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Media Release

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For immediate release

McKenzie's feather's get ruffled when a frosty surprise causes a windy scene. Kids of all ages delight in the marsh adventures of a trapped duck.

Water Valley, Alberta, Canada - Wood Lily Publishers releases their second picture book which includes an educational component about wetland conservation.

McKenzie's Frosty Surprise (Wood Lily Publishers, August 2008) is the second picture book from award-winning Water Valley, Alberta author, Patricia L. Atchison. Written while enjoying a walk around a wetland area close to her home, Atchison won the 1997 Calgary Writers Association Brendon Donnelly Award for Children's Literature with her entertaining McKenzie story.

Illustrator, Jo-Anne Jagers, found inspiration for the realistic Mallard illustrations within *McKenzie's Frosty Surprise* by watching ducks landing and feeding on her spring-fed pond. Living on the outskirts of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, gives Jagers a unique opportunity to spend time and observe nature just outside her back door. This nature interaction is reflected in the realistic portrayal of marsh life illustrated using acrylic and watercolours.

This new release by Wood Lily Publishers features McKenzie, a Mallard duck, who decides to stay at the marsh rather than flying south with his family. Overnight he encounters a frosty situation, but help soon arrives by way of an unlikely friend. Children have the opportunity to learn about Mallard ducks, Northern Leopard Frogs and wetlands with this delightful nature story of McKenzie and his marsh friends.

Wood Lily Publishers will be donating one dollar (\$1.00) for each book sold to Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) for wetland conservation. Our hope is to enhance the educational component of the book by introducing readers to DUC. The reader also learns about Project Webfoot, DUC's school-based wetland education program. Its goal is to teach today's students - who are tomorrow's decision-makers and conservation leaders - about the tremendous value of wetland habitats. *Trademarks used under license from DUC.*

To learn more about DUC, visit www.ducks.ca or call 1-800-665-DUCK. For information on DUC's education program or youth membership program (Greenwing), visit www.education.ducks.ca. Free lesson plan downloads are available to teachers.

Wetland conservation will be discussed during readings at schools and libraries this fall. To book a reading with Atchison or Jagers, contact Wood Lily Publishers. *McKenzie's Frosty Surprise* is available at local area bookstores and online at www.woodlilybooks.com and www.abebooks.com.

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McKenzie's Frosty Surprise

Story by Patricia L. Atchison, Illustrations by Jo-Anne Jagers

Wood Lily Publishers, August 2008 / Ages 4 - 8 / 32 colour pages

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