

Canada Water Agency discussions with ADSB students

October 26, 2021 | 1-2pm **afternoon session**

AGENDA

Black text = together in the online meeting

Red text = teachers to facilitate in their own classroom

0:00-0:05 Introductions and why we are here

0:05-0:10 Logistics (including sharing the link to the document the teachers will collaboratively write on) and question 1 overview

0:10-0:25 Teachers facilitate discussion 1 with their classes, taking notes on the collaborative document

0:25-0:35 Brief recap together in the main Zoom room, question 2 overview

0:35-0:45 Teachers facilitate discussion 2 with their classes, taking notes on the collaborative document

0:45-0:50 Brief recap together in the main Zoom room

0:50-1:00 Final question all together, any other thoughts

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- Each question begins on a new page (beginning on Page 2).
- Please record notes of each class discussion under the header for each question (either Question 1 or Question 2).
- Our co-op student, Celeste, will take notes for Question 3, so you don't need to capture anything there.

Thank you for your participation!

QUESTION 1 (TEACHERS): What does a water secure future look like for everyone in Canada? (15 minutes)

- Access to clean drinking water - adding - ALL across Canada
- No pipelines
- Controls/regulations to protect lakes, rivers, streams etc.
- Not having to buy bottled water: accessible and affordable water for everyone
- Accessibility to water for bathing
- Make clean water affordable in homes
- Clean and safe water for ALL - for consumption, recreation, etc.
- Keeping the great lakes clean
- Use more renewable energy resources
 - Is hydro a renewable resource? How does the use of hydro affect this vision for a secure water future (or, how does our thinking about a water secure future impact the use of hydro)?
- Greater understanding of what naturally resides in our water sources
- Having clean water to swim in
- If we are in a drought - regulate consumption of water
- Have emergency plans and resources for water crisis (ie Iqaluit)
- Honoring the Indigenous perspective and knowledge on water issues
- Honoring the treaties between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people for water protection
- Remove all boil water advisories that have been going on for years (ie Grassy Narrows)
 - Elaine says: while some long-term boil water advisories still exist, Grassy Narrows lifted their last long-term advisory in late 2020 :) → Neskantaga First Nation in Ontario has had a boil water advisory in effect for ~76 buildings since 1995!!!
- Better water filtering methods (get rid of chlorine)
- Water helps maintain clean air
- Water can help promote clean energy
- More recycling centres - less plastic - less pollution in our water
- Upgraded and monitored water systems in homes/buildings/schools etc.
- Water is a Canadian geographic landmark
- Enough water to grow food
- Supports diverse ecosystems

QUESTION 2 (TEACHERS): Why is Sault Ste. Marie a great place to have the Canada Water Agency? (10 minutes)

- The great lakes are super close - three of them are easily accessible - superior is the closest and flows to the rest
 - Elaine says: kind of like the Great Lakes headwaters - cool thought!
- SSM is the hub of water transportation
- Centre of three great lakes - geographic landmark
- Algoma Steel being right here could be a tester to upgrade factories and their pollution
- Close to US border
- We are at the heart of turtle island
- Bawating “meeting place”
- We are near Batchewana First Nation and Garden River First Nation to collaborate and gain Indigenous perspective
 - Elaine says: and many others! Missanabie Cree First Nation, Metis Nation of Ontario, Bay Mills Indian Community (US), and others too who share(d) this territory
- Can be run with indigeneous values in mind
- Community that is open to more job opportunities can b
- Great location for research
- SSM is culturally diverse
- Better opportunities for post secondary programs
- We have a hydroelectric plant here
- Can work together with Great Lakes Forest Research Centre and the Center for Invasive Species
- Many other research facilities close by as well as Sault College and Algoma University - can collaborate
- MANY environmentalists in the area - many potential employees
- Adding jobs to our city

QUESTION 3 (CELESTE): Is there anything else anyone would like to share about the Canada Water Agency and our water future? (10 minutes)

- Importance of recognition to Indigenous leaders - funding for freshwater monitoring programs (measuring quality of water)
- CWA beneficial to Sault Ste. Marie and growth of community
- Government entities (legislations regarding freshwater)
- Process of application - when do we hear if Sault Ste. Marie can go ahead with this project
- Conversations with MP's
- Global Water futures - research group for freshwater
- Unique approaches across the country
- Interpretation is that we want to have a central vision (coordinating efforts)
- Conservation authorities unique to Ontario, local watershed management agencies
- US Government provides funding for community environmental monitoring

ATTENDEES

Ms. Caputo - 12

Ms. Pelland - 19

Ms. Reiter - 16

Ms. MacLachlan - 3