

**For Immediate Release – July 11, 2007**

**RECRUITMENT OF CHAIR FOR DRINKING WATER COMMITTEE**

Thunder Bay, ON – The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) in its new role as a Source Protection Authority under the “Clean Water Act”, is seeking nominations for the position of Chair of the Source Protection Committee.

The “Clean Water Act, 2006” proclaimed on July 3, 2007 brings into effect the first phase of Regulations to guide the planning process to ensure the supply of safe, clean water for Municipal drinking water systems in Ontario. Source Protection Authorities have been established on a watershed basis across the province, including here in the Lakehead Area, to facilitate the recruitment of a local Source Protection Committee (SPC) and its Chair. The Committee is to be made up of representatives from Municipalities, industry, business, agriculture, First Nations and the public.

The Committee (SPC) and its Chair will be charged with developing three key documents in the source protection process under the “Clean Water Act”: Terms of Reference (ToR), Assessment Report (AR) and a Source Protection Plan (SPP). The SPC will outline sources of drinking water for Municipal systems in its watershed, identify and rank threats to those sources of drinking water, determine the appropriate response to the drinking water threats, take action and monitor the progress. The process leading up to the implementation of a Source Protection Plan is expected to take up to five years of planning.

The plan for the Lakehead Source Protection Area will address two Municipal drinking water systems: the Bare Point Water Treatment Plant in the City of Thunder Bay and the Rosslyn Village Wellhead in the Municipality of Oliver Paipouge.

The LRCA and its Board of Directors will meet for the first time in late July as the newly formed Source Protection Authority (SPA) for the Lakehead Source Protection Area to review a list of candidates for the Chair position. The list will be submitted to the Minister of Environment who will make the final decision on the appointment. Remuneration for the position will be established and provided by the Minister of Environment.

The LRCA will be accepting applications for the nomination of SPC Chair up until Monday, June 23, 2007 at 12:00 noon. Nomination packages are available at the LRCA office (130 Conservation Road) or downloaded from [www.sourceprotection.net](http://www.sourceprotection.net). Interested candidates are required to complete a “Personal and Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement” and submit to a “Canadian Criminal Record Check”. For more information on the Chair position, call the LRCA at 344-5857 or visit [www.sourceprotection.net](http://www.sourceprotection.net).