamination and depletion of surface and groundwater sources that supply municipal drinking water systems with water. The Clean Water Act requires that Source Protection Committees be formed for regions across the Province.

Within each region, the Committee will create science-based source protection plans that will address risks to municipal drinking water. The Committee will be made up of local stakeholders such as municipalities, agriculture, landowners, industry, business, community groups and the general public.

Under the umbrella of the Trent Conservation Coalition, Crowe Valley, Ganaraska Region, Kawartha, Lower Trent and Otonabee Conservation Authorities have been working to develop an understanding of the sources of municipal drinking water. Conservation Authorities will provide facilitation, coordination and technical support to the local Source Protection Committee.

The jurisdictions for the five Conservation Authorities within the Trent Conservation Coalition, extending across the Trent/Ganaraska River watersheds, covers a 14,500 square kilometre area stretching from Algonquin Park to Lake Ontario and the Bay of Quinte.

The Source Protection Committee Chair will be responsible for guiding the effective operation of the Source Protection Committee. The Chair will also be responsible for ensuring that broad public consultation occurs throughout the planning process.

Expressions of interest from individuals must be submitted by Friday, May 11, 2007 to Glenda Rodgers, Source Water Protection Project Manager for the Trent Conservation Coalition at Lower Trent Conservation, 714 Murray Street, R.R. #1, Trenton, Ontario K8V 5P4. Complete details are available on the Trent Conservation Coalition website at <http://www.ltc.on.ca/sourcewater.html>.

Specific details on how the Source Protection Committee will be formed and how it will operate will be provided by the Province through regulation, expected this spring.

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