



# SDWF Water Drop

SDWF's Resources for Teachers Newsletter – Volume 1, Number 1, Winter 2009

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## Sponsored Kits Available Through Green Street

Green Street will sponsor kits for schools but teachers now need to register virtual classrooms through the Green Street website (<http://greenstreet.tged.org/>) to receive sponsored kits. The program provider platforms were launched on September 28th, 2009 and teachers are able to register virtual classrooms and request sponsored kits. There are not many sponsored kits left so please register your virtual classroom and request your sponsored kits today!

\*Please note: ordering through Green Street is available to Canadian schools only.



## Kits Being Requested in Record Numbers

SDWF's kits, Operation Water Drop and Operation Water Pollution, are being requested in record numbers. Currently, Canadian teachers are waiting for 193 Operation Water Pollution kits, 595 Elementary Operation Water Drop kits and 388 High School Operation Water Drop kits (1176 kits in total!). We are hoping to receive funding from many chapters of the TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and other funding sources in order to be able to provide teachers with these kits. If you are a teacher who would like to receive sponsored kits and would like to be placed on the waiting list, please send an e-mail to [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org) with your answers to the following questions:

1. What is the name and complete mailing address (including postal code) of your school?
2. Would your school like an Operation Water Pollution kit?
3. Would your school like Operation Water Drop kits? If so, then how many elementary Operation Water Drop kits would your school like and how many high school Operation Water Drop kits would your school like (each Operation Water Drop kit is good for a one time use with a class of approximately 30 students)?

Thank you! We hope to provide you with sponsored kits soon!

## ReVision Quest

In CBC Radio's ReVision Quest, First Nations comic Darrell Dennis explores the past to challenge misconceptions of what it means to be an Aboriginal person in Canada today. Some of the topics he has explored have included Labels, Aboriginal People and the Police, Aboriginals and the H1N1, Natives in the Military, Racism and the Olympics, and Native Gangs. To listen to past episodes please visit: <http://www.cbc.ca/radiosummer/revisionquest/>



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## Complimentary DVDs with Operation Water Drop and Operation Water Pollution Kits

New for the 2009-2010 school year! Every Operation Water Drop (OWD) kit comes with a complimentary "Downstream" DVD and every Operation Water Pollution (OWP) kit comes with a complimentary "Crapshoot" DVD.

### About the DVDs:

#### **Downstream - A Short Documentary by Leslie Iwerks**

A modern day David and Goliath story of "Big Oil," Downstream tells the story of one courageous doctor who puts his career on the line as he fights for the lives of the First Nations people living and dying downstream from one of the most polluting and toxic oil operations in the world: the oil sands in Alberta, Canada.

#### **Crapshoot - The Gamble with Our Wastes**

Filmmaker Jeff McKay takes viewers on an eye-opening journey around the world to explore different approaches to sewage, starting at the 2,500 year old Cloaca Maxima in Rome, where the modern concept of sewers began. Filmed in Italy, India, Sweden, the United States and Canada, this bold documentary questions whether the sewer is alleviating or compounding our waste problem. Does our need to dispose of waste take precedence over public health and safety? What are the alternatives?

You can find lessons, question sheets and answer keys for the DVDs on the SDWF website (Downstream - <http://www.safewater.org/lessons-members#owd>, Crapshoot - <http://www.safewater.org/lessons-members#owp>). If you have any questions please contact us at 306-934-0389 or [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org)



## An Opportunity to Learn How to Make a Film About Water Issues With Your Class

Jeff McKay, producer of Crapshoot, and his friend Saul Henteleff will be hosting a webinar in 2010 for students and teachers to learn how to make movies, particularly movies about water. This will be an excellent opportunity for students and their teachers to learn how to get the message about safe drinking water out in the form of interesting and thought-provoking films. Send an e-mail to [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org) to let us know if you are interested in participating in this webinar. Stay tuned for more information!



### **The Late Show with Gordon Pinsent**

CBC's Late Show featured the extraordinary life story of Canadian farmer Victor Chrapko. Victor Chrapko is a man who would describe himself as, "just a Ukrainian pig farmer". However, those who knew him remember him as a visionary, a community leader and a man of change. He was an extraordinary man who banned chemicals on his farm even before organic farming was trendy, embarked on a battle against the establishment of a hazardous waste plant in his community, and fought to preserve family farms.

### **Check Out the Latest Report from the Polaris Institute – Organizers of the Inside the Bottle Campaign**

Water fountains are disappearing on university and college campuses across Canada according to a new Polaris Institute report.

The report, "Campus Water Fountains: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly," uncovers a series of trends related to the accessibility of public drinking water at Canadian universities and colleges:

- **The Good** – assesses the kind of reinvestment in public tap water infrastructure currently happening on campuses.
- **The Bad** – presents cases where water fountains have blatantly been excluded from new buildings.
- **The Ugly** – explains the forces on and off campus that make it possible for university and college planners to design and construct new buildings without water fountains. The report's findings show a disturbing trend of some institutions decommissioning water fountains in older buildings and excluding water fountains in new buildings. In these cases, students, staff and faculty are left to either bring water from home, drink from bathroom sinks or purchase socially and environmentally damaging bottled water products.

The elimination or exclusion of water fountains is considered alongside the converging trends of rising bottled water consumption and beverage exclusivity contracts. The full report is available online at

<http://www.insidethebottle.org/publications-resources>

### **Operation Water Biology – Coming Soon!**

Soon, the SDWF will be piloting their newest education program, Operation Water Biology (OWB). OWB will include hands-on experiments and activities that will demonstrate many of the principles of the water treatment process to students. The OWB program begins with the way that different chemicals are used and dealt with by conventional treatment facilities and proceeds to show new and interesting ways that natural biological processes can be used to produce exceptionally pure water while minimizing chemical use and environmental impacts. The SDWF hopes to pilot OWB very soon and then launch the program in Fall, 2010. If you are a teacher who has used our Operation Water Drop and/or Operation Water Pollution kits in the past and would be interested in receiving a complimentary OWB kit and piloting our OWB program in your classroom, please contact us at 306-934-0389 or by e-mailing [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org).

### **The Council of Canadians Videos on the Topic of Water**

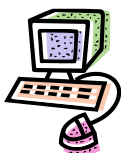
Please visit:

<http://www.canadians.org/water/index.html> to see various video clips and films as well as listen to audio clips regarding water issues on The Council of Canadians website. Some of the video clips that can be found are: the official trailer for "Waterlife," a video of Maude Barlow leading protesters at the World Water Forum in Istanbul, and "Writing on Water," a six part video on the Pan Asian Water Colloquium held in Chennai.



<http://www.canadians.org/>

If you have any comments, suggestions, or articles you wish to submit for **The Water Drop** then please do not hesitate to contact us at:



[info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org)

OR



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