

## From the Tap: The Safe Drinking Water Foundation Newsletter

#1-912 Idylwyld Dr. N Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6 Canada Ph:306-934-0389 Fx:306-934-5289  
[info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org) [www.safewater.org](http://www.safewater.org)

### From the Executive Director's Desk...

We are very happy to announce that we have received a lot of funding these past few months, including a grant from National Indian Brotherhood that will make it possible for us to rewrite, expand, and update our Operation Water Spirit program and translate it into Cree!

Spring is always a very busy time of year for us, because it is the main kit season! This school year we sent a total of 616 water testing kits to schools and these kits were used by 26,118 students. Thank you so much to all of the sponsors of the kits!

We would not be able to send sponsored water testing kits to schools without you!

Organizations which sponsored water testing kits this school year were: Mosaic, National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund, Lush, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation, The Thomas Sill Foundation Inc., Federated Co-operatives Limited, Affinity Credit Union, Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp., Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation, Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority, Honda Canada Foundation, SaskTel, Thompson-Nicola Regional District Utilities Department, Rotary Club of Saskatoon North, and RBC Blue Water Project.



Teachers are submitting their students' results from using Operation Water Drop kits to our Operation Water Drop Test Results submission website, and for that, we are very grateful! If you are a teacher who has used one or more of our Operation Water Drop kits with your students, please do not forget to submit their results! By doing this, you are engaging your students in citizen science.

We are also grateful for all of the teachers who have been evaluating our educational programs. This helps us to know what is going well and where we have some room to grow. We know that teachers are some of the busiest people on the planet, so we are grateful to them for taking time out of their day to provide us with valuable feedback.

Have a wonderful summer!

Handwritten signature of Nicole M. Hancock in cursive.

Nicole M. Hancock

### **Thank You So Much to National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund**

National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund (NIB Trust Fund) has provided us with a grant of \$47,350 to rewrite, expand, and update our Operation Water Spirit program (a free program which is available on our website and explains the First Nations' perspective on drinking water), translate the updated program into Cree, and send sponsored water testing kits to First Nations schools across Canada.

The NIB Trust Fund allocates funds in accordance with the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement of 2007 – the largest settlement agreement in Canadian history, which provided compensation to survivors for their experiences at residential schools.



### **Thank You So Much to Mosaic**

Thank you to Mosaic for providing us with \$20,000 to send sponsored kits to Saskatchewan schools in spring 2019!

#### **About Mosaic:**

As the world's leading producer and marketer of concentrated phosphate and potash, Mosaic's mission is to help grow the food the world needs. We understand that the sustainability of our business and our communities are indelibly linked. Our communities are also our homes – where we live, work and raise children. Mosaic strives to be a thoughtful and engaged neighbor who invests carefully and generously and seeks partnerships with organizations that are making a difference. This is why we support the Safe Drinking Water Foundation.



**Thank You to Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp.**

Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp. (SARRC) has provided us with \$5,000 to send water testing kits to schools in and around North Battleford and in other communities where they operate. Thank you SARRC!



**SARRC**

Saskatchewan Association  
for Resource Recovery Corp.

**Thank You to Alberta Conservation Association**

Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) has provided us with \$3,145 to send sponsored water testing kits to schools in Alberta that are on the waiting list for sponsored kits and will use them as part of field trips. Thank you ACA!



**Thank You to Honda Canada Foundation**

Honda Canada Foundation provided us with \$2,550 to send sponsored water testing kits to schools that are on the waiting list and are located in communities where Honda operates.



**HONDA**

**HONDA CANADA FOUNDATION**



### **Thank You to Federated Co-operatives Limited**

The Saskatoon location of Federated Co-operatives Limited has provided us with \$1,500 to give sponsored water testing kits to Saskatoon schools. In addition, the Winnipeg location of Federated Co-operatives Limited has provided us with \$595 to send seven Elementary Operation Water Drop kits to seven different schools in Winnipeg. Thank you Federated Co-operatives Limited!



**Federated  
Co-operatives  
Limited**

### **Thank You to City of Saskatoon**

City of Saskatoon has provided us with \$2,000 to provide funding to three of the schools that competed in the Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes competition to enable them to continue their action projects and to oversee the continuation of these schools' projects. Thank you City of Saskatoon!



### **More Kits for Alberta Schools!**

We were very happily surprised on June 20, 2018 when we received a donation of \$50,000 in the mail from a foundation that wishes to remain anonymous. This foundation is sponsoring hundreds of kits for schools in Alberta – so teachers in Alberta will feel very fortunate in the fall! If you are a teacher in Alberta, be sure to request sponsored kits ASAP so that you can get your hands on some of these kits!



### Plaque Presentation and Ribbon Cutting at St. George School

As the winners of the Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes competition, St. George School was awarded with a plaque and had a ribbon cutting to unveil their new water bottle filling station on Thursday, May 17, 2018. Two RBC representatives were on hand to meet the winning students and speak briefly about why they sponsor initiatives such as the Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes competition. While only one water bottle filling station is installed thus far at St. George School, two more will be installed thanks to the funds they received from winning the Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes competition and some money that they have contributed themselves. Here are some pictures from the event:



## Reminder to Teachers: Please Don't Forget to Submit Your Students' Results to the Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website!

The school year might be over, but you can still submit your students' Operation Water Drop test results and receive a token of our appreciation! If you have used one or more Operation Water Drop kits with your students, please go to <https://testresults.safewater.org> in order to enter their results. If you have lost your code(s) click on the Lost your code? link, enter your e-mail address, and your code(s) will be e-mailed to you.

The screenshot shows the SDWF website interface. At the top left is the SDWF logo. To its right, the text reads "Operation Water Drop Test Results SUBMISSION WEBSITE". Below this, there are two main sections. The left section is titled "Welcome to Safe Drinking Water Foundation's Water Test Results Submission Website" and contains a paragraph explaining the website's purpose. The right section is titled "Already submitted your results? Interested in seeing them?" and features a "VIEW RESULTS MAP" button. Below these sections is a "Submit your results" section. It includes a circular indicator for "Step 1 of 7", a text input field for "Enter your code", a "Next →" button, and a link for "Lost your code?". At the bottom of the page, there are links for "FAQs | Contact Us" and a copyright notice: "© Copyright 2017 Safe Drinking Water Foundation."

## Request Sponsored Kits for Next School Year!

Teachers, it only takes about three minutes to request sponsored kits for your students for next school year! The sooner you request sponsored kits, the greater your chance of receiving sponsored kits if your school fits the criteria of one of our funders. We currently have sponsored Operation Water Drop kits available for rural and First Nations schools across the country, sponsored kits (all three types) available for First Nations schools across Canada, and sponsored kits (all three types) available for First Nations and rural high schools in Manitoba, so make sure you get your name on the waiting list ASAP! Even if your school does not meet any of the criteria of schools for which we currently have sponsored kits available, it is still a very good idea to request sponsored kits as early as possible!

Please visit [www.safewater.org/sponsored-kit-request-form](http://www.safewater.org/sponsored-kit-request-form) to request sponsored kits today!




**Are You Teaching Any Summer School Courses or Summer Teacher Workshops? Do You Want Any Water Testing Kits?**

Purchase a kit for a summer school course or a summer teacher workshop that you are instructing and you will get the kit quite quickly!

If you are teaching a summer teacher workshop please let us know, we will provide you with a kit free of charge or at a very significant discount!

If you are teaching a summer school course, purchasing a kit is the only way to guarantee receiving a kit – and the only way to receive a kit during the summer. An Elementary Operation Water Drop kit can be used with an entire classroom of eager learners and only costs \$85. High School Operation Water Drop kits cost \$170 each. An Operation Water Pollution kit costs \$170 and is guaranteed to be reusable for at least two years – so all of the students in your school can use it! Operation Water Biology kits cost \$170 each.

To purchase kits:

-  Phone us at 1-306-934-0389 and provide us with your Visa or MasterCard information.
-  Or purchase kits on our website ([www.safewater.org/order-kits](http://www.safewater.org/order-kits))
-  Or mail a cheque payable to Safe Drinking Water Foundation to #1-912 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6. We accept purchase orders too.

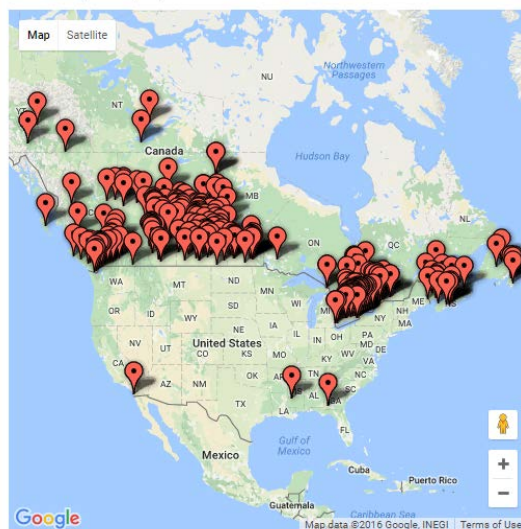
**Please Send Us Your Students' Water Artwork to Celebrate Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

It was 20 years ago that Safe Drinking Water Foundation became a registered Canadian charity. To celebrate this big milestone, we are inviting teachers across Canada to send us ten pieces of their students' artwork depicting drinking water in their lives, along with artwork release forms, and, in exchange, we will provide that teacher with one High School Operation Water Drop kit or two Elementary Operation Water Drop kits. This can be the source of drinking water, water conservation, using water, or anything else related to drinking water. If you are interested in taking us up on this offer and would like the artwork release form please e-mail us at [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org) or phone us at 1-306-934-0389.

### **As Little as \$85 Can Put Authentic Water Testing Materials in the Hands of 30 Elementary Students in Your Community!**

There are hundreds of Canadian schools on the waiting list for sponsored kits - we are certain that at least one of the schools is near you! You can make it possible for a classroom of students to learn about water quality issues and solutions, be supported and encouraged in sharing knowledge with others and in taking action to alleviate drinking water quality issues, to participate in citizen science, and to test the water they drink every day, for as little as \$85.

Please phone us at 1-306-934-0389 to find out more about how you can sponsor a kit for a school near you, or visit our homepage ([www.safewater.org](http://www.safewater.org)) where you will find an interactive map of all of the Canadian schools that are waiting for sponsored kits. Click on the school for which you would like to buy a kit and use our easy, online system to sponsor a kit for that school! You can make a difference in the lives of students!



### **Did You Create Some Great Resources This School Year to Complement Our Water Testing Kits?**

If you are a teacher who has created resources to use in your classroom when you teach any of the SDWF programs, please send them to us at [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org) so we can share them on our website. We will send you a small token of our appreciation.



### State of Drinking Water Quality in Canada

According to Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (<http://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1506514143353/1506514230742>) as of June 20, 2018 there were 74 long-term (meaning the advisory has been in place for more than a year) drinking water advisories in effect in First Nations communities. In addition, according to Health Canada (<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/topics/health-environment/water-quality-health/drinking-water/advisories-first-nations-south-60.html>) as of June 21, 2018, there were 38 short-term Drinking Water Advisories in place in First Nations communities. These numbers include public water systems financially supported by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) but not systems in British Columbia and within the Saskatoon Tribal Council.

In total, across Canada, as of June 25, 2018 there were 999 Boil Water Advisories and 46 Do Not Consume Orders.

A spreadsheet that contains information regarding Drinking Water Advisories in Western Canada and was last updated by Safe Drinking Water Team on April 11, 2018 is available here:

<https://www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org/s/All-Communities-with-Drinking-Water-Advisories-April-2018.xlsx>

A spreadsheet that contains Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Manitoba water sample test results and has the values which are over the guidelines highlighted is available here:

<https://www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org/s/Water-Quality-Test-Results-c2d8.xlsx>

### Join Our Facebook Group!

Join us on Facebook to hear all of our news as it happens! Along with our news and water news, we also post Facts of the Week on Mondays, Talk Back Tuesdays (feedback about our educational programs), Thank You Thursdays, and Funny Fridays!

Visit: [www.facebook.com/groups/safedrinkingwaterfoundation/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/safedrinkingwaterfoundation/)

### **Sign Up to Receive Drinking Water Quality News From Safe Drinking Water Team**

The goal of Safe Drinking Water Team is safe drinking water from every tap. Safe Drinking Water Team (SDWT) is a group of First Nations water treatment plant operators and scientific advisors who help other First Nations water treatment plant operators and rural water treatment plant operators with their water treatment challenges. SDWT also promotes the best available technology for water treatment and advocates for stricter guidelines and regulations for drinking water.

SDWT sends out information about drinking water quality issues and solutions in First Nations and rural communities approximately once a month. To receive this valuable information please visit

<https://www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org> and enter your name and e-mail address at the bottom of the homepage to subscribe to their mailing list or send an e-mail with the subject "Subscribe" to [safedrinkingwaterteam@gmail.com](mailto:safedrinkingwaterteam@gmail.com).



### **Sponsored Kits Which Are Currently Available**

Currently, we have the following sponsored kits available:




- Sponsored Operation Water Pollution kits, High School Operation Water Drop kits, and Operation Water Biology kits for rural and First Nations high schools in Manitoba.
- Sponsored kits of all four types for schools in Alberta.
- Sponsored kits of all four types for First Nations schools anywhere in Canada.
- Sponsored Elementary Operation Water Drop kits and High School Operation Water Drop kits (one per school) for rural and First Nations schools anywhere in Canada.
- Sponsored kits of all four types for schools in Alberta where teachers will use them as part of field trips.
- One sponsored High School Operation Water Drop kit or two sponsored Elementary Operation Water Drop kits for any teacher in Canada who sends us 10 pieces of their students' artwork depicting water in their lives along with artwork release forms.

**Please Do One of the Smartest Things You Can Do to Improve the  
Drinking Water Quality Situation in Canada: Donate to Safe Drinking  
Water Foundation**

You can make it possible for us to educate the leaders of tomorrow about drinking water quality issues and solutions by making a donation. Donors can choose to make one-time, monthly or annual donations. If organizations donate \$1,000 or more they will receive recognition in SDWF's quarterly newsletters twice, and if they donate \$10,000 or more they will also receive recognition on SDWF's website for one year (the SDWF website currently receives over 258,000 unique visitors per year and is on track to receive over 468,000 unique visitors next year) and their logo will include a hyperlink to their website. For more information, please visit: [www.safewater.org/donate](http://www.safewater.org/donate)

Thanks to everyone who has made a donation!

Donations can be made:

-  On our website ([www.safewater.org/donate](http://www.safewater.org/donate))
-  By phoning us at 1-306-934-0389 with your Visa or MasterCard information.
-  By mailing a cheque payable to Safe Drinking Water Foundation to #1-912 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6.

Receipts for income tax purposes are issued for all donations of \$20 or more. If you have any questions or would like to simply phone us and make a donation with a Visa or MasterCard please do not hesitate to call us at 1-306-934-0389. Thank you!



**Contact us:**



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

OR



**(306) 934-0389**