

Lake Simcoe 'a challenging area to study'

by Michelle Minnoch

Don Goodyear, Manager of Source Protection Planning, provided the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) Board of Directors an update of Source Water Protection (SWP) at their last meeting.

"It's a challenging area to study," he said of the watershed, which is comprised of four watersheds (LSRCA, Black Sever River, NVCA, Severn Sound EA), 59 municipalities, three First Nations communities and covers 10,000 square kilometers.

With the largest number of watersheds in the province, Goodyear said there is a lot to the system that needs to be understood.

"We are currently working towards an

Assessment Report," he said as part of the Components of a Source Protection Plan (SPP).

The Assessment Report would provide a characterization of the watershed, Water Budget estimates, delineation of WHPA, IPZ, recharge and vulnerable areas, and a risk assessment of threats in these features.

"The Source Protection planning process focuses on the assessments of a threat," he said. "Risks identified are a combination of the threats in place."

The SPP also includes policies to address existing significant threats, policies to ensure future threats do not become significant ones, and policies regarding activities in WHPA and IPZ, including permitted activi-

ties and activities permitted with conditions and/or a supporting study. Goodyear said he would like to see technical support from SWP staff, support from partner agencies, and various advisory groups, all working together for source water protection.

"The Source Protection process is based on risk," he said. According to the Risk Based Approach, Threats + Pathways = Risk. Goodyear said risk is based upon the presence of threat and the vulnerability of the threat.

"The Pathways are a set of physical conditions that allow the threat to travel to drinking water sources."

Goodyear outlined the four types of pathways, which include Aquifer Vulnerability,

Wellhead Protection Area, Intake Protection Zone, and Significant Recharge.

"When you combine the threats in a vulnerable area, you have risk."

The LSRCA is presently has an excellent relationship between the other Conservation Authorities, has established a technical foundation, has ongoing stakeholder and municipal consultation, has a peer review committee in place to confirm the process, and has collected data for the project.

The timeline for the project is as follows: 2007 – Regulations to be released and Source Protection Committee to be formed; 2008 – Watershed Assessment Reports to be completed; 2009/2010 – Source Protection Plans to be completed.

Church to host free Christmas dinner

Innisfil Community Church is once again hosting a free community Christmas Dinner on Christmas Eve, December 24th, at 6pm.

Each year the church has co-ordinated efforts to make sure that the lonely, stranded students away from home, seniors who may be alone, or

the needy have access to a special Christmas Dinner.

The dinner includes turkey and all the trimmings. Local businesses and interested individuals donate time, talent and turkeys for the occasion. Everyone present also receives a special Christmas gift to take home during the festive celebration.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling (705) 436-1611. Local transportation will be provided free as well.

For those wishing to stay beyond the dinner, there will be an hour long public Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol Sing in the church

sanctuary beginning at 8pm.

The deadline for reservations has been set for Tuesday, December 19th in order to allow sufficient time for volunteers to co-ordinate and prepare for the event. For more information, call (705) 436-1611 and ask for Mrs. Marion Boone.

Christmas Cheer Campaign



Innisfil residents Bronno Niemeyer and Bob Watson are shown at the opening day celebration for the 2006

Christmas Cheer campaign held recently at Jacksons Toyota.

Bronno and Bob have worked as Innisfil Coordinators for many years helping to arrange donations from and deliveries to Innisfils residents each Christmas. "These guys are absolutely wonderful," says Christmas Cheer President Donna Douglas, "We simply

couldn't pull the Innisfil segment of our campaign together without their selfless assistance."

This years campaign hopes to raise \$140,000 and over \$300,000 in food and toy donations. It is expected that approximately 1,500 Barrie and area families will need assistance this Christmas.

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Pring in Ward 3

by Michelle Minnoch

With the final re-count results posted last Wednesday afternoon, incumbent Bill Pring has been confirmed as the winner for councilor of Ward 3.

On election night, the race was tight between Pring and Ken Simpson. The original count had Pring with 636 votes to Simpson's 629; the recount had Pring gain two extra votes, Simpson one.

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