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For Immediate Release:

Birds of Prey will Soar at Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch Event

Grimsby, ON – March 25 – One of the great educational family events will once again take place on Good Friday at Beamer Memorial Conservation Area when a stunning aerial show of birds of prey will soar over the skies of Niagara.

The Annual Open House for the Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch, NPH, is being held at Beamer Conservation Area on Good Friday, March 25 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Throughout the day there will be displays from various naturalists clubs and plenty of opportunity for all to observe and learn about migrating hawks, eagles, vultures and ospreys that pass over Grimsby every spring. Visitors can also enjoy the trails throughout the Conservation Area and the fantastic views from the observation decks on the edge of the Niagara escarpment.

The NPH is providing 100 Field Guides to Birds free to families with youth. This has been made possible by the generous support from Station1 Coffeehouse and Tarbutt Construction.

Bruce Mackenzie of the NPH said that "The NPH is offering a \$500.00 scholarship to a high school student this year. The students are required to write essays and participate in the spring hawk count. The competition is underway and has brought a new dimension to the hawkwatch. The winner will be announced in June." Peninsula Ridge Estates Winery and Restaurant has generously provided the funds for the scholarship.

"The spring flight will be in high gear for the Easter Weekend and we are hoping for good numbers and a wide variety of migrating raptors for the Open House," Bruce explained.

A Children's Programme on hawks is being presented by Carla Carlson of Niagara Nature Tours at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm.

The Canadian Raptor Conservancy will be displaying live raptors and explaining about their biology and role in the environment at 1:00 pm.

Beamer Memorial Conservation Area is one of the more spectacular properties of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority. The Conservation Authority is delighted that the Hawkwatch is back at Beamer for its 42^{nd} season of counting hawks and presenting its open house again and providing such a great educational event for families to enjoy said NPCA Ecologist , Kim Frohlich.

Jonny Blonde Food truck will be on site to provide beverages and food.

There is a voluntary admission fee of \$2.00 per adult and \$5.00 per family. All admission tickets will be entered into a draw for a number of wonderful door prizes provided by local businesses in Grimsby.

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