

Provincial Convention Oral Presentation Kingston, ON - July 13-17, 2019

Do you remember hearing the words? - "Clean up your room" - "pick up your toys", pick up after yourself? All of our actions cause a reaction and this is what we are faced with in our current environment.

Many communities are without clean or potable/water...yet so many of us take the safe use and abundance of water for granted.

Imagine if getting a drink of water wasn't as simple as turning on your tap.¹ We do not have to carry jugs of water on our heads for miles in order to use it for drinking or cooking our food.² One of our communities in Winnipeg (Shoal Lake) has been on a Boil Water Advisory for 18 years. They have to bring in bottled water in order to survive.³... still after 18 years!

Clean water is not a luxury...it is a basic human right!
You can survive thirty days without any food, But without water? All you've got is 72 hours and you're dead. I urge you to promote awareness of how our casual use of water is affecting others...I know I have through my actions, my directives, and on facebook.

Rather than cleaning up, why don't we take preventative measures instead? When we throw something in the garbage, or flush the toilet, we tend to forget about it. We do not always realize how much we are contributing to water pollution. Some of the things you might consider are the following:

- Conserve water; the less water you use, the less will be running down the drains and into gutters, carrying pollutants with it.
- Keep pet litter and debris out of street gutters.
- Use pesticides sparingly;
- Use compost to fertilize your garden.
- If you have an oil leak, fix it immediately, and dispose of the used oil properly.
- Use natural cleaners, such as baking soda, vinegar and borax.⁴

¹ Water: Clean Water and Sanitation [JUNE 29, 2017](#)

² (Global News –Toronto -November 5, 2015 5:10 pm, [By Megan Rowney and Hannah James](#)

³ Ibid

⁴ **SAFE DRINKING WATER FOUNDATION**

One by One, you can make a difference!

A quote from Russia that caught my attention was: "Don't spit in the well - you may need to drink from it!" -- Unknown, Russia. (Pause)

Just a few words on the theme of "Homelessness". Joanne Sisk, Community Life Chairperson, and I can't thank you enough for all the contributions made to your communities during the period of October 1st to December 31st, towards our Warmth and Comfort Project! In total you donated 37,465 pairs of socks, 2,812 jars of peanut butter and 2,896 boxes of crackers. You certainly deserve to be congratulated!

Many pictures were sent in and we were able to put it in a power point, which we would like to show now. Hope you enjoy! Thank you!