

October 27, 2019

There are two recent blog posts up on the CSJ Blue Community website.

I Am Water: introduce yourself with water

Many of the actions we can take to honour water as a human right, shared commons, and sacred gift are collective, yet the ways we describe who we are and where we are from can shift the broader water-agenda in profound ways.

<https://www.bluecommunitycsj.org/post/i-am-water-introduce-yourself-with-water>

Going International To Stop Nestlé Locally

<https://www.bluecommunitycsj.org/post/going-international-to-stop-nestl%C3%A9-locally>

Related to the Nestlé issue, the Wellington Water Watchers are hosting a series of events in Waterloo, Hamilton, Toronto, and Guelph from November 11-14th. See the details on our website:

<https://www.bluecommunitycsj.org/events-1>

Also related to Nestlé, remember that Halloween is extra spooky and scary when supporting Nestlé's profits. Much of the candy shared as treats on Halloween includes the trick Nestlé plays locally and globally when it steals spring water in Ontario, British Columbia, California, Florida (and the list goes on) and [uses child slave labour to produce its chocolate](#). Nestlé candy brands include, Kit Kat, Crunch, Butterfinger, Aero, Smarties, Coffee Crisp, Turtles, Rolo, Nerds, Sweetarts, Laffy Taffy, Runts, Gobstopper, Lik-M-Aid Fun Dip, Pixy Stix, Bottle Caps, Kazoozles and Gummies.

If you haven't had the chance yet to read our latest Blue Community newsletter, you can see and share it on our website. It focused on the Federal election and included two recent events featuring Maude Barlow's new book [Whose Water is it Anyway: taking water protection into public hands](#). Guess who is on page 89? Yes, the our CSJ Blue Community, our Water is the First Medicine slogan and a few more details. Do you have access to the book? Is so, let me know what you think. If not, let me know who I help you get a copy right away. See our Fall newsletter on our website:

<https://www.bluecommunitycsj.org/Contact>

NEWS

"One trillion litres of sewage leaked into Canadian lakes and rivers over last five years". Just one of the many conclusions from a recent Our Living Waters report about sewer overflows during heavy rains in Canadian cities. See the full report and community toolkit here. If you want to tackle your community's sewage overflow, get in touch.

https://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/one_trillion_reasons

Have you heard of the Junior Water Walker project? Inspired by the late Josephine Mandamin and a book based on her effort to protect water ("The Water Walker" by Joanne Robertson) a Thunder Bay Geography teacher (Peter Cameron) started connecting schools across North America to continue the work of protecting the sacred gift of water. See Peter's website and the map of Junior Water Schools.

<https://mrcssharesease.wordpress.com/junior-water-walkers/>

(image attached)

REFLECTION

Our Blue Community project has been using water justice to also reconcile with the Indigenous water protectors in our areas. We want to learn about the common grounds we share for sacred waters and we want to get to know the watershed we live in. Part of this includes exploring and creating meaningful land and water acknowledgments for where we call home. The project did a [pilot workshop on this topic](#) a few months ago that you can read about. There is also this resource by the Native Governance Center with many useful tips and reflections such as:

- Start with self-reflection
- Do your homework
- Use appropriate language
- Use past, present, and future tenses
- Land acknowledgments shouldn't be grim

See the full guide here: <https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/>