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MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 14, 2007

McLean Foundation Donates Funds for East Cross Forest Acquisition

SCUGOG- The vision of a conservation area in the Oak Ridges Moraine is another step closer to realization. Kawartha Conservation recently received \$8,000 from the McLean Foundation to acquire two properties within its proposed East Cross Forest Conservation Area.

Founded in 1945 by the late Mr. J. S. McLean, the McLean Foundation is a Canadian non-profit corporation that donated about 20% of its givings in 2005 to conservation efforts. Particular consideration is shown for projects showing the promise of general social benefit.

"We have been very fortunate to receive both lands and funds for the East Cross Forest Conservation Area," says Kawartha Conservation Manager, Environmental Protection and Restoration Kristie Virgoe. "This latest gift enables us to acquire several more acres of property and moves us that much closer to our goal of 1,500 acres of natural area,"

Kawartha Conservation currently owns just over 550 acres in this area located in the southeastern section of the Township of Scugog, and is actively seeking to acquire more properties to bring into the public trust. A management plan is in the works for a multi-use conservation area, with an anticipated opening in 2009. In the meantime, they are working with the offroading and ATV community to begin restoring the environmentally damaged areas. A clean up is planned for Saturday, June 9th at the corner of Boundary and Murphy Roads.

Anyone owning property adjacent or near the proposed conservation area is invited to contact Kristie Virgoe to discuss the sale or donation of their properties to Kawartha Conservation for inclusion in the project. Ms. Virgoe can be reached at 705 328-2271 ext. 223 or via email at kvirgoe@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 City of Kawartha Lakes; Township of Scugog; Township of Brock; Municipality of Clarington; Township of Galway-Cavendish & Harvey; and Township of Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan.

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For more information please contact:
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