

vative ways to use logs, branches and other wood in Crown forests for manufacturing or other commercial purposes. This will help create green jobs and new investment in the forest industry. Proposals are currently being accepted for the use of about 11 million cubic metres of wood. This competitive process is open to anyone – including existing and new forest companies – interested in using Crown wood supply and investing in Ontario. Proposals will be evaluated on a number of criteria, including fostering effective, cooperative relationships between industry and Aboriginal communities. “This government is putting Ontario’s wood to work to

wealth for Ontario when we need it the most,” said Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry. “We are taking firm actions to ensure Ontarians get the maximum benefits from our forests.”

- Proposals must be submitted by March 4, 2010.
- This wood supply competitive process is the second stage of the ministry’s Staged Competition for Crown Wood Supply in Ontario. It includes about one third of the existing wood supply identified in Forest Management Plans.
- Forests cover almost 60 per cent of Ontario, and 90 per cent of forested lands are provincially owned and known as Crown lands.

ANTI-VIOLENCE WALK THIS WEEK

Submitted by the Greenstone Anti-Violence Coordinating Committee

On Friday, December 4, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. the Greenstone Anti Violence Coordinating Committee will be hosting their annual Anti Violence Walk/Ice Candle Lighting Ceremony.

The Anti Violence Walk aims to bring awareness to the issue of violence in our community through a peaceful walk from the Legion parking lot to the Family Resource Centre, at which point there will be an Ice Candle Lighting Ceremony to commemorate the National Day of

Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women In Canada – the (December 6th) day on which people pause to remember those 14 young women who were murdered and another 13 who were injured at l’Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal simply because they were women.

During this event, men and male youth are encouraged to wear a white ribbon to demonstrate their commitment to ending violence against women and girls.

Immediately following the Ice Candle Ceremony an invitation to an open house of

St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church has made a \$1,500 donation to the local Salvation Army Christmas hampers. Pictured are Irene Marszowski of the Salvation Army accepting the cheque from Patti Cloutier, Treasurer of St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterian Church has been contributing food items to the Salvation Army for the past few years, on a monthly basis, and chose the Salvation Army to be their official community outreach project for 2009. With so many Geraldton residents facing financial hardship at this time of the year, this donation will go a long way to assist with the Christmas hampers and ensure a happy Christmas season for countless families who would otherwise not be so blessed.

GEDC CONDUCTS GREENSTONE REGION GAP ANALYSIS, MARKET STUDY AND AMBASSADOR TRAINING

The final steps in helping the Greenstone region become Investment Ready are the Gap Analysis, Market Study and Ambassador Training. Greenstone Economic Development Corporation (GEDC) has received funding through the Northern Communities Investment Readiness Program, as part of the ongoing community development projects. They will be conducting the final steps once the asset inventory and visual satellite imagery program are complete, as part

services offered by the Family Resource Centre is extended to all. Refreshments will be generously provided by the Golden Ribbon Society, an education/advocacy group for seniors’ safety.

For those who are unable to participate but would like to show your support, place a lighted ice candle somewhere people will see it easily.

of the overall Greenstone Region Asset Inventory.

The goal of the Northern Communities Investment Readiness Program (NCIR) is to assist Northern Ontario communities in becoming Investment Ready. An Investment Ready community provides up-to-date comprehensive information on the community and region quickly for distribution.

The Greenstone Region Gap Analysis was conducted through face-to-face interviews with stakeholders in the community from which they will determine what gaps or weaknesses exist in the local infrastructure supporting our economy as well identifying opportunities for new economic development. Flowing from the Gap Analysis, GEDC will conduct additional economic analyses of the Greenstone Region to help focus a Greenstone Region Marketing Study. These will show which business types

are under-represented in the local economy representing opportunities for entrepreneurial development. The Marketing Study will identify targeted business sectors and make recommendations on programming for the Greenstone Region. The Ambassador Program is designed to assist Northern Ontario communities involved in economic development to promote the local investment conditions, therefore supporting local business growth and retention.

Greenstone Economic Development Corporation fosters and encourages the start up and operation of successful enterprise in all economic sectors within the Greenstone region. The Corporation is a community-based, non-profit organization administered by a volunteer Board of Directors and is funded by FedNor Industry Canada. For further information please contact 807 854-2273 ext 22.