

Suggested Action for Clubs

1. Educate Yourself

Learn more about the issue by visiting these websites and others:

- Assembly of First Nations <http://www.afn.ca/policy-sectors/housing-infrastructure-water-emergency-services/water/>
- Council of Canadians <https://canadians.org/fn-water>
- Amnesty International <https://www.amnesty.ca/our-work/issues/indigenous-peoples/indigenous-peoples-in-canada/the-right-to-water>
- Human Rights Watch <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/03/09/canada-takes-important-step-end-water-crisis>

2. Write to your local elected representatives (MP, MPP, MLA, MHA or MNA)

Tell both your provincial and federal representatives: **“First Nation communities can no longer live in third world conditions!”**

Locate your representatives by visiting your municipality’s website – for all local, provincial and federal officials. If not listed, visit the Elections Canada website and the elections website for your province.

- Adapt the template letter and send it to your Member of Parliament.
- Form a letter writing group to write individual letters to your elected representatives. The template letter can be adapted for individual use. **Please note:** when doing so, you are writing as concerned constituents, and not on behalf of your Club.
- Share your letter with friends, family, colleagues and networks through social media and encourage them to reach out to their representatives.

3. Call and / or meet with your local elected representatives

- Share CFUW’s policy position on “Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for First Nations” and encourage your MP, MPP, MLA, MHA or MNA to take action and ensure that their party has a plan to address the First Nation water crisis in their next election platform.
- Consider phoning your representatives. It is estimated that it takes between 5 and 10 calls on a given topic to have it raised in caucus.

4. Partner with other groups

- Partner with your CFUW Provincial or Regional Council to include this issue in their workplan, Standing Committees and/or provincial AGMs.
- Support the Council of Canadian's work on this issue.
- Collaborate with local Indigenous and First Nation NGOs to identify the support that can be given in your community to help raise the profile of this issue and support their local events.

5. Invite speakers

- Raise awareness about the water crisis on First Nation reserves among your CFUW club members by inviting speakers to one or more of your meetings. Possible speakers include local activists, well-known politicians or community leaders who have expressed concern on this issue.

6. Sponsor an event to raise public awareness

- Organize a panel discussion with experts, or show a short documentary film followed by discussion. (Colonization Road, produced by CBC, is a good documentary and can be accessed here: <http://www.cbc.ca/firsthand/episodes/colonization-road>)
- **Be Creative!** Come up with your own initiative to stress the need for immediate action to address the ongoing water crisis on First Nation reserves.

7. Write letters to the editors of local newspapers or op-eds

- Use the key messages from the resolution and background materials to write pieces for your local newspapers. Getting a letter or an op-ed published in your local newspaper(s) are excellent ways to raise public awareness on this issue.

8. Spread the news

- Update your Club's website and social media platforms with information on the Water Crisis on First Nation reserves and publish any letters or op-eds/news pieces produced on the topic.
- Ask your club supporters to join us in calling for access to safe drinking water and sanitation in First Nation communities.
- Include information about the water crisis in your Club newsletters.

9. Ask your Union or Professional Group's lobby to support putting an end to the water crisis in First Nation communities by 2021