



ALGOMA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT NEEDED IN PURCHASE OF STOKELY CREEK LODGE AND KING MOUNTAIN

Sault Ste. Marie ON — The Algoma Highlands Conservancy is entering the final stretch of a pledge drive to purchase 2600 acres of land, including the Stokely Creek Lodge and King Mountain. By obtaining this property, the AHC wants to ensure that ski operations and the Lodge operate regularly for the 2007-2008 season and beyond, and that the natural beauty of the surrounding area is preserved.

This property is currently owned by Astina Establishments Inc., which plans to manage the land for long-term, sustained forest value, if a sale does not take place. The AHC must inform Astina of their intent to purchase the land and the Lodge by June 15th 2007. In order to make this commitment, the AHC is asking for pledges from individuals and local businesses.

The importance of this land, and Stokely Creek Lodge in particular, is evident in the support the project has already received from skiers in the community. AHC president Doug Pitt agrees: "...Stokely means different things to each of us. For some it's the expanse of trails through continuous forests; for others it's the undeveloped lake shores; or pristine, fast-flowing brooks; or mountain viewscapes...regardless, there's something that stirs deep feelings within us all."

The AHC has existing ownership over the Robertson Lake cliffs, which is adjacent to the Stokely Creek area. Both of these properties would be managed as protection forest. Once an offer has been officially accepted by Astina, the AHC will develop a business plan for the land and Lodge prior to collecting the actual donations. All donations are tax-deductible, both in Canada and the US. Pledges should be sent to:

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Further information can be found at www.algomahighlandsconservancy.org.

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