

July 8, 2020

Invitations

Did you know our **CSJ Blue Community project now has a Facebook page**? Join now, invite your friends, and share our posts.

<https://www.facebook.com/Blue-Community-Federation-of-Sisters-of-St-Joseph-109598744153690/>

Monday July 13 at 7pm

A webinar to discuss the implications of Nestlé's decision to sell operations in Wellington County and Hope BC to Ice River and next steps in the Say No To Nestlé campaign. See the articles below for more information on this news. RSVP here:

https://wellingtonwaterwatchers.nationbuilder.com/all_eyes_on_nestle_is_this_really_goodbye

Tuesday, July 14 at 10am

Wellington Water Watchers is hosting a webinar on the threat that public private partnership pose to public water systems in Canada. Join WWW on at 10am on Tuesday July 14 for the webinar “Resisting Water Privatization: from Mapleton ON to Berlin, Germany”

https://wellingtonwaterwatchers.nationbuilder.com/water_webinar

These two events are part of the **People’s Water Campaign** this summer and fall in preparation for new Provincial rules coming about bottled water permits. Sign up for the September 26th convention:

https://wellingtonwaterwatchers.nationbuilder.com/pwc_pre_registration

Stop the Nuclear Waste Dump (DGR) in the Municipality of South Bruce. Add your name.

https://wellingtonwaterwatchers.nationbuilder.com/protect_our_waterways

Tell the federal government to create a comprehensive single-use plastic ban list!

<https://act.greenpeace.org/page/60320/action/1?locale=en-US>

TC Energy is proposing a \$3.3 billion pumped storage plant to be built on Department of National Defense land near Meaford Ontario, using Georgian Bay as a reservoir. Say “no” with this Federal petition:

<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-2670>

Share your thoughts on the creation of a Canada Water Agency.

The Government of Canada is creating a new Canada Water Agency to work together with the provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, local authorities, scientists and others to find the best ways to keep our water safe, clean and well-managed.

<https://www.placespeak.com/en/topic/6321-protecting-canadas-fresh-water/>

The Water Song. If you have read this far, maybe you are exhausted and in need of some spiritual rejuvenation. Too many petitions and webinars tire the soul. Try this. Centre some water in your gaze. This could be a glass of water, a puddle, or a local stream or lake. Say and repeat these words 4 times:

Water, we love you.

We thank you.

We respect you.

These are the words written by Doreen Day for her 'Nibi Song'. Doreen is Anishinaabe so she sings these words in her language:

Nibi, Gizaagi'igo

Gimiigwechiwenimigo

Gizhawenimigo

Updates

Nestlé is selling its operations in Ontario. From the Council of Canadians website: Last week's announcement of Nestlé Waters leaving Canada is a great milestone in this David vs Goliath story, and a victory for the community groups, First Nations and residents across Canada fighting the multi-national bottled water giant. We know the fight against water takings is not over, and there are still many questions about what this move means.

Over the past few days, the Council of Canadians has been looking into the details of the sale and finding out more about Ice River Springs. Here's what we know so far about Nestlé's sale of its Pure Life brand to the Canadian-owned company and what we still need to learn.

<https://canadians.org/analysis/what-we-know-about-nestle-departure>

Environmentalists cheer as Nestle sells Canadian water business

<https://www.thestar.com/business/2020/07/02/environmentalists-cheer-as-nestle-sells-canadian-water-business.html>

If there is loose COVID cash, what better use than to stop the sewage flowing into Canada's waters

While 90 per cent of America's community water systems were in compliance with Environmental Protection Agency standards in 2016, 24 per cent of Canada's wastewater systems failed to meet Environment Canada's quality criteria.

In that year, two billion cubic metres (more than 500 billion gallons) of untreated, or under-treated, effluent was flushed into the country's waterways. That's enough wastewater to fill 800,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/if-there-is-loose-covid-cash-what-better-use-than-to-stop-the-sewage-flowing-into-canadas-waters>

How the Indian Act continues to impact the lives of First Nation people

There is no piece of legislation that has had more of an influence on the lives of First Nation people in Canada than the Indian Act.

<https://www.cbc.ca/radio/unreserved/how-the-indian-act-continues-to-impact-the-lives-of-first-nation-people-1.5614187>

Aqua fons vitae: orientations on water: symbol of the cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth. Vatican City, March 2020.

"Today, more than ever, we need to look beyond immediate concerns and beyond purely utilitarian views of reality. According to this utilitarian approach, efficiency and productivity are geared to the self serving profit of small interest groups. The human dignity of so many people is disregarded, since they do not seem to be a primary concern for policies, infrastructures and investments.

We urgently need longterm shared projects, supported by valid ethical references, a healthy anthropology, and genuine motivations. Water management can find a strong inspiration in the Catholic Social Teaching, especially in papal contributions about human dignity, solidarity, justice, universal destination of goods, subsidiarity, common good, integral ecology and integral human development, and the priority of option for the poor." **Read the full report:**

http://www.humandevlopment.va/content/dam/sviluppoumano/documenti/Aqua%20fons%20vitae%20_%2003%202020.pdf

What are microplastics and single-use plastics?

<https://www.safewater.org/fact-sheets-1/2017/1/23/microplastics>

Plastic Rain Is the New Acid Rain

Writing in the journal Science, researchers report a startling discovery: After collecting rainwater and air samples for 14 months, they calculated that over 1,000 metric tons of microplastic particles fall into 11 protected areas in the western US each year. That's the equivalent of over 120 million plastic water bottles.

<https://www.wired.com/story/plastic-rain-is-the-new-acid-rain>

Analysis of US cities shows emergency on affordability of running water amid Covid-19 pandemic.

Exclusive analysis of 12 US cities shows the combined price of water and sewage increased by an average of 80% between 2010 and 2018, with more than two-fifths of residents in some cities living in neighbourhoods with unaffordable bills. In the first nationwide research of its kind, our findings reveal the painful impact of America's expanding water poverty crisis as aging infrastructure, environmental clean-ups, changing demographics and the climate emergency fuel exponential price hikes in almost every corner of the US.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/jun/23/millions-of-americans-cant-afford-water-bills-rise>