From the Executive Director’s Desk…

It has been a very busy fall! Now, as the holidays approach and the year comes to an end, we take time to sincerely thank all those who have made our success possible this year!

Of course, the first thank you has to go out to our sponsors and our donors. If we didn’t have their support then we could not operate! The sponsors and donors generously provide us with funding so that we can send sponsored kits to schools, develop new systems like the Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission website, redesign our website, and much more!

The second thank you has to go out to the teachers who request our sponsored kits, purchase our kits, and take the time to plan how to use our programs in their classrooms. Without you, there would be no reason for us to have educational programs and, in many cases, no reason for sponsors and donors to give generously!

The third thank you has to go out to our Board Members. We are a very small office and, as such, I do not have many people to bounce ideas off of… so it’s really wonderful to have five talented, experienced professionals on our board to give me sound advice and steer our organization on the right path!

The fourth thank you has to go out to everyone else with whom we come in contact – from people who send us inquiries, to people who advertise booth opportunities at events, and much more!

Last, but definitely not least, I have to thank our staff. Lolita Dollisen is our Kit Coordinator and she quickly and accurately assembles nearly 1,000 water-testing kits every spring – teachers who have seen our kits, just take a minute to imagine how much work goes into putting 1,000 of those together! Audrey Sembalerus was our amazingly efficient summer student, and now she is helping us to hold our Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes Competition! We also have some volunteers who we greatly appreciate as well!

Nicole M. Hancock
Thank You So Much to The Thomas Sill Foundation Inc.
The Thomas Sill Foundation Inc. has provided us with $10,000 to send sponsored High School Operation Water Drop kits, Operation Water Pollution kits, and Operation Water Biology kits to high school students in rural and First Nations communities in Manitoba. These kits will educate thousands of rural and First Nations students in Manitoba about drinking water quality issues and solutions in a hands-on manner. Thank you so much The Thomas Sill Foundation Inc.!

About The Thomas Sill Foundation Inc.:
Thomas Sill, C.A., 1905-1986

Mr. Sill lived his entire life in Winnipeg and practiced as a chartered accountant for many years. He was an astute investor who built a fortune which became the basis for the Thomas Sill Foundation.

In his last will, Tom Sill established the foundation which bears his name. His will, a measure of his astuteness, contained only this instruction: “I have decided to create an entity for charitable purposes.”

Thank You to Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation
Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation has provided us with $2,680 to send Operation Water Drop, Operation Water Pollution, and Operation Water Biology kits to schools in their catchment area (within a 75 kilometre radius from the Whitecap Dakota First Nation). These kits will educate 391 students in Delisle, Dundurn, Hepburn, Kenaston, Martensville, and Saskatoon. Thank you Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation!
Thank You to Federated Co-operatives Limited
The Saskatoon location of Federated Co-operatives Limited has provided us with $2,500 to send Operation Water Drop, Operation Water Pollution, and Operation Water Biology kits to Saskatoon schools. These kits will educate 798 Saskatoon students about Canadian drinking water quality issues and solutions in a hands-on manner! Thank you Federated Co-operatives Limited!

Thank You to Rotary Club of Saskatoon North
Rotary Club of Saskatoon North has provided us with $1,870 to send Operation Water Drop, Operation Water Pollution, and Operation Water Biology kits to First Nations schools in Northern Saskatchewan communities where there are problems in terms of drinking water quality. These kits will educate 240 First Nations students about drinking water quality issues and solutions in a hands-on manner. Thank you Rotary Club of Saskatoon North!

Join Our Facebook Group!
Join us on Facebook to hear all of our news as it happens! Along with our news and water news, we also post Facts of the Week on Mondays, Thank You Thursdays, and Funny Fridays!
Visit: www.facebook.com/groups/safedrinkingwaterfoundation/
Thank You SO MUCH to All of Our Funders!

We could not have sent over 700 educational kits to schools, educated tens of thousands of Canadian students, developed more educational resources for teachers, launched our Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website, redesigned our website, launched our Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes Competition, had booths at events like the Canada-Wide Science Fair and the Canadian Association of Principals Conference, and shared more information about drinking water quality issues and solutions with the world without you!

Thank you to our 2017 donors:

S. M. Blair Family Foundation       Individual Donors
School division and school personnel who purchased kits
Thank You SO MUCH Too!

- 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
- Shyam Pillai, Jodell Rowland, and Anna-Maria Boechler for volunteering to be judges for our Student Action on Saskatoon Water Attitudes Competition
- Our Facebook group members for asking questions and sharing information about water issues
- Lesia Payne from Lesia Design Inc. for being so awesome in terms of our website redesign and our Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website
- Jane’s Walk for inviting us to have a walk on the theme of urban water issues
- Partners FOR the Saskatchewan River Basin for lending us the Yellow Fish Road in a Box kit for our Jane’s Walk event
- 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
- Wild About Saskatoon for inviting us to speak at their NatureCity Festival
- University of Saskatchewan and Dr. Lalita Bharadwaj for having us present to her graduate students, also University of Saskatchewan and Dr. Tim Molnar for providing us with a webinar room
- Rotary Club of Saskatoon North for inviting us to speak twice at their lunch meetings
- Women’s March Canada for inviting us to have a booth at the March for Science that was held in Saskatoon
- Teachers across Canada who had us give online presentations to their students
- Robert Hancock for helping with some of the more technical aspects of our website and for editing documents and e-mail messages
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 send them to us at info@safewater.org so we can share them on our website. We will send you a small token of our appreciation.

Teachers Who Have Received Operation Water Drop Kits: Please Don’t Forget to Submit Your Students’ Results to the Operation Water Drop Test Results Submission Website!

If you are a teacher who has received an Operation Water Drop kit please go to https://testresults.safewater.org after your students have used the kit in order to enter their results. If you have lost your code(s) click on the Lost your code? link, enter your e-mail address, and your code(s) will be e-mailed to you.

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. We will be sending hundreds of sponsored kits to schools in the spring, so make sure you get your name on the list! Please visit www.safewater.org/sponsored-kit-request-form to request sponsored kits today!
We Still Send Operation Water Pollution Kits in the Winter – Want One?

While we do not send Operation Water Drop and Operation Water Biology kits to schools between mid-November and the beginning of March because the cold weather would affect the chemicals, we do still send Operation Water Pollution kits to schools during the winter months.

Purchasing a kit is the only way to guarantee receiving a kit. An Operation Water Pollution kit is only $170.00 and is guaranteed to be reusable for at least two years! All of the teachers and students in your school can use it!

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 (www.safewater.org/order-kits)
- 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.

State of Drinking Water Quality in Canada

According to Health Canada (https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/topics/health-environment/water-quality-health/drinking-water/advisories-first-nations-south-60.html) as of October 31, 2017 there were:

- 100 long-term drinking water advisories – meaning the advisory has been in place for more than a year. These numbers include public systems financially supported by INAC as well as other systems where the public has a reasonable expectation of access.
- 47 short-term drinking water advisories – meaning there was a temporary water quality issue on a specific water system.

In total, across Canada, as of December 5, 2017 there were 1,090 Boil Water Advisories and 55 Do Not Consume Orders.
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.

Please 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 (www.safewater.org) where you will find an interactive map of all of the Canadian schools that 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!

The Most Popular Resource On Our Website – Perhaps You Would Like to Check It Out!

By far, the most popular resource on our website is our fact sheet about TDS and pH. You can find it here: https://www.safewater.org/fact-sheets-1/2017/1/23/tds-and-ph

Our website has become much more popular since we redesigned it, and now welcomes over 5,000 unique visitors per week. Would you like your company’s logo and hyperlink to your website to be placed on our website? Talk to us about sponsorship opportunities!
Sign Up to Receive Drinking Water Quality News From Safe Drinking Water Team

The goal of Safe Drinking Water Team is safe drinking water from every tap.

Safe Drinking Water Team (SDWT) is a group of First Nations water treatment plant operators and scientific advisors who help other First Nations water treatment plant operators with their water treatment challenges. SDWT also promotes the best available technology for water treatment and advocates for stricter guidelines and regulations for drinking water.

SDWT sends out information about drinking water quality issues and solutions in First Nations and rural communities approximately once every two months. To receive this valuable information please visit https://www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org and enter your name and e-mail address at the bottom of the homepage to subscribe to their mailing list or send an e-mail with the subject “Subscribe” to safedrinkingwaterteam@gmail.com.

Compete in the Staples Superpower Your School Contest to Win a Lot of Tech For Your School!

Tell Staples about your eco initiatives and you could win $20,000 worth of technology for your school!

The deadline is January 31, 2018 so visit https://www.staples.ca/sbdca/en_CA/cre/marketing/staples_soul/rfe_contest.html to find out more today!
Do One of the Smartest Things You Can Do to Improve the Drinking Water Quality Situation in Canada: Donate to Safe Drinking Water Foundation

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 currently receives over 79,000 unique visitors per year and is on track to receive over 300,000 unique visitors next year) and their logo will include a hyperlink to their website. For more information, please visit: www.safewater.org/donate

Thanks to everyone who has made a donation!

Donations can be made:

- On our website (www.safewater.org/donate)
- 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. 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