From the Executive Director’s Desk...
On October 27, 2016, Dr. Tim Molnar, one of our Board Members, and I presented at the Indigenous Water Forum. The Indigenous Water Forum brought water treatment plant operators, engineers, researchers, health professionals, community representatives, and many others together to bridge people’s knowledge of water through sharing of Indigenous ways of knowing, research presentations, and demonstrations of practical applications. The purpose of the forum was to make recommendations for action-oriented strategies to achieve safe drinking water in First Nations communities. The forum strengthened research relationships for collaborative projects to advance management and policies for improved drinking water.

On December 6, 2016 I presented at the Student Action for a Sustainable Development Professional Development Day. It was great to see so many teachers who are passionate about educating students about environmental issues and helping them to tackle action projects!

We are so grateful for our sponsors! We are sure that many sponsored kits will be sent to schools in the spring. Our responsibility is to get funding for kits to enable teachers to educate their students about drinking water quality issues and solutions in order to continue to educate the leaders of today and tomorrow about drinking water quality issues to realize our goal of safe drinking water being available to every Canadian.

Season’s greetings and best wishes for a Happy New Year to you and yours from all of our board members, staff, and volunteers!

Nicole M. Hancock
State of Drinking Water Quality in Canada
According to Health Canada (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/promotion/public-publique/water-eau-eng.php), as of September 30, 2016 there were 138 Drinking Water Advisories in effect in 93 First Nations communities across Canada, excluding British Columbia. In total, across Canada, as of December 7, 2016 there were 1,023 Boil Water Advisories and 58 Do Not Consume Orders.

A Huge Thank You To The W. Garfield Weston Foundation!
The W. Garfield Weston Foundation has provided us with $15,000 to help us update our website (which we will unveil in the new year!) and send sponsored kits to the schools which are most in need of them and/or who will take the most action after they receive the kits (based on what teachers told us when they requested sponsored kits). The Foundation was first established in the 1950s with a donation of shares from the family company, George Weston Limited. Today this business has grown into Canada’s largest private sector employer with over 200,000 employees and a group of food retailing and baking companies including the Real Canadian Superstore, Loblaw Companies and Shoppers Drug Mart. Thank you to the W. Garfield Weston Foundation!

Join Our Facebook Group!
Join us on Facebook to hear all of our news as it happens! We post Water Facts of the Week every Monday and we wish everyone a Funny Friday by posting a water joke every Friday!
Visit: https://www.facebook.com/groups/18749329664/

Thank You So Much Husky Energy!
Husky Energy provided us with $1,000 to send sponsored kits to schools in Calgary. Thank you so much Husky Energy!

State of Drinking Water Quality in Canada
According to Health Canada (http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fniah-spnia/promotion/public-publique/water-eau-eng.php), as of September 30, 2016 there were 138 Drinking Water Advisories in effect in 93 First Nations communities across Canada, excluding British Columbia. In total, across Canada, as of December 7, 2016 there were 1,023 Boil Water Advisories and 58 Do Not Consume Orders.
Thank You SO MUCH to All of Our Funders!

We could not have sent over 400 educational kits to schools, educated tens of thousands of Canadian students, developed more educational resources for teachers, completed our Student Action on Canadian Water Attitudes competition, given presentations at events like the Indigenous Water Forum, and shared more information about drinking water quality issues and solutions with the world without you!

Thank you to our 2016 donors:

- RBC
- Mosaic
- RBC Blue Water Project
- The W. Garfield Weston Foundation
- Saskatchewan Association for Resource Recovery Corp.
- Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation
- Saskatoon Community Foundation
- PotashCorp
- JFG
- City of Saskatoon
- SaskTel
- Affinity Credit Union
- Husky Energy
- Oshun House
- Google AdWords
- S. M. Blair Family Foundation
- Individual Donors
- School division and school personnel who purchased kits
Teachers who evaluated our educational programs and shared information with us about what they and their students did to take action, sent educational resources to us to share with other teachers, and told other teachers about our educational programs

Our Board of Directors: Ray Blumenfeld (Chair), Dr. David Schindler (Honourary Chair), Dr. John O’Connor, Dr. Tim Molnar, Tracy Webb and Dr. Lalita Bharadwaj

Dr. Hans Peterson for being our Volunteer Ambassador

David MacDonald for writing many of our Water Facts of the Week

Our Facebook group members for asking questions and sharing information about water issues

Safe Water for Health Research Team, University of Saskatchewan; Touchwood Agency Tribal Council, Saskatchewan; and The Safe Drinking Water Team, Saskatchewan for hosting the Indigenous Water Forum and inviting us to give a presentation and to the attendees of the forum for sponsoring our educational kits for schools in communities where the attendees live instead of receiving conference “grab bags”

Saskatchewan Environmental Society and City of Saskatoon for coordinating the Student Action for a Sustainable Future program and inviting us to present at the Professional Development Day for the teachers in the program

Cheryl D., a teacher at E.D. Feehan Catholic High School, for inviting us to present at the Interdepartmental Meetings for Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools

Our friends who have volunteered to put information up on our new website and Robert Hancock for helping with some of the more technical aspects of our website

Lesia Design Inc. for designing our new website and providing us with donations to help with the cost of the website

**Request Sponsored Kits**

Teachers, it only takes about three minutes to request sponsored kits for your students! The sooner you request sponsored kits the greater your chance of receiving sponsored kits if your school fits the criteria of one of our funders. Please visit [https://www.safewater.org/education/requestform.html](https://www.safewater.org/education/requestform.html) to request sponsored kits today!
**Purchase Kits and Receive Them Very Quickly**

Purchasing kits is the only way to guarantee receiving kits to use with your students, and you will receive them quite quickly (usually within one week).

To purchase kits:

- Phone us at 1-306-934-0389 and provide us with your Visa or MasterCard information.
- Or purchase kits via PayPal on our website (https://www.safewater.org/education/order-kits.html)
- Or mail a cheque payable to Safe Drinking Water Foundation to #1-912 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6. We accept purchase orders too.

**Enter the 2017 Staples Superpower Your School Competition**

Does your school save the planet with its environmental programs? Here’s your chance to superpower your school with the latest technology!

Staples and Earth Day Canada have partnered to offer a competition that recognizes schools that are doing their part to protect the planet. Your environmental initiatives could help you win 1 of 10 prizes of $25,000 worth of technology for your school.

Entries will be accepted online from December 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017.

For more information and to enter the competition please visit http://www.staples.ca/powereco
Have You Created Some Great Resources to Teach Students About Water?

If you are a teacher who has created resources to use in your classroom when you teach any of the SDWF programs, please help other teachers by sending your PowerPoint presentations, assignments, etc. to us at info@safewater.org so we can share them on our website.

As Little as $85 Can Put Authentic Water Testing Materials in the Hands of 30 Elementary Students in Your Community!

There are hundreds of Canadian schools on the waiting list for sponsored kits - we are certain one of the schools is near you! You can make it possible for a classroom of students to learn about water quality issues and solutions, be supported and encouraged in sharing knowledge with others and in taking action to alleviate drinking water quality issues, and to test the water they drink every day, for as little as $85.

Phone us at 1-306-934-0389 to find out more about how you can sponsor a kit for a school near you, or visit our homepage where you will find an interactive map of all of the Canadian schools which are waiting for sponsored kits. Click on the school for which you would like to buy a kit and use our easy, online system to sponsor a kit for that school! You can make a difference in the lives of students!
First Nations Initiative Empowers Communities to End Boil Water Advisories

An initiative based in northwestern Ontario called the Safe Water Project is empowering First Nations communities to manage their drinking water systems, leading to the elimination of long-standing boil water advisories and higher levels of confidence in the safety of water in participating communities.

The Project was designed by the Chiefs of Keewaytinook Okimakanak (KO) to resolve the challenges their communities faced in accessing safe drinking water. The Project involves training and certifying local community members to become water operators, as well as providing them with the support and technology they need to monitor their communities’ water. This innovative approach addresses one of the most common barriers many First Nations communities face in accessing safe drinking water: the lack of locally certified personnel.

Launched in May 2015 in five of KO’s communities, the Safe Water Project has eliminated three long-standing boil water advisories and is on its way to eliminating one of the longest standing advisories in Ontario. To date, the Project program has trained nine Indigenous water operators to various levels of provincial certification.

In October 2016, the federal government invested $4.4 million in the Safe Water Project as part of its commitment to end boil water advisories in Indigenous communities. With this new funding, the Project has expanded to support an additional 14 First Nations in northern Ontario.

The Safe Water Project is a solution developed by First Nations for First Nations, and its community-centred approach to water management is helping First Nations take control of their water systems and end boil water advisories. The Safe Water Project is preparing to further expand into neighbouring jurisdictions and would like to hear from interested communities and Tribal Councils.

To obtain more information about the Project and how it may assist your community, please contact: Barry Strachan, Manager of the Safe Water Project, at (807) 735-1381 or barrystrachan@knet.ca or visit their website at www.safe-water-project.ca.
Donations – We Need Your Help to Educate Canada’s Future Leaders

You can make it possible for us to 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 organizations donate $1,000 or more they will receive recognition in SDWF’s quarterly newsletters twice, and if they donate $10,000 or more they will also receive recognition on SDWF’s website for one year (the SDWF website receives over 29,000 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:
- Via PayPal on our website (http://www.safewater.org/make-a-donation.html)
- By phoning us at 1-306-934-0389 with your Visa or MasterCard information.
- By mailing a cheque payable to Safe Drinking Water Foundation to #1-912 Idylwyld Drive North, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z6.

Receipts for income tax purposes are issued for all donations of $20 or more (remember to get your donation in by December 31, 2016 to receive an official donation receipt for income tax purposes for this year!).

If you have any questions or would like to simply phone us and make a donation with a Visa or MasterCard please do not hesitate to call us at 1-306-934-0389. Thank you!

Contact us:
info@safewater.org OR (306) 934-0389