

Petition to the Government of Canada to develop a National Freshwater Strategy.

We, the undersigned citizens of Canada, draw the attention of the House of Commons to the following:

WHEREAS Canada has not updated its National Freshwater Policy since 1987 and our environment, both nationally and globally, has changed dramatically, mainly due to the effects of climate change.

WHEREAS Canada's population is highly dependent on lakes, rivers, wetlands, and watersheds for tourism, commerce, recreation, household needs, and overall sustenance and maintenance of good health.

WHEREAS there is a strong need to establish national drinking water standards in Canada due to the fact that current standards lag behind international guidelines and lack consistency from province to province.

WHEREAS many freshwater bodies across Canada have been plagued by harmful algal blooms and invasive species.

WHEREAS Canada possesses 20% of the world's freshwater resources and the federal government should have a clear plan to protect this valuable resource domestically and under international trade agreements.

THEREFORE we urge the Government of Canada to develop a National Freshwater Strategy.

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