

Media Release

For immediate release
January 25, 2008

Lakefield artist supports wetland conservation

Oak Hammock Marsh, Man. – Kelly Dodge of Lakefield, Ont., has joined some of Canada's foremost nature artists by donating her artwork to help Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) raise much-needed dollars for wetland conservation in 2008.

Dodge has been selected to join DUC's National Art Portfolio (NAP) program for her painting, *The Northern Cross*. Each year, hundreds of artists submit their artwork in hope of being chosen for the NAP. Those who are selected have their artwork made into high-quality prints and given national exposure through DUC fundraising initiatives. The money raised through the NAP supports DUC's on-the-ground wetland conservation work, scientific research and education programs.

"The National Art Portfolio is a vital aspect in DUC's fundraising auctions. The NAP artists bring an unparalleled pool of talent and the results of their creativity and generosity generate lots of excitement at our fundraising events," says Ken Bailey, DUC director of revenue and membership. "Kelly Dodge's painting, *The Northern Cross*, is a great addition to our 2008 NAP, and I'm sure it will be very successful in helping us to raise the money we need to continue our wetland conservation work."

An internationally shown artist, Dodge considers it a great blessing to be surrounded by the beauty of nature. Inspired by the breathtaking views of the Northern Hemisphere constellations, Kelly Dodge created her rendition of *The Northern Cross*, a constellation so named due to the configuration of its main stars. Through her work, Dodge hopes to raise public awareness and emphasize the need to conserve natural resources.

Ducks Unlimited Canada is a national, private, non-profit organization that has been committed to wetland conservation for 70 years. DUC conserves wetlands and their associated habitat for waterfowl, other wildlife and people. For over 20 years, artists have donated their artwork to help DUC conserve vanishing wetland habitats. DUC's spring event fundraising season is now underway and people are encouraged to attend events to see artwork by Dodge and other great Canadian artists. For information on upcoming DUC events in your community, visit www.ducks.ca/event.

-30-

A high-quality image of Kelly Dodge's artwork is available. For more information, please contact:

Leigh Patterson
Corporate Media Relations Specialist
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Phone: (204) 467-3306
E-mail: l_patterson@ducks.ca



Ducks Unlimited Canada
Conserving Canada's Wetlands

Active by nature.