

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) names Davin Heinbuck as new General Manager, Secretary-Treasurer**

*ABCA appoints former Water Resources Coordinator Davin Heinbuck to GM role; The St. Marys resident, formerly of Mitchell, has worked for ABCA since 2003*

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) has named Davin Heinbuck as the ABCA's new General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer. He assumes his duties as General Manager on February 12, 2024. The St. Marys resident and Mitchell native was Water Resources Coordinator prior to his new appointment. He has worked at Ausable Bayfield Conservation since 2003.

Marissa Vaughan is Chair of the ABCA Board of Directors. "On behalf of the Human Resources Committee and the entire Board of Directors, I am pleased to announce our new General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer is Davin Heinbuck," she said. "Davin has the technical skills and watershed management knowledge required for this position and he has the team-building and organizational skills needed to lead us confidently into the future."

The new General Manager has more than 20 years of experience in conservation and watershed management. Locally, he has worked closely with municipal representatives and staff and community partners in his previous role as Water Resources Coordinator. "He brings extensive subject-area knowledge to his new role and strong inter-personal skills," Vaughan said. "Davin is skilled in all aspects of watershed management. He knows the watershed and our local communities."

In addition to his work on local programs such as flood forecasting and warning and groundwater monitoring, Heinbuck has played significant roles in provincial conservation. He has served as Chair of the Southwestern Ontario Flood Forecasting and Warning Alliance and as Chair of the Southwest Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network Working Group. He has also instructed workshops for drainage engineers and drainage superintendents. "Davin has been a leader in conservation locally and he has been recognized province-wide for his contributions to effective watershed management across Ontario," Vaughan said.

Outgoing GM Brian Horner remains at ABCA to assist in the transition to the new General Manager and he will return to his former role as Financial Services Supervisor. "On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank Brian for his successful ten years as General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer at ABCA," Vaughan said. "The ABCA is highly regarded in the community and much of this is due to his fine leadership. We are grateful that he will continue at ABCA. He will be an asset in the transition to a new General Manager."

The selection of the new General Manager took place after a job competition that attracted numerous excellent candidates from within the organization and from outside the organization, according to ABCA. After in-depth interviews with several candidates, the conservation authority found their preferred candidate from within the organization.

It is an honour and a privilege to step into the role of General Manager and Secretary-Treasurer with Ausable Bayfield Conservation, Heinbuck said. "I look forward to working closely with our member municipalities and our other community partners as we continue to protect life and property and watershed resources, and build healthy, resilient watersheds, in the years to come," he said. "One of the great strengths of ABCA is our dedicated and knowledgeable staff. I look forward to working with the entire staff to realize the mission and vision the community has provided for us."

Outside of his professional work, Heinbuck is an avid angler who is National Research Director for Muskies Canada Inc. and Chair of the Muskies Canada Science Advisory Committee. He received the Paul Gasbarino Distinguished Service Award in 2022. He was inducted into the Muskies Canada Hall of Fame in 2023.

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority is an independent, corporate body in Southwestern Ontario on the southeast shores of Lake Huron. It is one of Ontario's 36 conservation authorities with the mandate to ensure the conservation, restoration and responsible management of Ontario's water, land and natural habitats through programs that balance human, environmental and economic needs. To learn more visit their website (<https://www.abca.ca/>).

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