

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2008

FILE #7-18-3

Lakehead Conservation Celebrates Arbour Week!

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority and Hill's Greenhouses are giving away free tree seedlings to celebrate Arbour Week in Thunder Bay.

The date of Arbour Week varies throughout North America in order to coincide with the best tree planting weather in each region. In Thunder Bay Arbour Week is May 18 - 24, 2008.

On Tuesday May 20th, the public can pick up a free Blue Spruce, Red Pine or Jack Pine seedling from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area. There is a limit of one seedling per person while quantities last. Individuals or groups are also welcome to come and volunteer to help plant seedlings at the Marsh.

"Trees help fight global warming by removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere," says Authority Chairman Bill Bartley. "They also make your home and neighbourhood more beautiful and provide valuable habitat for animal friends such as birds."

Arbour Day and Arbour Week date back to the late 1800's in Nebraska where trees were needed as windbreaks on the American Prairie. Since then Arbour Week has spread around the world.

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is a community-based environmental agency. We are responsible for the wise management of renewable natural resources in our watershed. Conservation Authorities undertake a broad range of programs, including: flood control; floodplain management; wetland protection; erosion control; reforestation; conservation lands; and conservation education.