

News Release

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW RIDEAU VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY HEADQUARTERS IN BERYL GAFFNEY PARK

MANOTICK, December 15, 2006 —The ceremonial first five shovelfuls of dirt were moved this morning to mark the beginning of construction of the new RVCA headquarters in Beryl Gaffney Park in southern Ottawa by RVCA Chair John H. Miller (Tay Valley Township), Merrickville-Wolford Mayor and County Warden Doug Struthers, and Ottawa Councillors Maria McRae, Glenn Brooks, and Steve Desroches.

“We are very pleased to be working with the City of Ottawa on this project,” said John Miller. “Relocating our current seven administrative buildings in the Manotick area to one single headquarters building makes good business sense.”

Beryl Gaffney Park is an important 39-hectare river-corridor greenspace owned by the City of Ottawa at the confluence of the Jock and Rideau Rivers. The park is part of a series of public lands in the area providing a green southern gateway to the city. The new RVCA Headquarters Building is to be built on the corner of Prince of Wales Drive and Rideau Valley Drive. Community use of the park will increase with the RVCA presence because of the shared public facilities built into the design such as washrooms, meeting rooms, improved access and parking, interpretive signs and links to existing trails.

“This unique partnership marks an important step in developing waterfront park access for residents living in this rapidly developing area of the city, and for Ottawa as a whole,” said Councillor Desroches. “As we move forward, we are excited to begin enhancing community access to this beautiful green space along the Rideau and Jock Rivers.”

The new RVCA Headquarters will be an energy efficient “green” building integrating well with the purposes of Beryl Gaffney Park. Target completion date of the new headquarters is October 2007.

- 30 -

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