



Atlantic Canada Water Works Association

A section of the American Water Works Association

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AWWA's mission 3



Moncton hosts world 6



WFP new plan 4/5



Water prize 12



Fun in fundraiser 16



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Annual conference a success

ONCE again our annual conference turned out to be a tremendous success. I would like to thank our conference chair Mike Smith and his entire committee for helping to make it such and enjoyable and informative event. It was great to have so many people make the voyage across the Atlantic to attend in Newfoundland. Even though the conference has come and gone, I know they are still working hard to wrap things up and prepare their final report ... thanks again.

On behalf of the Board members and the membership of ACWWA, I would like to thank Graham Gagnon for the efforts he has put in over the past year serving as section chair. Graham has been working hard on several initiatives which the Board will continue to pursue. Although the effort that goes into these initiatives may not be immediately obvious to the membership, I can attest to the fact that Graham has dedicated a lot of time to the Association and has set the wheels in motion for a couple of key initiatives that will unfold in the coming months.

Ira P. MacNab Award

I WOULD like to express my appreciation to the ACWWA for being presented with the 2007 Ira P. MacNab Award. Considering the contributions of the previous winners of the award, this is indeed an honour. You are never quite sure whether you are worthy of an award like this, but you appreciate it anyway.

When Rick Benoit made the award presentation, he stressed that this year's award was very much a team award and recognizes the various contributions made by the Fredericton Staff over the years. On behalf of the Fredericton team, I will accept the award in the

Chairman's message

Mark Butler, P.Eng.

Each fall our Board holds a strategic planning session to discuss the direction of the Section and to establish some objectives for all of our committees. This year, our strategic planning session was held in December in Amherst. Our agenda focussed on a few key areas including:

- governance
- board structure
- volunteers
- membership
- education

I look forward to sharing feedback in the next Newsletter.

Finally, I hope everyone has had a happy and safe Holiday season and I look forward to working with everyone in the New Year.

spirit that it was given. This truly is a team award.

Again, I would like to thank the nominating committee, as well as the ACWWA, for acknowledging my contributions, as well as the contributions of the rest of the Fredericton team.

Yours truly,

Murray Jamer, P. Eng.

Director of Engineering & Public Works

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Clean drinking water— an AWWA legacy we shouldn't take for granted

SOMEONE asked me recently, "What is the role of AWWA" and it made me think of how important AWWA has been to our water industry in the years I have been a member. We are the people who ensure that drinking water is safe and readily available when people want it. Whether you work for a utility, a manufacturer of products serving the industry or are with a consulting firm, you are making an important contribution to ensuring there is a supply of safe, clean drinking water available at a modest price.

Waterborne diseases weren't eliminated for Public water supplies in North America till early in the 20th. Century. Many people in the western world died from Dysentery and Cholera right up until the end of the First World War. One of the driving forces behind the modern method of disinfection of public water supplies was a gentleman named Able Wolman, President of AWWA in 1942. In 1919 Able Wolman was working for the Maryland Department of Public Health with another gentleman, Linn Enslow when they presented a paper on the controlled chlorination of drinking water supplies, and its acceptance lead to us enjoying safe drinking water. Unfortunately many people in the Third World are still dying of waterborne diseases. Thanks to Water for People, an affiliated AWWA group, the problem is being addressed.

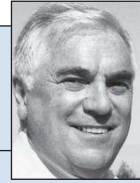
It was my pleasure to meet Dr. Abel Wolman at one of the first AWWA An-



nual Conferences I attended and I wondered who this old man was everyone seemed so in awe of. Well, Dr. Wolman deserved the respect he was given! He moved from the Public Health field to the education field where he made many contributions to the water industry as a professor at John's

Director's Report

Sandy Robertson



Hopkins University. He was one of the founding members of what is now WEF and he also served as President of the American Public Health Association.

He was not alone. George Warren Fuller, who AWWA's highest Section award is named after was also a founding member of the future WEF and he served as AWWA President in 1923. These dedicated professionals are what AWWA is all about, or borrowing from Rotary International they provided "service above self."

In my time in AWWA it has been a pleasure to have met many people who practice this "service above self" approach to the water industry and in their personal lives. Some who come to mind are Bill Butler and the people who came after him like Harold MacNeill in raising funds for Water for People, Lloyd Douglas who worked tirelessly behind the scenes for ABEA and the Section's success, and many others who shall remain nameless as I can't name them all in this short article.

I've often said AWWA is like a family of water industry professionals, a family I am proud to be a member of. I hope you are too!

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MSF

Water For People broadens focus

By John Kayser

To increase its impact, Water For People is adopting a more regional approach to development within the countries in which it works. By concentrating its efforts on multiple communities within a defined region, Water For People hopes to achieve 100 percent water and sanitation coverage in that region while increasing efficiencies and building stronger relationships with partners and the communities served. In this way, Water For People will make a more meaningful and measurable impact on the global water crisis.

WATER is life. Like the air we breathe, water is essential to our very survival. Yet there are, today, more than a billion people in the world without access to safe drinking water. Another 2.6 billion lack access to adequate sanitation. While the situation has improved in recent years, this humanitarian crisis is still responsible for 1.8 million preventable deaths each year, mostly young children.

For 16 years, Water For People has been helping people in developing countries by supporting the development of locally sustainable drinking water resources, sanitation facilities and hygiene education programs. Since its inception, the organization has been building its capacity to reach more people in more countries to have a truly meaningful impact on the global water crisis.



In 2006, Water For People directly benefited more than 98,000 people with the development of safe water sources and/or improved sanitation, representing a 25 percent increase over 2005. This is impressive growth, but the need for the organization's work is enormous.

Water For People recently adopted an

ambitious strategic plan that will guide its work over the next five years. The plan calls for a fivefold increase in the number of annual beneficiaries by 2011 and expansion into five new countries. To reach these important goals, Water For People is refining a new, more strategic approach while streamlining operations and increasing impact.

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From projects to defined regions

From projects to regions

Traditionally, Water For People has been project-focused—providing water and sanitation solutions on a project-by-project basis in the countries in which it works. Projects were identified based on local need and might have been implemented anywhere within a given country. While successful, this approach was difficult to manage and inherently inefficient, with much time spent traveling between disparate locations. More important, the organization’s impact in the field was difficult to assess. “We had a community here, a community there and lots of communities in between that we weren’t reaching,” says Ned Breslin, Water for People’s Director of International Programs. “We needed to find a way to maximize our impact.”

The organization has recently adopted a new approach to its work by focusing on regions within its program countries. As part of a comprehensive strategic planning process, staff members in each country have identified distinct regions, incorporating numerous communities in need of water and sanitation improvements. The goal is to eventually provide 100-percent water and sanitation coverage within each region and increase the overall impact of the organization’s work.

“Now, each and every community within a geographic region will receive safe drinking water and adequate sanitation,” says Breslin. “The results will be quite tangible.”

The approach is already leading to dramatic increases in water and sanitation coverage with the added benefit of maintaining Water For People’s community-based focus. As a result of this strategy, Water For People expects that its country programs can and will support significantly more water and sanitation projects per year (more than 100 in each country) and thus reach many more people in need.

Building trust

The regional approach is helping Water For People strengthen its reputation in the countries in which it works, creating an environment of trust among partner organizations and community members alike. Each successful project sets an example; nearby communities see results and know that Water For People delivers on its promises. The regional approach facilitates broad support for future work within the region and beyond, and demonstrates Water For People’s successful model on a larger scale, which will ideally be replicated by others.

A regional focus has other benefits as well. Providing necessary and sustainable support for each project’s infrastructure is more easily and efficiently accomplished. By working with a number of communities within a given region, Water For People is forging stronger working relationships with its partners and potential partners, including local governments and NGOs. Water For People is seen as a trusted partner and facilitator that is committed to meeting the water and sanitation needs of all communities within a region. Partners and community members see Water For People delivering results and are more

inclined to support future work.

The regional focus has the added benefit of encouraging development of private sector support for community water and sanitation systems through an increased regional demand for these related products and services, such as suppliers of spare parts.

The regional shift is already demonstrating results on the ground. A good example recently took place in Honduras, where Water For People and its partner organizations collaborated on a baseline survey to determine water and sanitation needs in 143 communities in the three regions where Water For People will be working over the next five years. Community leaders provided an analysis of their current water and sanitation needs. It was a joint decision of community members and local authorities, who determined which villages would have water and sanitation interventions in 2007, 2008, and into the future. This unprecedented collaboration and planning demonstrates that the regional model is also very community-based.

New funding opportunities

Water For People’s regional approach in the field is translating to new opportunities for donors to ‘go regional’ and have a larger impact on the water and sanitation crisis. The regional focus in international programs is providing Water For People with the opportunity to strengthen its reporting mechanisms to be more consistent and thorough. This means that donors will have direct access to complete information about all

Continued on page 14



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Moncton Biosolids Conference

THE national and global environmental agenda was recently “*Moved Forward*”, and a global legacy left, at the highly successful IWA International Specialist Conference organized and hosted by the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission (GMSC).

The Conference, “*Moving Forward Wastewater Biosolids Sustainability: Technical, Managerial, and Public Synergy*”, was held in Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, June 24-27, 2007.

The Conference attracted over 450 delegates and speakers from the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the World Bank and over 44 countries from around the world including Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Morocco, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey, UK, USA, Zambia and numerous other countries.

It is the first time that a conference of this type, combining the technical and managerial aspects of biosolids sustainability, has been held at the international level.

The Opening Plenary Session included addresses from:

1. IWA President David Garman,
2. Graham Alabaster from the United Nations,
3. Charles Peterson of the World Bank,
4. Homero Silva of the World Health Organization.

Subsequently, over the three day conference period, sessions including other Plenary Sessions focused on a Global Perspective theme stressing the need to bring a “Big Picture” approach to wastewater and biosolids issues. A total of 128 indi-

Moves Forward the National and Global Environmental Agenda



vidual papers were presented throughout the three (3) day conference.

One of the Conference’s goals was to educate and bridge the gap between the researchers and the managers, while looking at the necessity to engage the public, regulators and politicians. The Concurrent Sessions provided a balance of highly relevant technical-scientific, practical, and forward looking papers.

Global Legacy

The Moncton Conference left a Global Legacy. A meeting of international delegates was held during the conference. At the meeting, attended by delegates from a dozen countries, as well as representatives

of UN-Habitat and World Health Organization the following four action items were agreed to:

1. The creation of an International Communication Networking Alliance.
2. Updating the Global Biosolids Atlas, which was last published in 1997. The United Nations has agreed to fund the publication of the update of the Global Biosolids Atlas, and post it on their web-site.
3. It was proposed, with the aim of furthering discussion and education regarding addressing the issue of poverty linked to malnutrition and sanitation needs, that the IWA world conference in Vienna will include workshops dealing with the following:
 - The need to establish guidelines for biosolids application in agriculture;
 - To conduct research on the relationship

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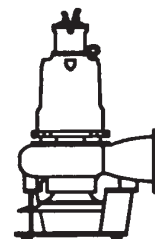
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Delegates toured Moncton's Wastewater Treatment Plant including its biosolids composting facility.

regulatory, scientific, research, technical as well as public engagement issues.

The GMSC also had local, national and global objectives related to the conference.

The national objectives included the promotion of the need to implement a **Canadian Biosolids Partnership "CBP"**. The CBP will be of enormous benefit in providing environmental stewardship in Canada, as it will help focus issues and permit various stakeholders to work together toward common objectives, as opposed to the situation today where there is a lack of a focused approach, co-ordination or co-operation amongst stakeholders. Such partnerships exist in other countries but Canada is seriously lagging behind in having a focused approach to the management of wastewater biosolids issues.

Technical Tours

During the conference, delegates had the opportunity to tour and visit the Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission's Wastewater Treatment Plant and its unique, leading edge, Biosolids Composting Facility.

On behalf of the Programme and Organizing committees I want to express our appreciation for the great support received from the ACWWA and the other Canadian, WEF member Associations (WCWWA, BCWWA, WEAO and Reseau Environment) in helping us promote and distributing the conference information.

This IWA Specialist was held jointly as the "4th Canadian Organic Residuals and Biosolids management Conference"

Roland P Richard, P.Eng.

Manager of Special Projects
Greater Moncton Sewerage Commission
ACWWA-WEF Delegate

among bad sanitation, malnutrition, and poverty and how the beneficial use of biosolids in agriculture and aquaculture can help in reducing malnutrition and poverty. Results of findings to be presented in a special session during the next IWA biosolids specialty conference.

Conference Objectives/Purpose

The objective of the organizers was to have a superior conference, bringing together the world's leading experts to Moncton, in order to increase the knowledge base of all stakeholders and *to move the national and global environmental agenda forward.*

The conference, bringing to Canada, for the first time, the world's leading experts in the wastewater biosolids industry was a "can't be missed conference" for Canadian municipalities, provincial, territorial and federal departments and politicians and other stakeholders that are involved or concerned about these environmental issues.

Presentations given by internationally renowned experts dealt with management,

- Assessing risk and approaches with the view of reaching a consensus on a scientific level on environmental and health risk assessment. Engaging and educating politicians regarding an "acceptable vision" on sanitation investment for the reduction of malnutrition and poverty.

- Developing consistent global terminology and definitions of key terms related to wastewater and biosolids.



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ACWWA CONFERENCE



Life Membership: Ron Leblanc left, and William Butler, accepted by Mark Butler



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Nova Scotia

ACWWA 2007 Conference

St. John's, Newfoundland Labrador

September 30TH to October 2ND

FROM City of St. John's Mayor Andy Wells welcoming remarks on Monday morning, to Elvis' final song as he "left the building" on Tuesday night, the 2007 ACWWA Conference provided two full days of presentations, meetings, social events, opportunities for discussion and exchanging ideas and time to renew old acquaintances and meet new members.

The Keynote Speaker, Dr. Andria Jones, gave delegates some sound advice on getting the message out to their customers that municipal drinking water is safe and that the people providing their drinking water are professionals who know what they are doing. Her presentation provided interesting statistics on the public's perception of drinking water.

This was the first time that the St. John's Conference hosted a Trade Show, held a "Top Ops" Competition, had a Water for People Fun Run and had an Awards' Breakfast! The 2007 Conference Planning Committee are to be congratulated for taking on the extra events along with the regular conference program.

The "Top Ops" Team from Fredericton was once again the winner of the competition, as they showed the other teams and the audience how to use those buzzers and impressed everyone with their knowledge of the AWWA competition material. The 4 teams in the competition - Fredericton, City of St. John's, Halifax Water and Team Nova Scotia - all received special team and individual trophies - compliments of the 2007 Planning Committee.

The Awards' Breakfast was a successful event and honoured the members of the ACWWA who deserve to be thanked and recognized for their efforts. AWWA representative Terry Rolan and Tracy Stigers, from the Water Education Foundation were very pleased to present the various awards.

Once again the "Water for People" organization benefited from the St. John's Conference. \$5,000 was raised by the Planning Committee through a special "fun" fundraiser at the "Meet and Greet", the "Fun Run," Silent Auction and another small, but very successful fundraiser at the Down East Night.



Conference Chair
Michael Smith

One of the highlights of the conference was a presentation by Roma Quinton on her recent trip to Guatemala. Roma actually visited the village where the Warren Quinton Memorial lavamano is located - funds raised at the 2003 Conference provided the money for the project. Her presentation - done with grace and eloquence - showed the difference that fresh water can make to the lives of people in developing countries and showed in a very personal way that "Water for People" is doing excellent work with the funds received.

The Trade Show hosted 43 booths with representatives from areas throughout Atlantic Canada, Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia and the US. The Trade Show will be an annual event at future St. John's Conferences.

The Conference closed with the usual well attended Down East Night - this year's event was a Newfoundland style tribute to Elvis Presley, which provided some great music that had Terry Rolan and his wife Linda singing along with the performers. Dinner, as usual, was a sumptuous buffet that always provides delegates with what has to be one of the best conference meals provided in any city.



Keynote speaker Dr. Andria Jones on the public's perception of drinking water.



Roma Quinton talks about her trip to a Water for People site in Guatemala





Operators of the Year

Newfoundland

New Brunswick

Prince Edward Island

Volunteer of the Year:

Debbie Smith

Ira P. MacNab Award:

Murray Jamer



Jailbird serves time in Meet and Greet.



Congratulations to all Top Ops teams!



Technical presentation



Awards breakfast

MORE PHOTOS NEXT PAGE →

ACWWA CONFERENCE



Call for papers

THE Atlantic Canada Water Works Association announces our Call for Papers!

ACWWA and the St. John's conference committee are striving to put on a top-notch technical program at the 61st Annual Conference to be held in Charlottetown, PEI, October 19th to 21st, 2008. The theme for the conference is Water - The Choice is Clear. We are seeking papers that illustrate the many new and innovating things happening in the water and wastewater business in Atlantic Canada. The following ideas for papers are especially encouraged from utilities, consultants, researchers, regulators, contractors and suppliers:

Water treatment, wastewater treatment, collection, distribution, new product innovations and operation and maintenance topics are encouraged.

Some topics that have been suggested are:

- Case studies of the application of innovative products
- New advances in Treatment Technologies for water and wastewater
- The application of new technology to the utility business.
- Innovative Small Systems improvements for smaller communities
- Safe work practices - first hand applications
- Research done in or relevant to Atlantic Canada.
- Upcoming regulations, strategies and programs by regulators, and a look back at recent programs.

Please forward a one page abstract of your proposed paper to:

Mr. G.A. (Sandy) Robertson
Chair, Technical Papers Committee
c/o Canada Water Supply Ltd.
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The deadline for receipt of abstracts is February 29th, 2008.

Please note: Papers should not be infomercials – no sales presentations, Please.

Our water and wastewater library

HERE is a list of water and wastewater documents assembled by ACWWA that are available for review by AWWA members. The documents can be borrowed from the section for a period not exceeding three weeks.

Please fax or email the office to request a loan of any current titles in the ACWWA Library. Please provide the title of the document, along with your membership number, and mailing address. All items borrowed from the Library are to be returned to the office within three weeks.

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Quebec students represent Canada at Stockholm

ALEXIS St-Gelais and Simon Bourgault-Côté, two students from the Kénogami High School, in Jonquière, Québec won the Canadian Stockholm Junior Water Prize (CSJWP), which was held jointly with the Canada Wide Science Fair. They represented Canada in the international competition held in Stockholm, Sweden, in August 2007.

This year, the Canada Wide Science Fair was held in Truro-Bible Hill, Nova Scotia, from May 12 to 20, 2007.

More than 500 young scientists from every corner of the country participated in the event. Three out of the 18 projects entered in the CSJWP competition were selected. The project by Alexis St-Gelais and Simon Bourgault-Côté was awarded first prize. As a result, they were given the opportunity to compete at the international level. The other two finalists, Alexandre Harvey, from the Sainte-Marie High School in Temiskaming Shores, Ontario, and Haley Robinson, from the Churchill Composite High School in La Ronge, Saskatchewan, both received \$300 each. The Canadian competition was organized by the Canadian Affairs Council (CAC) of the Water Environment Federation (WEF). The five Canadian member associations of the WEF, namely the Western Canada Water Environment Association (WCWEA), BC Water and Waste Association (BCWWA), Water Environment Association of Ontario (WEAO), Réseau Environnement from Québec, and Atlantic Canada Water Works Association (ACWWA), together with the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association (CWWA) and ITT Flygt Industries provided financial support.

New way to remove salt from seawater



Simon Bourgault-Côté and Alexis St-Gelais

Kick That Salt Away!

The winning project, called Kick That Salt Away! involved the transformation of sea water into drinking water by removing the salt via a chemical process. After researching existing physical processes and conducting experiments with alternative solutions, Alexis and Simon developed a new protocol involving six chemical steps. The idea consists in precipitating the unwanted substances con-

tained in sea water using chemicals and in removing the derivatives via filtration or centrifugation. This protocol could become an alternative to the physical desalination processes, which requires great amounts of energy that some countries may not be able to produce.

Results have shown that the chemical process is feasible. The final product can be drunk without ill effects, with the possible exception of tasting sodium bicarbonate (NaHCO_3). Alexis and Simon



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Stockholm world water competition

wish to continue working on their project to improve and optimize their process. Their goals consist in eliminating the NaHCO₃ derivatives from the final product, in applying the process on a larger scale and to render it more affordable by reducing the cost of \$2.37 per litre to less than \$1 per litre.

The International Competition

The winning Canadian team was awarded an all expenses paid trip to Stockholm, Sweden, to enter the international competition, which was held during the World Water Week in Stockholm, in August 2007.

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize, which has become a prestigious competition, recognizes the students who have excelled in water research. For these young enthusiasts from some 30 countries, the World Water Week in Stockholm gave them the chance to meet world-renowned experts, to attend seminars, to visit institutes and research facilities and, finally, to participate in cultural events. Further-

more, the winner of the international competition receives a \$5,000 (US) scholarship.

As part of the CSJWP, Alexis and Simon were also invited to present their project during the Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC), which was held from October 13 to 17, in San Diego, California. This major event welcomed more than 19,000 professionals from the water industry.



Poster to attract students to the competition

Do you know any students 16 to 20 years old?

This year, the CAC advertised the CSJWP in both English and French posters which were sent to over 12,000 high schools and colleges (CEGEP) throughout Canada to encourage student participation. If you know young people with a passion for water and the environment, please encourage them to prepare a project, with the help of friends and teachers, so they can enter the Regional Science Fair, which will be held in March 2008. They could get the chance to participate in the Canada Wide Science Fair, which is to be held in Ottawa in May 2008, and to enjoy the same wonderful experience and unforgettable memory that Alexis and Simon had!

For additional information, please visit: www.ysf.ca or www.siwi.org.



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Water for people broadens its focus

From page 5

of Water For People's work—in every country and every region.

A new online reporting system will keep donors informed and demonstrate contributions at work. Providing regular updates on work in each region, the system will be accessible to all interested parties via the Water For People website and will include the status of work in the region in close-to-real time. The system will provide a wealth of information, including background on the areas being served, current water and sanitation coverage in these areas, work status, funding status, number of people served, monitoring and evaluation results, interventions planned and impact—all of the information a donor might seek. Personal stories from some of the communities served will also be included.

As always, the best way to support Water For People is to invest in the organization as a whole through unrestricted giving. Unrestricted donations give Water For People the ability to direct financial resources where they are needed most, whether to fund work in specific regions or to contribute to the other components needed to support Water For People's work in the field. Like any organization, Water For People has support costs to ensure the wise use of donor dollars, communicate with supporters, raise funds, and develop the infrastructure to implement the strategic plan of the organization—all to better enable Water For People to achieve its critical mission and vision.

For those donors who choose to more specifically direct their funds, donors will continue to have the option to adopt a country with gifts of \$500 or more. These gifts support work within a specific program country and are used where the need is greatest in that area.

Many donors have sponsored specific projects in the past as a way to connect to Water For People's work in a tangible way. Over the next year, Water For People plans to transition from the current "adopt-a-project" option to a broader opportunity for donors to "adopt-a-region." This change will better align Water For People's



Women walking to a river to wash their laundry.

A young girl in India enjoys a safe drink of water.

fundraising model to the focused regional approach in its international programs, and will enable supporters to invest in Water For People on a more long-term basis. The "adopt-a-region" option will be available to donors of \$5,000 and above.

With the shift from projects to regions, all donors—whether they contribute unrestricted funds or choose to direct their funds to a specific location—will be able to invest in Water For People on a more long-term basis. With the robust information that will be available on Water For People's progress in each region, the connection to the work for all donors will be just as strong, if not stronger.

Fulfilling a mission

The Water For People Board of Directors was instrumental in the shift to a regional focus. "This approach is a strategic move to build Water For People's capacity and improve operational efficiencies," concurs Fred Elwell, Board president. "It's an integral part of reaching the goals established in our five-year strategic plan and making a more meaningful impact on the water and sanitation situation abroad."

Going regional makes sense on

many levels. This new approach will help Water For People reach more of the people who so desperately need access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation. It will allow Water For People to rapidly replicate its successful program model and demonstrate success in more measurable terms. Most important, it will prevent unnecessary water-related illnesses and save lives. The sooner, the better.

About Water For People

Founded in 1991, Water For People is a Denver-based private, nonprofit international development organization that supports the development of safe drinking water resources and improved sanitation facilities in developing countries. Water For People partners with communities, local government, and other non-governmental organizations to help people improve their quality of life by supporting sustainable drinking water and sanitation solutions, as well as hygiene education. Water For People supports projects with professional development advice, financial support, and volunteer technical services. Typical projects include protected spring-fed community water systems, gravity-fed systems, wells with hand pumps, latrine construction, operator training, and hygiene education. Water For People is currently working in Latin America, Africa and Asia. In 2006, Water For People's work directly benefited more than 98,000 people in the developing world.

More information at www.waterforpeople.org.

Record attendance at Water Environment Conference

Roland P. Richard, P. Eng.

WEF Delegate, ACWWA

WEFTEC.07, WEF's 80th Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference has just experienced a tremendous success in San Diego, California, October 13-17, 2007. This year marks a special milestone for WEFTEC and the Water Environment Federation eighty (80) years ago, the very first annual meeting was held to provide a forum for knowledge and technology exchange within the water and wastewater fields.

WEF announced a record attendance of 19,552 for WEFTEC.07, making this the largest event in the conference's 80-year history. The record number of 1,030 exhibiting companies and more than 267,000 net square feet of floor space were announced by the Federation.

Known as the Water Quality Event, WEFTEC.07 also represents the largest annual water quality exhibition in the world.

Founded in 1928, the Water Environment Federation is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization with members from varied disciplines who work toward the WEF vision of preservation and enhancement of the global water environment. The WEF network includes water quality professionals from 76 member associations in 30 countries.

In Canada, we have five (5) MA's which form the Canadian Affairs Council to address issues that affect us as Ca-



nadian members.

The Canadian MA's include:

- ACWWA- Atlantic Canada Water Works Association
- WEAO- Water Environment Association of Ontario
- WCWEA- Western Canada Water Environment Association
- BCWWA- British Columbia Water and Waste Association
- Réseau Environnement

During WEFTEC, the annual meeting of the Canadian Affairs Council (CAC) representing the Canadian Member Association was held. The highlights include the following subjects:

- The "CAC" memorandum of Understanding between the five (5) Canadian Member Association was signed by all MA's.
- The WEF - Board of Trustees approved continued contributions to CWWA in the amount of \$15,000.00 annually for the 2008-2010 time period.
- The ACWWA has agreed to host the WEFMAX meeting in 2009 in Atlantic Canada.

What is "WEFMAX"? The acronym stands for WEF Member Association's Exchange meetings. Five or six meetings are held annually in the spring at various locations throughout North America. This year, it was agreed that a WEFMAX meeting would be hosted

in Canada every other year. Atlantic Canada, ACWWA, has agreed to host the WEFMAX meeting in 2009.

We will be putting extra emphasis on increasing WEF membership during the upcoming year.

Take a look at the WEF website for more information about what WEF is doing for you, for our industry and for the water environment. Visit www.wef.org. It's definitely worth taking a few minutes to make yourself aware of the information and tools available to you on the website.

As always, you are welcome to contact me anytime if you have any questions, ideas or comments regarding WEF, or if you wish to volunteer on WEF committees.

My contact information is:

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Maritime Testing proves its baseball prowess on the field at Halifax Commons last summer, helping to raise \$1,300 for the local Water For People committee.

Water For People Softball 2007

THERE may have been as much fog in their heads as in the sky for the keen softball players that arrived early on June 12 at the Halifax Commons for the first annual Water For People fundraising softball tournament. After poor weather rained out the event in 2006, players were glad to see only fog this year. Eight co-ed teams from local engineering and utility companies were to slug it out to win the inaugural Water For People softball championship trophy. Teams included Neil & Gunter, Jacques Whitford, SNC Lava-

lin, Halifax Regional Water Commission, Terrain Group, CBCL Limited, Maritime Testing and WFP All-Stars. The day turned out beautifully as the sun managed to burn through the fog and players managed to shake off their rust. The softball action was fast, curious and certainly entertaining, with Neil & Gunter, Maritime Testing, CBCL and Terrain advanced to the playoff round. After easily dismissing their opponents in the semi-finals, Terrain Group and Maritime Testing faced off for the final, with Maritime Testing achieving ulti-

mate success.

The event raised \$1,300 for the local Water For People committee to help support Water For People Canada's project work delivering clean, safe water and sanitation solutions to developing countries. Water For People is currently active in Guatemala, Bolivia, Honduras, India, and Malawi, with expansion planned over the next five years into Ecuador, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Uganda, and the Dominican Republic.

For more information visit www.waterforpeople.org

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