



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ISSUED: September 19, 2007

MINISTER LAUREL BROTEN APPOINTS A LOCAL AQUATIC SPECIALIST AS CHAIR OF THE GREATER SUDBURY SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Sudbury, On~ The Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Nels Conroy as Chair of the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Committee. Mr. Conroy is one of 19 Chairs appointed to Source Protection Committees across the Province by the Minister of the Environment, Laurel Broten under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. Under the Provincial regulations, Source Protection Committees will be formed this fall. The Committee will develop a science-based Source Protection Plan. This plan will help to protect current and future sources of municipal drinking water by reducing significant threats from entering our local water sources. In Greater Sudbury, our municipal drinking water comes from 25 sources including 22 municipal groundwater wells and 3 surface water sources: Ramsey Lake, the Vermilion River and the Wanapitei River.

“We are extremely pleased to have such a qualified Chair person, who brings with him many years of fresh water experience to the Source Protection Committee”, stated Mr. Bob Rogers, Chair of the Source Protection Authority which is the overseeing body of the Source Protection Committee. Mr. Conroy brings over 40 years aquatic experience to the Source Protection Committee table. He was vice-president of the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) which is a Crown Agency of the Province that provides safe and reliable clean water to Ontarians. He has been involved in aspects of fresh water throughout his career from the role of aquatic biologist in benchmarking water quality to directing the operations of more than 100 water and waste water treatment plants in the Province.

An official media briefing will take place on **Wednesday, September 19, 2007** at **1:30pm** in room **C-12** at Tom Davies Square. This meeting will be the first opportunity for the media to meet Mr. Conroy and ask him questions regarding his role as Chair, his background and the process for creating the Source Protection Committee. This will be the official launch of the Drinking Water Source Protection Program, since the act came into force on July 3, 2007. The purpose for the Source Protection Committee is for local stakeholders to develop a Source Protection Plan to help protect the integrity of our municipal drinking water sources.

Mr. Nels Conroy will work closely with Drinking Water Source Protection Staff and the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Authority. Finding a core group of committee members to sit on the Source Protection Committee will be Mr. Conroy’s first task as newly appointed Chair.

The Committee size and composition is determined to some extent by the *Clean Water Act, 2006*. For the Greater Sudbury Source Protection Area, the Committee will be 9 members, plus Mr. Conroy. The Committee will consist of a variety of stakeholders including: 1/3 Municipal sector representation, 1/3 Economic (for example, Mining, Land Development and Small Business) and 1/3 Other Interests (such as Environmental, Academic, or other Non-Governmental Organizations) as well as First Nations representation.

The Source Protection Authority is currently accepting applications for the Source Protection Committee. People interested in applying for the Committee under the Economic and Other Interests sector have until October 3rd, 2007. For more information about the Source Protection Committee obligations and requirements visit the local Drinking Water Source Protection Program at www.nickeldistrict.ca or by calling the office at (705)674-5249.

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