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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
GEORGIAN BAY LAND TRUST**

SOLO KAYAKER TO CIRCUMNAVIGATE GEORGIAN BAY

GBLT Paddle For The Bay Expedition hopes to raise \$5000

Georgian Bay, ON, Canada May 7, 2008 - This Canada Day, July 1st, 2008, kayaker Patrick Stark will begin his quest to circumnavigate Georgian Bay to raise awareness for the unique archipelago in Georgian Bay, while also raising money for the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT).

Nine to five, Patrick works as an Industrial Designer but is taking the summer off to raise awareness about the unique natural and cultural features of Georgian Bay. His goal is to raise \$5 for every kilometer he paddles during his 1000 kilometer, 40 day expedition for a total of \$5,000 in support of the efforts of the GBLT.

“I have been spending time in the Carling community on Georgian Bay every summer for the past 30 years and I have seen the increased development of properties on the Bay. I feel that it's important to do what we can right now to preserve the wilderness areas of Georgian Bay for future generations.” said Patrick.

The eastern coast of Georgian Bay was designated in 2004 as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. The GBLT works with many partners, including the Nature Conservancy of Canada, to help protect the unique ecology of the area which includes, among other things, the highest diversity of reptile and amphibian species in Canada, including Ontario's only lizard, the Five-lined Skink and core habitat for populations of several imperilled species such as Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake, Eastern Foxsnake, and Spotted Turtle. GBLT acquires land for conservation to maintain the habitats for these populations and other natural habitats, to flourish.

“We love Patrick's initiative” said Wendy Cooper, Executive Director of GBLT. “The GBLT is all about preserving the wonderful things about this area for everyone, and this endeavor is a great example of the grassroots nature of our organization and how everyone can make a difference and contribute.”

To support Patrick and the GBLT, donations can be made online or by mail. Please visit www.GBLT.org for more information.

For further information, or to schedule an interview with Patrick please contact Wendy Cooper, Executive Director of the GBLT at info@gblt.org, 416-440-1519 or visit www.gblt.org

The Georgian Bay Land Trust is a not-for-profit, registered charity, whose goal is to protect the uniqueness of the eastern shore and North Channel of Georgian Bay through the securement and on-going stewardship of land that has ecological, geological and historical importance. Through this work, the GBLT works to educate and promote the importance of this area.