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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Greening of the Durand Neighbourhood

HAMILTON, ONTARIO - The Board of Directors of the Durand Neighbourhood Association (DNA) is pleased to announce the commitment of up to \$5,500 for the planting of trees. The program approved earlier this month by the Board targets two public spaces, namely Central Park School and Durand Park.

Central Public School will receive up to \$1,000 for a project being co-coordinated by the Friends of Central Public School. A shade forest and garden will be planted on the north side of the school and will involve the students in the planting process. This is the second time the DNA has contributed funds to Central Public School. In 2003, \$900 was provided toward the purchase and installation of new playground equipment.

Durand Park, the only park within the neighbourhood, will have its tree canopy extended with the planting of ten new trees within the Park. In addition, the City of Hamilton will plant several street trees along Herkimer and Park Streets. The DNA has delivered a cheque to the City in the amount of \$4,500 for the total cost of the park interior trees.

The Durand Neighbourhood Association is committed to rebuilding The Durand's urban forest. A door-to-door canvass will take place over the next several weeks encouraging local homeowners to take advantage of several tree-planting programs available this spring. The truth of the matter is that trees provide shade in the summer, shelter the winter wind and increase property value.

Earlier this spring the DNA also contributed \$1,000 toward the 2006 50th Anniversary events for the Trillium Awards Program in The City of Hamilton.

The Durand Neighbourhood Association Inc. was incorporated in 1972 and is one of North America's oldest active neighbourhood associations. Queen Street, Main Street, James Street and the Niagara Escarpment border the Durand. The DNA is a politically independent community organization, chartered as a not-for-profit provincial corporation. It is financially self-supporting through annual membership dues and non-charitable contributions. It is committed to sound planning principles and to the preservation of a rich quality of life by serving and protecting the diverse social, economic and recreational need of all residents.

Media Contact: Craig Hanson 905-529-1869, chanson@aic.com