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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Dow Chemical Canada ULC and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority Unveil Plans for The Dow Wetlands**

**Strathroy, Ontario – February 18 , 2010** – Representatives from Dow Chemical Canada ULC and the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA) today unveiled plans for the long-term management of The Dow Wetlands. During the SCRCA annual meeting, board members were apprised of work that is underway to ensure the continuation of The Dow Wetlands as a learning environment for the community.

Under the proposed plan, which would include funding from Dow, the SCRCA would work toward assuming ownership and management of The Dow Wetlands, including the preservation of crucial wildlife habitat and related woodlots, recreational areas, as well as on-going educational programs. According to Dow Site Closure Leader, Catherine Creber, Dow is delighted to be working on a long-term plan with the SCRCA, and attributes the success of The Wetlands to the commitment of both organizations to responsible land management and the environment: "For over 10 years we have worked together and it's apparent when we review the number of visitors to The Wetlands that our efforts are appreciated by the community."

Norm Giffen, Chair for SCRCA and long-time supporter of The Wetlands believes the sustainability of the property is vital to the community: "We have been working with Dow to develop a plan for the on-going management of The Wetlands so that it will continue as a recreational and educational area for the community. We know from community feedback that its value is well understood. Since its creation in 1997 over 15,000 schoolchildren have been able to experience firsthand an incredibly unique and complex ecosystem."

The Wetlands is located at the corner of Highway 40 and LaSalle Line and provides habitat for waterfowl and other wildlife native to the Sarnia area. It is certified by the Wildlife Habitat

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Council. Thousands of people visit The Dow Wetlands each year and the public is welcome to continue to visit during daylight hours and enjoy the sheltered picnic areas and hiking trails. Signage is posted at the site for rules and regulations governing its use.

### **About Dow Canada**

Dow Chemical Canada ULC, a subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company, employs approximately 1,000 people in Canada. Headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Dow Canada and its affiliates have manufacturing locations in Toronto, Ontario; Fort Saskatchewan and Prentiss, Alberta; and Varennes, Quebec. Dow Canada is proud to join the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) as the Official Supplier of Insulation Materials and Heat Transfer Fluids. In addition, Dow Canada and VANOC, being mutually committed to the principles of sustainability, will work together on litter and end-of-life waste management programs to ensure the success of VANOC's 'Zero Waste' initiative. For more information about Dow Canada, please visit our web site at [www.dowcanada.com](http://www.dowcanada.com)

### **About the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA)**

The SCRCA is one of 36 Conservation Authorities in Ontario. The SCRCA is located in southwestern Ontario and includes the Sydenham River watershed and thirteen smaller watersheds draining directly into southern Lake Huron, the St. Clair River and northeastern Lake St. Clair. The Conservation Authority implements programs to reduce the risk to life and property from flooding and erosion; water and land stewardship; forestry; wildlife habitat creation and outdoor recreation. "The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority has as its mission, to provide leadership through coordination of watershed planning, implementation of resource management programs and promotion of conservation awareness, in cooperation with others."

### **About The Dow Wetlands**

From its original concept in 1997 when the area of Dow's land on LaSalle Road was excavated in the shape of undulating streams and ponds to provide the soil required to cover Dow's non-active landfill operation at Scott Road, The Wetlands has evolved into an 80 acre sanctuary for plant and wildlife located adjacent to an urban and industrial area. Over the years, it has continued to grow, gaining new animal and plant species. The creation of The Dow Memorial Forest in late 2000, honours the memory of past employees while contributing to the environment. The Forest is also a Carolinian habitat providing an increase in the diversity of site. The variety of the tree species is an excellent education resource.