



BACKGROUND

Top 10 Reasons to Celebrate the IJC

1. It embodies established, time-tested protocols for recognizing and dealing with water issues of common interest to both nations.
2. It is our most venerable independent repository of experience and knowledge in transboundary relations and conflict resolution over water issues.
3. It represents a consensus-based mechanism for resolving disputes with provisions for tracking results and updating responses to ensure problems are actually solved and stay solved.
4. It is an institution that has the freedom to evolve over time.
5. It elevates water issues to high political status in both countries in a manner that results in superior policies that transcend local jurisdictional self-interest.
6. It has encouraged the development of a continental sense of joint reliance on water resources that promotes constant improvement of management practices.
7. Its century of unprecedented success in proactively addressing water and water-related matters of concern to both Canadians and Americans has pre-figured diplomatic successes and public policy advancements in other domains of joint political and economic interest.
8. It exemplifies for the rest of the world how successful transboundary water relations can be conducted between riparian neighbours.
9. It represents an enduring example of ecological governance in practice: it addresses ecological function as it relates to water management within relevant ecological boundaries, such as watersheds.
10. Such successful examples have much to teach as we seek to improve our institutions and legal frameworks to address the emerging socio-ecological challenges of the 21st Century.



FLOW Members

David R. Boyd (Trudeau Scholar, UBC & POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, UVIC)

David is one of Canada's leading environmental lawyers, a Trudeau Scholar, an adjunct professor at Simon Fraser University, and a Senior Associate with the University of Victoria's POLIS Project on Ecological Governance. He is the author of *Sustainability Within a Generation: A New Vision for Canada*, *Unnatural Law: Rethinking Canadian Environmental Law and Policy*, and *Canada vs. The OECD: An Environmental Comparison*. His latest book is "*David Suzuki's Green Guide*" co-authored with David Suzuki.

Oliver M. Brandes (POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, UVIC)

Oliver is the Associate Director and leads the Water Sustainability Project at the University of Victoria's POLIS Project on Ecological Governance. With a background in law, economics and ecological restoration, he focuses on the institutional and legal reform aspects of sustainable water management and provides advice to all levels of government and various nongovernment organizations. Oliver has authored or co-authored numerous chapters, articles and reports on water sustainability including *At a Watershed: Ecological Governance and Sustainable Water Management in Canada*.

Norm Branson (Manitoba Clean Environment Commission)

Norm is a Professional Engineer and a practicing environmental consultant. He is a member of the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission and sits on the Board of Trustees for the Fort Whyte Environmental Education Centre in Winnipeg. During his 32-year career in the Manitoba public service, the last 15 of which he served as Deputy Minister of the departments of Environment, Conservation and Water Stewardship, he has been involved in water issues from a number of different perspectives. He has represented Manitoba in inter-provincial and international water negotiations; been intimately involved in the development and administration of Provincial water legislation; and was the founding Deputy Minister for the first all-water department of government in Canada.

James P. Bruce (Soil & Water Conservation Society)

Jim is Canadian Policy Representative for the Soil and Water Conservation Society and serves as a consultant on climate change adaptation, water management, and natural disaster mitigation. He was first Director of the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, Burlington and worked for 8 years as an Assistant Deputy Minister for Environmental Management and Atmospheric Environment. From 1986 to 1989, he was Director of Technical Cooperation and Acting Deputy Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He has been awarded Honorary Doctorates from the University of Waterloo and McMaster University and the Massey Medal of the Canadian Geographical Society.



Marc Hudon (Nature Québec)

Marc is Director of the St. Lawrence River/Great Lakes program at Nature Québec and President of the Priority Intervention Zone Committee (Comité ZIP Saguenay) on the Saguenay river. He is also President of the Quebec Regional Advisory Council on Marine Oil Spills and a member of stakeholder committees relating to water and other environmental issues. Marc retired from the Canadian Armed Forces in 1994, where he was active in the environmental sector for 21 years, working on, among other things, hazardous material safety, contaminated soils, and water and wastewater treatment plants. He was awarded the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of Confederation in recognition of the significant contribution he has made to his fellow citizens, and to Canada.

Tony Maas (WWF-Canada)

Tony is Freshwater Director with WWF-Canada. He has been involved in water management issues for over a decade, with experiences ranging from technology development to public policy. While working with the Water Sustainability Project at the University of Victoria's POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, he authored a number of reports on Canadian water policy and provided strategic policy advice to various levels of government and non-government organizations. He has studied environmental science at Royal Roads University and water governance at the University of Waterloo.

Linda Nowlan (Environmental Lawyer)

Linda is an environmental lawyer, with over twenty years experience in the private, government, intergovernmental, nongovernmental and philanthropic sectors. She was previously at the Program on Water Governance at the University of British Columbia, and before that was the Executive Director of West Coast Environmental Law. She is a member of the Canadian Council of Academies' Expert Panel on Groundwater and has also served on the BC Independent Drinking Water Review Panel, the Vancouver Foundation's Environment Committee and the Board of Directors of Smart Growth BC. She is the author of numerous reports, including Buried Treasure: Groundwater Permitting and Pricing in Canada, and The Legal Regime for Arctic Environmental Protection.

Ralph Pentland (Canadian Water Issues Council and Ralbet Enterprises Inc.)

Ralph is Acting Chair of the Canadian Water Issues Council, and President of Ralbet Enterprises Inc., where he has been active in consulting on a variety of water and environmental policy issues. From 1978 to 1991, he was Director of Water Planning and Management in the Canadian Department of the Environment. In that capacity, he was responsible for overseeing numerous Canada-U.S. and Federal-Provincial agreements and arrangements, and was the prime author of the Federal Water Policy that was tabled in Parliament in 1987. He has co-chaired five International Joint Commission Boards, and has served as an environmental consultant in numerous countries.



Merrell-Ann Phare (Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources)

Merrell-Ann is Executive Director and Legal Counsel to the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources. She has engaged in research and policy assessment regarding Aboriginal water, environmental and other rights, climate change, environmental assessment, and sustainable development. She holds economics and law degrees from the University of Manitoba and serves on numerous advisory committees and consultation bodies, including the Joint Public Advisory Committee of the NAFTA Commission for Environmental Cooperation, and Regulatory Advisory Committee of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.

Robert Sandford (United Nations International Decade “Water for Life” Decade)

Bob Sandford is the Canadian Chair of the United Nations International Decade “Water for Life” Decade, a national partnership initiative that aims to advance long-term water quality and availability issues in response to climate change in this country and abroad. In this capacity, Bob is the only Canadian to sit on the Advisory Committee for the prestigious Rosenberg International Forum on Water Policy. Bob is also the Director of the Western Watersheds Climate Research Collaborative, a not-for-profit research institute that promotes understanding of climate impacts on river systems originating in the Rocky Mountains. Bob’s second book on water issues in Canada, *Water Weather & the Mountain West*, was published by Rocky Mountain Books in the fall of 2007.