

Muirhead January Newsletter



Muirhead Public School

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Toronto, ON M2J 3W3

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Upcoming Events:

Blue and White Day

Feb 2

Valentine's Day

Feb 14

Term 1 Report Cards Go Home

Feb 14

Pizza Day

Feb 15

Parent Teacher Interviews -

Evening

Feb 15

PA Day/Parent Teacher

Interviews - Morning

Feb 16

Family Day

Feb 19

Pink Shirt Day

Feb 28

Muirhead's Message

Dear Muirhead Parents and Guardians,

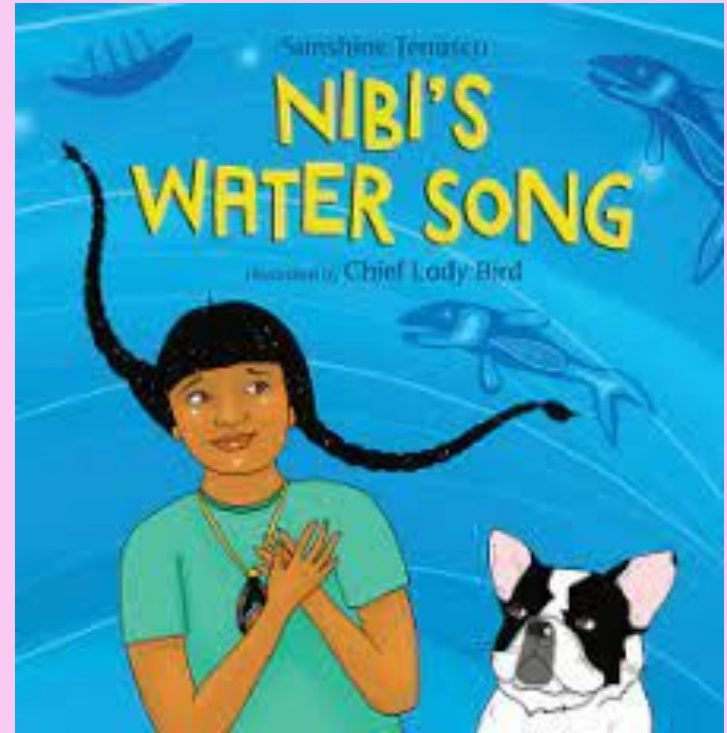
The new year brought new and continued learning opportunities from our school-wide focus around Indigenous Education, Black History, math manipulatives and extracurricular activities. Our arts club continued to explore various forms of creativity and expression with Mr. Bernard's leadership. The Eco club, under the guidance of Ms. Carpeneto and Ms. Pennycook, is excited to make a deep impact on our environment. From organizing sweater day to ECO bulletin board, the students and staff are committed to creating a healthier future for our school and community. Our knitting club has been developing their skills and hard work with support from Ms. Park. It's exciting to see the number of participants learning to use a pair of needles to craft their projects together. Recently, many staff members are excited to begin lunch intramurals. Whether it's basketball, soccer, benchball, dodgeball, scooter board, tag games, there's something for everyone to enjoy from grades 1-5.

We are excited to share more in the next coming months.

Mr. V. Tran

Indigenous Education In Ms. Fotiadis' and Ms. T's Kindergarten "A"

This month, the students in Kindergarten "A" learned about some of the inequities found in Indigenous communities in Canada. Following a multi-day read aloud of the book "Nibi's Water Song" by Indigenous author, Sunshine Tenasco, the students engaged in an exploration of the big idea in the book using the text and their own connections to the main character Nibi and her determined search for clean water.



To have the students start thinking about water, we began with a discussion of water in our homes and a series of questions to help the students understand why Nibi's situation was different.

Who in our class has water at home? What do you and your family use the water for? What does the water look like? (Is it brown and sandy...?) How does the water smell? How does the water taste?





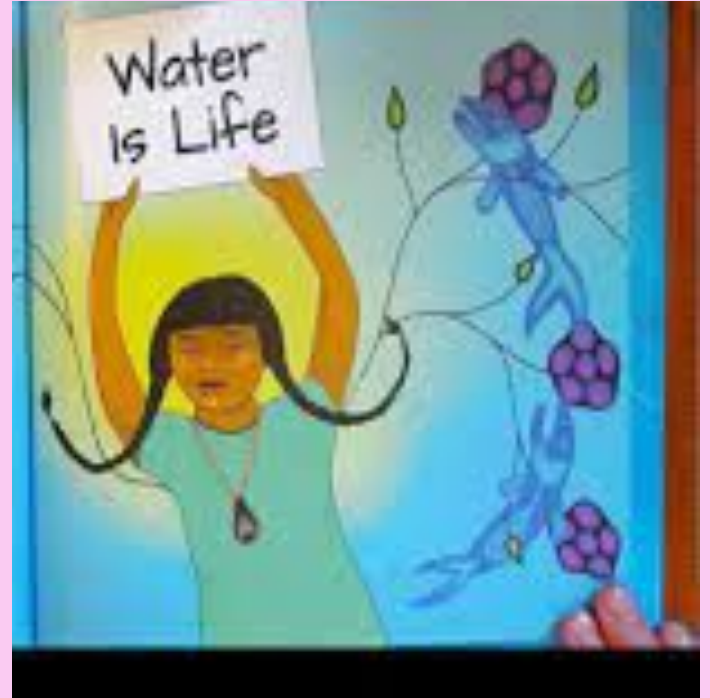
At first the students seemed to think it was “funny” since “everyone” had water at home. When brainstorming how water was used at home, they were quick to point out: water to drink, water to take a bath, water to clean dishes, water to wash clothes, water for plants at home... The list went on and on. The students were then asked to think about what would happen if they didn’t have water at home? We then started our first reading of the book, “Nibi’s Water Song”.



We read the book two more times, each time focusing on something new. We followed Nibi in her search for clean water. We discussed why the people in the big shiny houses in the nearby town were not more giving with the water they had. We explored the possible meaning of the garland of flowers created by illustrator, Chief Lady Bird that followed Nibi from page to page.

Finally in our third review of the book, we discussed the sign and the message that Nibi carried to bring awareness to the people in the towns, when she said, “Water is Life”.

This is what some of the students in our class had to say about what “Water is Life” means....



"You have to drink water to live and to wash your hands. "Water is life" means for you to survive you need water. We should give people clean water." (Erik)

"When we drink water we will get bigger and we will get healthy and stronger. "Water is life" means you have to drink clean water not dirty water or you will get sick and maybe you will die." (Raphael)

"Nibi needs water. If we have some dirty water and we don't share we will die because our body needs water." (Meher)

"“Life is water” means water is very, very healthy for your body and it makes you stronger. Nibi wanted to say water is important. You can share water with people. It's a nicer way." (Nikolina)

"You drink water and you take a bath and you wash your hands with water. Water also comes from the sky when it's raining. You can give people water when they don't have clean water. You use water for plants and flowers. Everybody needs water." (Tire)

"Water helps you to survive. We should give water when people don't have clean water." (David)

"Water to drink or we
die. Share the water."
(Jonas)

"For our body you have to drink
water. We have to drink 8 cups of
water because it's good for us. We
can put signs to help people that
don't have clean water." (Tania)

MS. BUCKLER'S 4/5 CLASS

Learning About the Water Crisis

Written by: Advita Gupta and Evelyn Guo (Gr. 5 students)

At the beginning of January, our class read a book called "Nibi's Water Song", a story about a girl named Nibi. She is an Indigenous girl who didn't have access to clean water, so she went to a nearby town, with big, shiny houses. She walked up to a house and asked for water. The lady gave her one small bottle. She was still very thirsty so she knocked again but no one answered.

Nibi started to sing about her thirstiness. She sang for a while, then her friends joined in. They all started singing together and the neighbors heard her and sang along. "We need water, water is life!" They sang.



An interior image of Nibi's Water Song. Text by Sunshine Tenasco, illustration by Chief Lady Bird. (Scholastic)

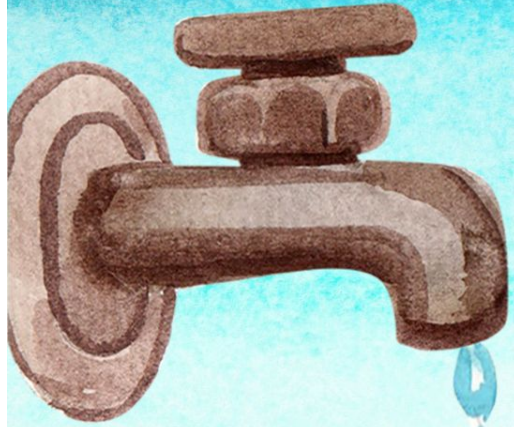
Our class was fascinated by the story. We were very surprised to learn that this was happening in Canada, despite the fact that Canada is the 3rd largest per-capita freshwater reserve, yet there are so many Indigenous people who don't yet have access to clean water!



An interior image of Nibi's Water Song. Text by Sunshine Tenasco, illustration by Chief Lady Bird. (Scholastic)

Our teacher created a project inspired by this story. Our goal was to research and make an eye-catching infographic that shares information about the water crisis happening in Canada and/ or around the world.

We each made an Infographic based on our research, and we just knew we were going to tell the world about this!



We used an online program called Piktochart. It is an editing program where you can create many things, such as infographics. An infographic is a kind of poster with many images to catch the reader's attention.

Through this assignment our class learned a lot about the water crisis Indigenous people are currently facing in Canada.

We hope our infographics will bring more awareness to this issue.

water crisis in canada

Everyone in canada should have access to safe, clean water

The government of canada is working with first Nations communities



To help the people with dirty water

you can go to waterfirst

And you can select how you would like to help

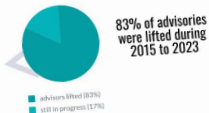
for more information you can go to sac-isc.gc.ca

everyone should have access to this stuff and it is clean



Canadian water crisis

Canada is facing a water crisis! Many Indigenous People don't have access to clean water. Some parts of the government are starting to notice these issues but more needs to be done. We have to find a way to help too!



Over 5000 people don't have access to clean water in Canada



Eliminating long-term drinking water advisories in First Nation communities is just one part of ensuring people that need access to safe drinking water

- keeping systems running and staffed
- supporting First Nations' control of water
- Donating money to the cause



Despite the fact that Canada has the world's third largest per-capita freshwater reserve, the water in many Indigenous communities depend on is contaminated

Lytton is a place where it has been inhabited by First Nations people for over 10,000 years and is now contaminated because of dirty water



The federal government holds the purse strings for water system on reserves



29 long term drinking water advisories in effect of communities

Sources: globalreportingcenter.org
sac-isc.gc.ca

By: Evelyn Guo

Canadas Water Crisis



by: Rachel

143 long term drinking water advisories lifted since November 2015



29 long term drinking water advisories in effect in 27 communities

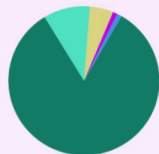


long term drinking water advisories on public systems on reserves as of december 20, 2023

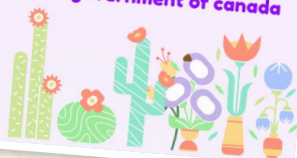


260 short term drinking water advisories prevented from becoming long term

as of december 31, 2020, more than \$1.82 billion of targeted funds has been all located to support 694 water and waste water projects in 581 first nations communities.



sources: sac-isc.gc.ca
government of canada



Nunavut's Water Crisis



How Did it Start?

In October 2021 Iqaluit Residents Were not Allowed To Drink Water After Fuel was found in the water supply.



When Did it Start?

In October 2021 Nunavut found themselves in worrying Water Crisis.



How Long has it been going For?

2 years of little to no water in Nunavut has made it harder to live in Nunavut.



Where?

Canada, Nunavut, Iqaluit

Why Did it Happen?

Due to a Combination of factors, including decreased Precipitation and increased population Growth.



What Can we do?

The Federal Government needs to look at targeted investments with an eye to the overall goal of fixing the problem.

2004 to 2014 Water Crisis in Canada

This is a pictograph about the water crisis in Canada from 2004 to 2014 and more. So sit back and enjoy how I write about the water crisis in Canada.

Try doing this ...

Turn off the tap when you are done. Also donate money to the Canada water crisis.



The Canada water crisis has raised about \$4,000 dollars in 3 years and you can help by donating to AANDC.

a pie chart of what is happening in Canada



leaking connections (10%)
leaching (1%)
broken or burst pipes (11%)
seepage (7%)
water main repair (13%)
water main break (12%)
unknown (13%)

Hear this!

Some of the first nations have bad pipe connections, low pressure provided \$54,000 to Nasko for a new arsenic filters



Where is this happening?

This is happening in Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, and other parts of Canada.



who has bad pipe connection?

kids, teenagers, adults, pets, and a lot of first nations.



One of the many first nations without water in Canada or in many other countries too.

3 facts you probably did not know about the water crisis:

- fact 1- Since they have water no water they get dirty water and boil it for a long time just to get water.
- fact 2- The AANDC said it provided \$54,000 to Nasko for new arsenic filters.
- fact 3- The Nasko first nations have been under advisory for 16 years.

Here's something else you can do:

"The Last Drop" is a donation place to go to

By: Ian



more than 20,000 water bottles are given to first nations

Water Crisis In Tataskweyak Cree Nation

It is 390,000 KM from Hudson's Bay

The Tataskweyak Cree Nation has had a boil water advisory since May 2017! That's 6 years.

It has a population of 3,711 2,014 are affected

Where Tataskweyak Cree Nation is



LOVE YOU DEEPLY!



Let the sea set you free



Are Affected (54%) Not Affected (46%)

The Tataskweyak Cree Nation are going to get a \$40 Million pipeline so people can get clean water but it's not granted to happen



We should have clean water for everyone

Water Crisis In Neskantaga First Nation

how many people live there and get affected

what is happening

The Neskantaga has been leading a project to upgrade their water treatment system in order to end long-term drinking water advisory.

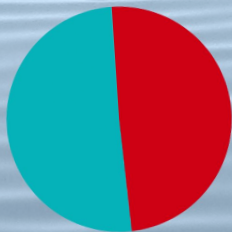
In the Neskantaga First Nation there are 237 People that live there and 300 people (due to population) get affected because of the water.

when did it happen

The neskantaga water crisis started on february 1,1995.

how did it happen

The neskantaga water crisis happened due to climate changes.



What can we do to help them

1. Improving infrastructure on reserve
2. Keeping water system running and properly staffed
3. Ending long term drinking water advisory



WATER CRISIS IN CANADA



Dozens of first Nation communities are still waiting for clean drinking water because of system racism.

If you drink dirty water it could cause diarrhea and vomiting if you dont boil the water.



38 long-term drinking water advisories have been lifted in First Nations communities.



Over 245 short-term drinking water advisories have been prevented from becoming long-term.



Clean Water!!

There are currently 75 long-term drinking water advisories affecting more than 50 indigenous communities across the country.



Lytton is just one among hundreds of First Nations that have suffered from water crisis in Canada.



The government of Canada is working with First Nations communities to achieve clean drinking water.

Work is on going in 28 First Nations communities to resolve the remaining 32 long-term water advisories.



We will continue work directly w First Nations to support them in lifting all remaining long-term drinking water advisories on public systems across the country.



water crisis around the world

by Judy

women and girls spend hours carrying water every day.

771 million people do not have access to clean water.

more than 800 children under 5 die every day from dirty water

771 million people almost two thirds of the world population has dirty water

the average woman in africa walks 6 kilometers about 3.7 miles every day to haul 40 pounds of water



Water Crisis in Ontario

28 long term drinking water advisories on reserves



73% of first nations water system are at high or medium risk of water contamination



we can help volunteer build more water fountains and also build more water system



21 communities still in need of clean water

long term drinking water advisories have been lifted since November 2015

By: JAMES

source: google.com

CANADIAN WATER CRISIS

Water crisis in Canada

Water crisis in first nations Canada

By: Mani

10% project to address advisory complete, lift pending as of December 20, 2023

29 LONG TERM DRINKING WATER ADVISORIES IN EFFECT 27 COMMUNITIES

73% of first nations water systems are at high or medium risk of contamination.

143 long-term drinking water advisories lifted since November 2015.

Lytton is just one among hundreds of first nations that have suffered from a water crisis in Canada.

Quebec has one of the world's largest reserves of fresh water, occupying 12% of its surface.

water crisis around canada

fun fact: only a small proportion of their water is renewable and easily accessed.

fun fact: More than one-third (38%) of residents of Belleville have experienced a major emergency or disaster

Thunder bay

Thunder bay has had a water crisis for more than 10 or 15 years. Thunder bay is having a water crisis because canada is taking their rights to drink clean water. What we can do is place trash in the garbage because they have garbage in the water too.

Regina

Regina has had a water crisis for more than 20 years! Regina is having a water crisis because of extreme temperatures. What can we do? donate money

Belleville

Belleville has had a water crisis for more than 5 or 10 years. Belleville has a water crisis because of hot and dry weathers. What we can do: provide food and water and other resources.

fun fact: Regina's water originates in the Rocky Mountains and travels all the way to the Buffalo Pound Water Treatment Plant.

by: yuan

London

London has had a water crisis for more than 1 or 5 years. London is having water crisis because of aged pipes and growing population. what we can do donate money

London water still comes mostly from the River Thames, and the rest comes from sources.



Calgary

Calgary has had a water crisis for more than 1 or 5 years. Calgary is having a water crisis because of climate change. What we can do is put trash in the garbage

Barrie

Barrie has had water crisis for more than 1 or 5 years. Barrie is having water crisis because of wasting water. What we can do, turn off the faucet when you're done using it.



here is where i found all the water crisis around canada. the one on red The Water Crisis in Canada's First Nations Communities

by callen

Canadian indigenous water problems

2.5% water on Earth is drinkable that's on Earth think about it for the indigenous

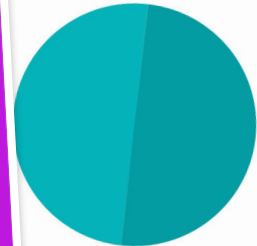
over 618 indigenous communities don't have access to clean water

the water can cause gastrointestinal and increased risk of cancer

people living on Reserves are way less likely to have clean water



polluted water is 26 times higher than the average



Water Crisis In Canada

Did you know that over 73 percent of first nation's water systems are at high or medium risk of contamination

By: *Nuha*

what can you do if you want to stop this well there are many ways like donating or start raising money to help them

On october 2021 igaluit experienced a water crisis that left the city of 8000 without clean water for months

people living on first nations reserves are 90 times more likely to be without running water than other Canadians



If you keep drinking dirty water it can make you sick with diarrhea, vomiting and stomach pain

a single drinking water advisory can mean as many as 5000 people lack access to safe drinking water



Made by: Advita

Canada's Water Crisis



Hope you have a nice day!!!

WATER ADVISORIES

There have been 193 long-term water advisories lifted since November 2015 but there are 29 long-term drinking water advisories in effect in 27 communities.



As of Feb 3, 2023, there were 32 long-term boil water advisories in 28 communities in Canada. The majority of them were in Ontario, with 24 advisories in 21 communities.

SIDE EFFECTS OF DRINKING AND BATHING IN CONTAMINATED WATER

Contaminated water is linked to the transmission of diseases like cholera, diarrhea, hepatitis A, typhoid and polio.



Health effects that come from drinking contaminated water include:

- Gastro-intestinal infections
- Nausea and vomiting

Bathing in contaminated water can cause health problems such as "Swimmer's itch" which is a skin irritation caused by contact with small larvae called "cercariae" which are found in some lakes.

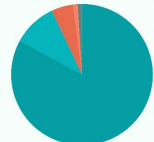
WHO IS THIS HAPPENING TO?

In a 2016 review of 16 studies published between 2000 and 2015, researchers at the University of Saskatchewan found several health concerns with respect to poor drinking water in First Nations across the country.

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF YOUR WATER IS DIRTY

Common signs of contaminated water include:

- bad smelling water
- discolored or cloudy water
- rust stains around fixtures and sinks caused by iron
- Britter or sour-tasting water
- Corrosion on pipes and plumbing



Advisories lifted (50%) | Project to address advisory (11%) | Project to address advisory in design phase (1%) | Working on addressing the advisory (28%) | Project to address advisory in design phase (1%) | Health by study being conducted to address advisory (1%)

Our Trip to Queen's Park

On Monday, January 15th, Ms. Buckler's, Mr. Bernard's, and Ms. Sourial's classes went to the Legislative Assembly at Queen's Park to learn about our government. We walked to the bus stop and took the TTC bus to the subway and we used the subway to get to Queen's Park.



Once we arrived at our destination, we were amazed by the architecture and beautiful gardening. There were tour guides who led us through the building.





We went to see The Legislative Chamber and learned what happens inside the chamber. We also learned about how debates work, and the process involved when making new laws.

