

New chair elected to CH board

Jean Williams of Mississauga was elected chair of Conservation Halton at the environmental agency's inaugural meeting March 1.

"Conservation Halton's watershed has some of the most significant natural lands in Ontario," she said. "A key issue now and in the future will be to ensure that our creeks and escarpment areas remain protected for generations to come. As chair, I am committed to continuing and strengthening Conservation Halton's excellent conservation efforts."

For the past 16 years, Ms Williams has been a director of the watershed environmental agency as a citizen appointee from the City of Mississauga.

She replaces Milton Councillor Brain Penman, who was chair for the past nine years.

Meanwhile, Clark Somerville, councillor and representative from Halton Hills, was elected vice-chair. Keith Bird of Oakville was elected chair of the conservation areas and community relations committee. Carol D'Amelio of Burlington was elected chair of the resource planning and watershed management committee. These committees, along with the executive committee and general directors meetings, help guide Conservation Halton's programs.

Conservation Halton has a total of 17 directors who are appointed by the municipalities in the watershed. Ten new directors were also inducted at the inaugural meeting including Rick Craven, Douglas MacDonald and Chris Walker from Burlington, David Patterson from Oakville, Milton Councillor Ken Keates, Ron Chatten from Halton Hills, Margaret McCarthy from Hamilton, Danny Sugimoto from Mississauga and Stephen Peebles from the Township of Puslinch.

The new members were joined by returning directors Andrea Bradford and Glen Powell from Oakville and Milton Mayor Gord Krantz.

March Break activities held at local parks

Conservation Halton will offer many activities over the March Break to keep kids busy.

Ski and snowboard manufactures will be on hand March 12 to 16 at Glen Eden Ski and Snowboard Centre to show the latest in ski and snowboard equipment.

Ski and Snowboard Adventure Camps will also be held March 12 to 16 at Glen Eden.

The package will include lessons with a professional instructor, rentals and daily lift tickets.

March 17 features a St. Patrick's Day treat at Glen Eden — lift tickets, dinner and snowboard tuning for \$5 each.

A Sweetwater Day celebration for children will held at Crawford Lake Conservation Area March 18, with hands-on maple syrup making demonstrations.

March 18 is also Spring Festival Day at Crawford Lake and Mountsberg Conservation Area. Kids can create a dummy and enter it in a race for a chance to win prizes.

For admission fees or general information, call 336-1158.

Penman honoured for his work in conservation

Town Councillor Brian Penman was recognized for his outstanding contribution at Conservation Halton's inaugural meeting March 1.

Mr. Penman had chaired Conservation Halton (CH) for the past nine years.

"In all my public life, I have never enjoyed more my work with Conservation Halton along with having great pride in the jewel we have created with the conservation lands of this area," he said.

"These lands will be here for generations to come."

He represented Milton at CH for 22 years and served as chair from 1992 to 2000.

During Mr. Penman's tenure, CH acquired thousands of acres of significant natural lands including wetlands, forests and areas on Ontario's Niagara Escarpment such as Crawford Lake, Rattlesnake Point and Hilton Falls conservation areas.



Brian Penman

He also helped enhance these lands with facilities like the Glen Eden Ski and Snowboard Centre at Kelso, the Iroquoian Village and Conservation Centre at Crawford Lake and the conservation education programs and raptor hospital at Mountsberg.

Mr. Penman helped to build CH's reputation as a leader in watershed management and environmental planning.

During the past two years, he served as chair of Conservation Ontario, the umbrella organization that works on behalf on Ontario's 38 conservation authorities.

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