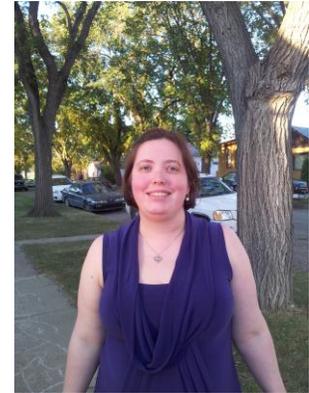


From the Tap: The Safe Drinking Water Foundation Newsletter

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From the Executive Director's Desk...

Wow! Another year has come and gone and it is at this time that we reflect on the previous year, on the big events, successes and sometimes failures which have occurred. We are very proud to have sent over 1,000 educational kits to schools last school year, to have participated in Saskatoon World Rivers' Day events, to have held an event that was part of the 2012 Saskatchewan Eco-Network environmental film festival, and much more. We are sad about those teachers who did not receive any sponsored kits despite signing up on the waiting list for the opportunity to teach their students about drinking water quality issues and solutions.



At this time, we also look forward to the New Year and the opportunities it will bring. Currently, Canadian teachers are waiting for over 2,900 sponsored education kits to be sent to their schools and we hope to be able to provide many of these kits to the teachers in order for them to be able to educate tens of thousands more students about drinking water quality issues and solutions. We also look forward to the potential of having a new summer student in the summer to continue to improve and develop resources for our education programs. Furthermore, we are keen on participating in several different events again this year. From our staff, board members and volunteers to you and yours we wish you all an amazing holiday season.



Nicole M. Hancock

Thank You So Much Mosaic!

Mosaic donated \$10,430 for Saskatchewan schools which were added to the waiting list during the 2011-2012 school year but as of summer 2012 still had not yet received the sponsored kits which they requested. This funding resulted in educating over 3,000 Saskatchewan students about drinking water quality issues and solutions.



Become Part of a National Network of Schools Working on Environmental Initiatives and Learning About Environmental Careers

Eco Canada's 2013 Green High Schools program is now accepting registrations from secondary schools across Canada.

Inspire environmental conversations in your classroom and join the growing crop of nationally recognized Green High Schools.

Once registered with the Green High Schools program, your team will be part of a national network of schools working on environmental initiatives and learning about environmental careers.

How can you become a Green High School?

1. Register your school's environmental initiative with ECO Canada at <http://www.eco.ca/student-services/green-high-schools/>
2. Work on your project throughout the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year and share your progress with other Green High Schools.
3. Complete a project evaluation and document your success before May 2013.

For more information visit www.eco.ca/greenhighschools or contact Rebecca Dickson at career.awareness@eco.ca



Buy an Educational Kit for a School Which is Waiting for an Opportunity to Educate their Students

On our homepage, you will find an interactive map of all of the Canadian schools which are waiting for sponsored kits. Why not sponsor a kit for your children's school or the school from which you graduated? Click on the school for which you would like to buy a kit and pay for the kit via PayPal, it's that easy! Since Canadian teachers are currently waiting for 2,979 sponsored kits to be sent to their schools you are sure to find a school near you in need of a kit!

A New Editorial Written by Dr. Hans Peterson

Watch for a new editorial written by Dr. Hans Peterson to appear on the Safe Drinking Water Foundation homepage (www.safewater.org) on December 21st, 2012. Also, be sure to check out Dr. Peterson's previous editorial by visiting <http://www.safewater.org/resources/sdwf-editorials.html>



Safe Drinking Water Foundation Kits Can Show Impoverished Students that Science Can Provide a Number of Career Paths

Recently, we received a request for sponsored kits from a principal of a school located in an impoverished area of Calgary. This school has the highest number of transient students in Calgary, the literacy levels of the students are significantly lower than the average, many of the students' families live in poverty (some come from group homes and shelters), many families are single parent families (this all impacts the amount of school fees that they can collect), a large number of the students are from English as a second language and immigrant families, and they all need education as a way out of the area.

The teachers try to provide authentic hands on learning experiences for their students whenever they can but that always takes money, money the school does not have. They try to tap into the corporate spirit of Calgary but they still lack funds daily. Their school is a very caring school, they provided over 30 Christmas food hampers last year for their most impoverished families and they easily could have doubled the order, but unfortunately not the number of hampers.

The principal pleaded to us to please help them show their students that science is a fun and engaging area that can provide a number of feasible career paths for their students. If you would like to help this school please contact us at info@safewater.org or 1-306-934-0389 and we will make it happen.

Our kits not only educate students about drinking water quality issues and solutions but also motivate students to take further science classes and pursue science careers because they are doing real, hands on, relevant science experiments!



Current Number of Drinking Water Advisories in Canada

According to Health Canada (<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/promotion/public-publique/water-eau-eng.php>), as of October 31st, 2012 there were 122 First Nations communities across Canada under a Drinking Water Advisory. This is three more First Nations communities across Canada under a Drinking Water Advisory than there were exactly two months prior. The number of Drinking Water Advisories is increasing! In total, in urban, rural and First Nations communities as of December 4th, 2012 there were 1,171 Boil Water Advisories (this number has decreased by three Boil Water Advisories in the last three months), 43 cyanobacteria blooms (this number has decreased by 17 over the last three months) and 48 Do Not Consume Orders (a decrease of two Do Not Consume Orders in the last three months) across Canada.

Although the numbers have mostly improved over the last three months there is still a LONG way to go before all Canadians have access to safe drinking water.

Together we can walk this path toward success! Help us to educate our communities' future leaders today!



Thank You SOOOO Much to the Organizations Which Sponsored Kits this Year!

We could NOT do it without you, thank you SOOOO much to:



S.M. Blair Family Foundation

Individual Donors

How Many Kits Were Sent This Fall?

This fall, 161 Elementary Operation Water Drop kits, 59 High School Operation Water Drop kits, 7 Operation Water Pollution kits (we need to order more!) and 24 Operation Water Biology kits were sent. This means that another 7,462 Canadian students were taught about drinking water quality issues and solutions using real, hands on, relevant experiments which also motivated them to pursue further science classes and careers in science!

This also means that we are a quarter of the way toward our goal already this year (and spring is the busy kit season!), we will make it to our goal and to educating over 50,000 Canadian students with help from funders!



A Great Big Round of Applause

To all of our Board Members:

Dr. David Schindler

Ray Blumenfeld

Tracy Webb

Dr. John O'Connor

Dr. Henry (Hank) Venema

Sue Barkman

To the wonderful:

Dr. Tim Molnar for helping us with various tasks

Dr. Hans Peterson for writing editorials

Volunteer who writes Water Facts of the Week

Volunteer who searches for news articles regarding water for the "In the News" section of our website

Corrinne Arnold and her students for making a presentation during our event at the Saskatchewan Eco-Network 2012 Environmental Film Festival

University of Saskatchewan grad students and Saeed Ul Amin, Projects Manager at the South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards Inc. who participated in the discussion panel during our event at the Saskatchewan Eco-Network 2012 Environmental Film Festival

Donors of the items for our silent auction at the Saskatchewan Eco-Network 2012 Environmental Film Festival

Saskatchewan Eco-Network for assisting us with our event at their 2012 Environmental Film Festival and for inviting us to participate in the 2012 World Rivers' Day celebrations in Saskatoon

We could not do what we do without you, words cannot express the level of gratitude we feel for all of you!!!



Donations – Make Yours by December 31st and Receive a 2012 Receipt for Income Tax Purposes

Please help us 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 a donation of \$20 or more is made you will receive your choice of either a “Downstream” or a “Crapshoot” DVD; if a donation of \$40 or more is made you will receive both DVDs. If corporations donate \$1,000 or more they will receive recognition in one of the SDWF’s quarterly newsletters and if they donate \$10,000 or more they will also receive recognition on SDWF’s website which receives over 34,200 unique visitors per year, and their logo will include a hyperlink to their website. For more information please visit: <http://www.safewater.org/make-a-donation.html>



Thanks to everyone who has made a donation!

Donations can be made by cheque, credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or PayPal via our website. If you are a Royal Bank online banking customer you can donate using the same method which you use to pay your bills online, add the Safe Drinking Water Foundation as a payee (the number that you will need is 07378), and then make your donation.

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 credit card please do not hesitate to call us at 306-934-0389. Thanks in advance!



info@safewater.org

Contact us:

OR



(306) 934-0389