

# April 20, 2020

## EARTH DAY EVENTS

### Emergence Magazine Conversation

Join the Emergence Magazine community to discuss the legacy of Earth Day since its inception 50 years ago and the literary history of the environmental movements that soon followed. The New Yorker's Paul Elie is a featured guest. His work examines the ways religious ideas are expressed in literature, the arts, music, and culture. This live conversation will also include a moderated Q&A with the audience.

When: Apr 21, 2020 3:00 PM

Register: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_haURtzBvSNS\\_mqVJIsOcog](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_haURtzBvSNS_mqVJIsOcog)

### Earthrise Screening Party with Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee

"Earthrise" tells the story of the first image captured of the Earth from space in 1968. This iconic image had a powerful impact on the Apollo 8 astronauts and the world. Told 50 years later, "Earthrise" compels us to remember this shift and to reflect on the Earth as a shared home. There will be time after the screening for a live discussion with Emmanuel and a moderated Q&A with the audience.

When: Apr 22, 2020 3:00 PM

Register: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_HyUfD50sQ\\_CUbycTEw6bwQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HyUfD50sQ_CUbycTEw6bwQ)

### New 90 minute film: OUR WATER

Four friends kayaked around Lake Superior to help raise awareness of the pristine waters and landscapes they behold. Sharing stories and values of what makes our backyard to important to us and those that live with it. Ryan Busch will be live on Facebook to answer questions.

When: April 22, 2020 from 7:00-8:30 pm EST

Watch the film and engage with the makers at: <https://www.fourthewater.com/>

## ENCOURAGING NEWS

Council of Canadians Announcement

In an email from Vi Bui (Blue Communities Coordinator for the Council of Canadians) announced:

*I'm writing today to bring to you some good news. A few weeks ago, Vancouver City Council voted to become the second largest Blue Community in Canada... That means that one in four residents in British Columbia live in a community that has committed to protecting water as a human right, banning bottled water, and saying no to privatization of water and wastewater services. See more at: <https://canadians.org/bluecommunities>*

### When youth carry the weight of the world

These young activists have proven to their communities and the world that there is no time like the present to make a change.

- 11 year-old Stella Bowles wanted to swim in the river near her home in Bridgewater, N.S. but it was contaminated. She took action. After a couple months, Bridgewater officials announced they would be funding \$15.7-million to clean the rivers and remove the 600 straight pipes that were contaminating the waters.
- In her final year of high school, Emma-Jane Burian from Burnaby, B.C. plans climate justice strikes on the first Friday of every month.
- Known as a water protector, Makaśa Looking Horse is from Six Nations of the Grand River Territory and fights for water rights – especially against Nestlé’s bottled water permits.

Read the full story:

<https://www.emergemagazine.ca/when-the-youth-carry-the-weight-of-our-world/>

### **Watch on Netflix / In the News**

- Canadian actor Ellen Page brings attention to the injustices and injuries caused by environmental racism in her home province, in this urgent documentary on Indigenous and African Nova Scotian women fighting to protect their communities, their land, and their futures. [From the TIFF website.](#)
- The CSJ Blue Community project sponsored this documentary for a Peterborough community screening. Now you can watch it on Netflix whenever you like: <https://www.netflix.com/title/81206890>
- In related news, this CBC article updates us about the recent closure of a mill that polluted Pictou Landing for decades. This story is featured in the above documentary There’s Something in the Water. Read the full story: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/chief-andrea-paul-boat-harbour-northern-pulp-treatment-facility-1.5532999>
- While not specific to water issues, the privatization of long-term health care has dire consequences for the quality of care for society’s most vulnerable. Read the full story that is also playing out across Canada during this COVID-19 virus crisis. <https://ricochet.media/en/3043/privatization-the-pre-existing-condition-killing-seniors-in-long-term-care>

### **PROJECT UPDATES**

**Public Health & the Right to Clean Water – a new blog post.**

The recent spread of COVID-19 across the world shows the gaps in our collective preparedness and many systemic and social inequalities. For instance, how do people wash and disinfect their hands without access to clean and affordable water? Read more: <https://www.bluecommunitycsj.org/post/public-health-and-the-right-to-clean-water>

**New Poster!**

Two Rivers, One Future: Reflections on water. 500 copies are coming this month and we are looking for strategic places to put them. Read more: <https://www.csjcanada.org/blog/blue-community-updates>