

For Release – Tuesday, December 12, 2007

SURVEY FOR MUNICIPAL DRINKING WATER PROTECTION

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority will be conducting a public survey relating to Municipal residential drinking water this week and next week

Staff will be going door-to-door to survey property owners who live near the Bare Point Water Treatment Plant and the Municipal Wellhead in Rosslyn Village. The campaign will provide and collect information about the initiative for Drinking Water Source Protection under the “Clean Water Act” and to survey local opinions about protecting the supply of drinking water sources.

The Ontario government is providing \$2 million dollars in funding for Education and Outreach projects across the province. The goal of the project is to promote awareness of the “Clean Water Act”, the measures property owners and businesses can implement to help protect drinking water sources. Some of this funding was provided to the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority to carry out a local project.

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority is initiating the voluntary survey in order to better understand the knowledge property owners living near Municipal residential drinking water systems have, in regard to protecting the sources of their drinking water. Open Houses are planned for early February 2008 as part of the project to further discuss Drinking Water Source Protection and the positive impacts property owners can have by taking early actions to protect the sources of drinking water.

The Lakehead Source Protection Committee will use the information to engage property owner involvement in the development of the local Source Protection Plan that will protect the sources of Municipal residential drinking water in our area. The Committee will use scientific and technical studies to prepare an Assessment Report that will identify potential and existing threats to the sources of water for Municipal systems. The two Municipal residential drinking water systems in the Lakehead Source Protection Area are located at Bare Point for the City of Thunder Bay and in Rosslyn Village for the Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge.

For more information about this survey and upcoming Open Houses in February, please contact the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority at 344-5857 or visit www.sourceprotection.net.