

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release

April 18, 2007

**In Celebration of Earth Day, Community Foundation supports Literacy and Environmental Awareness**

**GO GREEN EDUKITS donated to Fourteen Elementary Schools including Five First Nations Communities and Two Public Libraries.**

**Kenora**– The Kenora and Lake of the Woods Regional Community Foundation has gifted a total of 96 books and 48 CD's to area schools in the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Region. The books all celebrate the importance of our natural environment and are written by Canadian authors. They are geared to young readers from grades 1 to 6. The Cd's contain links to websites where students can gain valuable environmental information and have fun in the process.

The project is entitled "**GO GREEN EDUKITS**" and is sponsored by the local Community Foundation as well as the Community Foundations and the Environment program, funded by the J.W. McConnell Family Foundation and TransCanada Pipelines. The **GO GREEN EDUKITS** are fun, informative, educational and all about the environment. Each of the fourteen elementary schools, including those in the First Nations Communities of Whitefish Bay, Grassy Narrows, Whitedog and Shoal Lake #39 and #40 will receive three EDUKITS. Each EDUKIT is geared to a different elementary school grade level (Grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6) and contains two literacy based books and a cd.

"It is our hope that students, teachers, and parents will find the material helpful in increasing their awareness of the importance of the environment" says Kim Koivukosi, Chairperson of the volunteers **GO GREEN EDUKITS** Committee and a Director with the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Regional Community Foundation. Both public libraries and the Sioux Narrows Public School will receive **GO GREEN EDUKITS** as well. For a complete listing of the gifted books and the list of recipient schools/libraries please see page 2 of this media release.

"Created in 2004 and one of 155 community foundations across Canada, the Kenora and Lake of the Woods Regional Community Foundation exists to help strengthen the entire local community" says Executive Director Darlene MacGillivray. We are committed to attaining this goal through building financial endowments, providing broad and effective grant making and building capacity in the community. "Every gift to the Community Foundation's endowment is a permanent gift" says MacGillivray. "Only the the revenue from the principal is used to provide grants to local charities. As our endowment funds grow, so will the amount available for gifting to local charities."

The Community Foundation Movement is often described as the fastest growing area of philanthropy in Canada with combined assets of over \$2.3 billion and grants of \$95 million made to thousands of charities in 2004. In 2004 alone, \$210 million was donated to Community Foundations across Canada.

**For more information, please contact:**

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**The complete listing of books includes:**

**Castles in the Sea - All about Icebergs:** Lawrence Jackson presents the environmental background to the formation and life cycle of icebergs with bright and colorful illustrations. For Grades 3-4

**The First Red Maple Leaf:** Ludmilla Zeman dedicates this Canadian folktale to all children. For Grades 1-2

**Dead Water Zone:** Kenneth Opal has written a mystery with an environmental twist for young readers in Grades 5-6

**Ahmek:** Patrick Watson tells the story of a young beaver in his natural habitat in the year 1917. Through his eyes, we see a man painting in the wilderness, the painter is known to the world as Tom Thomson. Suitable for Grades 5-6

**Eco-Fun:** David Suzuki presents experiments and projects for a greener earth for students in Grades 3-4

**A Child's Enchanted Garden:** H.E. Stewart tells a beautiful story with a deep understanding of nature and the changing seasons in a growing garden for readers in grades 1-2

**The complete listing of recipient libraries /schools include:**

**Kenora Branch Library**

**Keewatin Branch Library**

**Baibombeh Anishinabe School in Whitefish Bay**

**Grassy Narrows School in Grassy Narrows**

**David Kejick Memorial School in Shoal Lake #39**

**Ojibway Heritage School in Shoal Lake #40**

**Wabaseemong School in Whitedog**

**Keewatin Public School**

**Valleyview School**

**Lakewood School**

**King George VI School**

**Evergreen School**

**Sioux Narrows Public School**

**Ecole Sainte Marguerite Bourgeoys**

**St. Louis School**

**Our Lady of the Valley/Mount Carmel Schools**