

December 18, 2019

ONTARIO

'We're in a David-and-Goliath situation.' Small Ontario town taking on Nestle to save its water

Front page of Toronto Star yesterday. Please share widely.

<https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/news-story/9778589--we-re-in-a-david-and-goliath-situation-small-ontario-town-taking-on-nestle-to-save-its-water/>

Consider sending a letter to the editor of Toronto Star to express your support for denying Nestle permit to take water in Centre Wellington, and to phase out their existing permits to take water in Aberfoyle and Hillsburgh. Send your contribution to Letters to the Editor via email to lettertoed@thestar.ca; via fax to 416-869-4322; or by mail to One Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario M5E 1E6. Letters must include full name, address and all phone numbers of sender (daytime, evening and cellphone). Street names and phone numbers will not be published. Star reserves the right to edit letters, which typically run 50-150 words.

CANADA

The secrets of Canada's tap water, explained

Would it surprise you to know drinking water in some Canadian cities contains unsafe levels of lead? A year-long investigation by more than 120 journalists from nine universities and 10 media organizations found some disturbing answers. Hundreds of thousands of Canadians could be consuming tap water laced with high levels of lead leaching from aging infrastructure and plumbing, a large collection of newly-released data and documents reveals.

See the 7 minute video here: <https://youtu.be/l0h55NoUBmg>

THUNDER BAY

Over 200 classes worldwide participate in Junior Water Walkers initiative inspired by Late Josephine Mandamin

"I was actually working on a virtual Google Earth story that took kids on a virtual field trip around the five Great Lakes," Cameron says. "So it was incredible that I could have Josephine come to speak to my students — my kids took Josephine on a virtual field trip and Josephine then told my students about her walk to bring awareness on the need to protect water. My students told Josephine they would do their part to carry on her legacy and her walk and become Junior Water Walkers."

Project lead: Peter Cameron, a Lakehead University alumnus and Grade 5/6 teacher at St. Elizabeth's School in Thunder Bay.

<https://anishinabeknews.ca/2019/12/11/over-200-classes-worldwide-participate-in-junior-water-walkers-initiative-inspired-by-late-josephine-mandamin>

TORONTO

Toronto launches \$3B project to improve water quality in Lake Ontario and city's waterways

"Currently, when a major storm hits our city... and dumps huge quantities of rain water onto the city... the wastewater system goes into overdrive to prevent major flooding," Mayor John Tory said Saturday. As the water rushes in, Tory said, the system pushes wastewater overflows into the rivers and into Lake Ontario when it reaches a certain threshold.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/toronto-storm-water-wastewater-management-program-1.5396886>

HAMILTON

Hamilton's Chedoke Creek sewage spill

The City of Hamilton has been ordered to come up with another report on the spill of 24 billion litres of sewage that seeped into Chedoke Creek over four years.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/6248469/second-report-hamilton-chedoke-creek-sewage-spill/>

OTTAWA

Hopewell school in Ottawa on way to becoming first elementary school Blue Community

Hopewell Avenue Public School in Ottawa is working towards the distinction of being the first elementary school designated as a "Blue Community." The school, which is home to more than 900 students in Kindergarten to Grade 8, welcomed Council of Canadians Honorary Chairperson Maude Barlow and Water Campaigner Vi Bui in their gymnasium today and listened to them speak about the importance of protecting water.

<https://canadians.org/blog/hopewell-school-ottawa-way-becoming-first-elementary-school-blue-community>