

## NEWSLETTER, WINTER 2009

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### **WHAT'S NEW**

February 23, 2009

**Joint Water Connections/Gordon Foundation Policy Directory Nearly Complete!** Building on the principles of open access to information and free exchange of knowledge and ideas, CSW has partnered with the Gordon Foundation to develop a new Policy Directory service for [waterconnect.ca](http://waterconnect.ca).

This new service will feature historic and current water policy projects funded by the Gordon Foundation in a centralized and easy to navigate directory. Access to such a wealth of water policy research and recommendations can engage scientists, public agencies and citizens alike, to take practical steps to safeguard our water resources. And it can stimulate and help focus a broader debate and future direction of water policy in Canada.

Set to launch early Spring 2009, the new **Water Connections** Policy Directory will also help empower small organizations to become more involved in the policy development process by granting access to a new world of resources. For more information, contact [info@waterconnect.ca](mailto:info@waterconnect.ca).

February 25, 2009

### **CSW Chairs Panel Discussion at CAWQ Symposium**

At the recent Canadian Association on Water Quality's symposium, CSW chaired a session it had developed and organized, which included eight papers on the theme of *Water Policy: Engaging Science and the Public*.

CSW's presentation on the new Water Policy Directory for **Water Connections** was well received from a varied professional audience. As is usually the case at this conference, participants are drawn from a range of policy and water science practitioners, academics and staff of relevant government agencies. Good response followed in the question period and the value of pursuing future expansion of this directory as the gateway to Canadian water policy was affirmed.

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**Upcoming Events:** CSW and the *Water Connections* team will be presenting at the following important events!

**Spring Cottage Life Show, Toronto**

March 27-29, 2009

CSW will once again be taking its message directly to shoreline residents, boaters, anglers, builders and anyone else with a stake in our lakes and rivers at Canada's largest cottage and recreation trade show.

Along with our main exhibit, this year's focus and presentation will be 'Turning our Greywater... Green'!

**The Cottage Show, Ottawa**

April 9-11, 2009

The 'Turning our Greywater... Green' focus and presentation will also be taken to the Nation's Capital at this year's Ottawa Cottage Show.

**International Forum on Integrated Watershed Management**

June 1-3, 2009, Centre culturel, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Québec

This unique event hosted in Québec will create an opportunity for participants and speakers from all over the world to discuss the practical tools to be used in the service of improved water quality, to share field experience and to build new partnerships.

CSW will be highlighting the importance of information exchange and the role of **Water Connections** in the future of water resource management in Canada.

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## **OTHER NEWS**

March 2, 2009

### **CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS**

Earth Day Canada (EDC), in partnership with Cascades Inc., is searching for **Canada's 2009 Hometown Heroes Award** winner. The Hometown Heroes Award program recognizes and encourages environmental leadership and achievement in local communities. **Canada's 2009 environmental hero will receive a cash-prize of \$10 000** (\$5 000 to keep and \$5 000 to donate to the environmental cause of their choice).

The recipient of the 2009 Hometown Heroes Award will be recognized as part of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Earth Day Canada Gala in Toronto, on June 10<sup>th</sup> 2009.

For more information, or to nominate yourself, an individual or group from your community, please visit [www.earthday.ca/hometown](http://www.earthday.ca/hometown). The deadline for applications is **April 22, 2009**.

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## **LATEST NEWS FROM CSW**

### ***Living by Water Training Workshops***

The latest Living by Water training workshops for First Nations communities was recently held in Calgary, the second in a series initiated last October in Ottawa. Its focus was on public outreach and social marketing. Trainees were exposed to a host of techniques and strategies to better communicate the benefits of healthy shoreline living and ecologically sound land management.

If your organization is engaged in lake and river stewardship and public outreach, contact CSW to see if Living by Water training can help you achieve your goals. For more information, email [lbw@watersheds.ca](mailto:lbw@watersheds.ca).

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**Get involved, get connected... become a registered user at [waterconnect.ca](http://waterconnect.ca) today!** Registration is fast, free and will give you and your organization the ability to upload news, events, and tools and resources for others to see!

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## **GET YOUR BRAIN WET WITH *WATER CONNECTIONS!***

***Water Connections*** is a Centre for Sustainable Watersheds Initiative.

For more information on CSW, its staff and its projects, visit:

[www.watersheds.ca](http://www.watersheds.ca)

