



# Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 4, 2005**

## **CONSERVATION ONTARIO NAMES NEW GENERAL MANAGER**

NEWMARKET, Ontario – Conservation Ontario Chairman, Peter Krause is pleased to name Donald R. Pearson as the organization's new General Manager effective May 30, 2005.

Mr. Pearson has more than 20 years experience in conservation and resources management. Recently, he served as Chief Administrative Officer for the County of Perth. Prior to that, from 1981 to 2003, he was the General Manager of the Upper Thames Conservation Authority in London, Ontario.

"We are very pleased that Don will be joining us at Conservation Ontario," said Peter Krause. "He brings strong skills and experience in government relations, strategic planning and operational delivery."

Conservation Ontario is the organization that represents Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities. Conservation Authorities are local watershed management agencies that manage the province's natural resources in partnership with local communities, landowners, and all levels of government.

Mr. Pearson also served as one of Conservation Ontario's representatives on the provincial government's Watershed-based Source Water Protection Advisory Committee in 2003.

"Don's leadership of the Conservation Ontario team comes at an important time as Conservation Authorities embark on their significant role in source water protection planning. His personal commitment to facilitating a watershed approach by all stakeholders will ensure that we continue to make important progress in Ontario's watersheds," said Mr. Krause.

- 30 -

For More Information  
Peter Krause, Chair of Conservation Ontario (905) 895-0716  
pkrause@conservation-ontario.on.ca

Or

Jane Lewington, Marketing & Communications Specialist (905) 895-0716 ext 222  
Jlewington@conservation-ontario.on.ca  
P.O. Box 11, 120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket ON L3Y 4W3 Fax: 905-895-0751

## **BIOGRAPHY**

### **Donald R. Pearson General Manager, Conservation Ontario**



Mr. Donald R. Pearson was recently hired as the new General Manager for Conservation Ontario, an organization that represents Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities. Conservation Authorities offer programs and services managing natural resources in partnership with government and communities.

Prior to joining Conservation Ontario Mr. Pearson was the Chief Administrative Officer of the County of Perth since September 15, 2003. In this capacity he was responsible for the coordination and leadership of five County operating departments.

Mr. Pearson was General Manager of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority for more than two decades, where under his leadership the Authority earned a reputation for excellence and innovation in environmental management with particular emphasis on water quality, soil conservation and community involvement programs. With the UTRCA's support, the Thames was designated as a Canadian Heritage River in 2000.

Don earned a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Western Ontario in 1998 and holds an Honours Science Degree from the University of Waterloo (1975). Outside of work, he serves as Chair of the Board of the Fanshawe Pioneer Village and has been an active community volunteer for the United Way of London and Middlesex (Vice-Chair, Board of Directors and Campaign Chair in 1999 and 2000), the 2001 Canada Summer Games, the Southwestern Ontario Travel Association and the Grand Bend Harbour Committee.

May 4, 2005