

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Conservation Authority hosts Open House at Mission Island Marsh

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is celebrating the unveiling of new interpretive panels at Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area with an Open House.

The seven panels have been in the works for over two years. They explain the role of wetlands, the importance of water and water conservation. The new panels, which are located in the pavilion at Mission Island Marsh, replace seven displays which had been at the Marsh since 1996.

“The panels are intended to be self-guiding and educational,” says LRCA Chairman Bill Bartley. “Over 40,000 people a year visit Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area including many school groups. These panels will inform the general public while also helping students as they study about wetlands, the water cycle and protecting our environment.”

The Authority extends thanks to Ontario Power Generation for its generous support in making the interpretive panels available for the public.

The Open House runs from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25th. In addition to viewing the new displays, the public is invited to spend their lunch break at the Marsh walking the trails and watching for wildlife. There will be a concession on site. A ribbon cutting at the pavilion will take place at 1:30 p.m. with representatives of the LRCA and Ontario Power Generation in attendance.

Mission Island Marsh is one of eight Conservation Areas maintained by the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority. Its history is a true success story: Beginning in the 1940s, a portion of the area was used by the City of Fort William for a landfill site, which operated until the mid-1960s. In the 1980s, the LRCA signed a long-term lease with the City of Thunder Bay and began developing the Conservation Area, which was officially opened in 1989.