

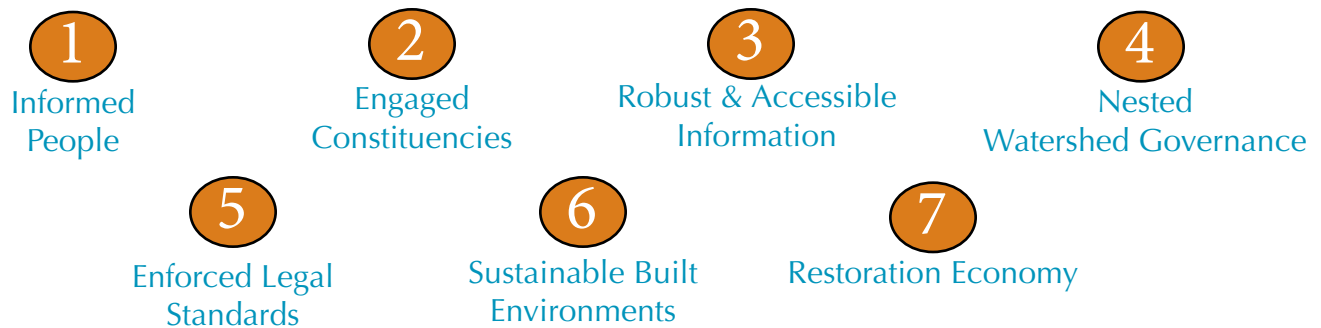


2018 Annual Report of the
Our Living Waters Network

Our Living Waters Network members collaboratively work towards our ambitious goal of

All Canada's Waters in Good Health by 2030

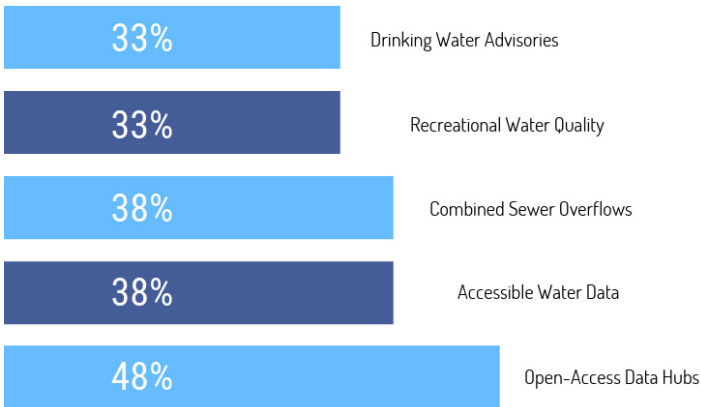
by focusing on achieving our seven winning conditions



which are measured by our 24 impact measures

Accessible Data	Open Access Hubs	Decision Makers	Watershed Governance
Watershed Entities & Plans	National Drinking Water Standards	Environmental Flow Standards	Enforceable Water Quality Standards
Citizen Legal Action	Drinking Water Source Protection	Freshwater Policy	Green Infrastructure
Supporter Actions	Pipeline Threats	Harmful Algae Blooms	Media
Combined Sewer Overflow	Human Right to Water	Freshwater Awareness	Recreational Water Quality
Drinking Water Advisories	Municipal Natural Asset Management*	Government Financing for Restoration*	Legislating Restoration*

The top 5 priorities for freshwater health:
as ranked by network members



With 24 impact measures, and limited resources, it was important for us to prioritize which measures are most likely to drive impact. To focus our efforts, we send a survey to all OLV Network members in order to prioritize a subset of these impact measures. With 77% of members responding to the survey, we're confident that these priorities truly reflected the OLV Network members.

Taking additional input from the OLV 2030 Fund Advisory Committee, and by analyzing where there was sufficient work happening on the ground (which members told us in the survey), we established five OLV Network priorities.

These annual priorities focused our resources to drive collaboration and support the Network in turning the curve on relevant impact measures. Practically, this meant:

- Channeling financial resources from the OLV 2030 Fund to these priorities;
- Convening Network members and other groups to define collaborative opportunities to advance priorities; and
- Engaging Network members around priority issues.



- 1 Support the creation of water data hubs across Canada and strengthen community-based monitoring networks that are informing decision-making.
- 2 Increase the implementation of transformative green infrastructure in Canada.
- 3 Advance policy frameworks that support watershed governance across Canada, including new federal policy or legislation that enables partnerships at the watershed scale.
- 4 Improve recreational water quality across Canada by advancing solutions to combined sewer overflows and other key actions.
- 5 Support actions taken by indigenous governments to implement indigenous water rights and by non-indigenous governments to advance UNDRIP & the TRC recommendations.



The OLW Network By the Numbers

Membership and Communications

- 75 community and organizational members in the OLW Network across the country.
- 504 followers who receive monthly OLW e-newsletters.
- 15 e-blasts sent to our members and followers in 2018 garnering an impressive 45% open rate (industry average is 25%), 10% click rate (industry average is 2.5%) and generating 244 engagements.
- Quarterly priority leads calls organized to connect members leading priority projects.

Shared Measurement System

- 13 of the 24 impact measures now have data available (three additional baseline datasets added in 2018, and two datasets updated).
- We improved the shared measurement system in 2018, adding a 'restoration economy' winning condition and three impact measures to help assess our progress towards this new winning condition.
- Turning the Curve workshop on green infrastructure was undertaken in 2018, which convened multiple organizations in a facilitated collaborative action planning session.

Our Living Waters 2030 Fund

- Rapid Response Fund established in 2018 - \$25,000 from the OLW 2030 Fund was earmarked for responding to time sensitive opportunities.
- Nine grants totaling \$97,000 awarded in 2018 under the OLW 2030 Fund, including the Rapid Response portion of the Fund.

Impact of the OLW Network

Supported the creation of water data hubs across Canada and strengthened community-based monitoring networks that are informing decision-making.

Impact Story Snapshot:

Atlantic Canada to get new open-access data hub

In Atlantic Canada, a new open access data hub, the Atlantic DataStream, was launched. The efforts detailed in this story support our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Robust & Accessible Information winning condition, and specifically the Open Access Hubs impact measure. (Led by the Atlantic Water Network and the Gordon Foundation)



Read full impact story: http://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/atlantic_canada_data_hub

Impact Story Snapshot:

Water knowledge is power – supporting community-based monitoring efforts in the Kaska Dene Territory



To support a new benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring program in the Kaska Dene Territory of the Liard River watershed, in Northeastern BC, CABIN protocol training and certification were provided to six people including Guardians, Dena Kayeh Institute staff and Daylu Dena Council staff. The efforts detailed in this story support our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Robust & Accessible Information winning condition, and specifically the Accessible Data impact measure. (Led by Living Lakes Canada and WWF-Canada).



Read full impact story: http://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/water_knowledge_is_power

Impact Story Snapshot:

Elevating Community-Based Water Monitoring in Canada- A National Discussion

In November 2018, more than 70 attendees from across Canada gathered in Ottawa to discuss, and then draft recommendations on how the federal government can meaningfully support community-based water monitoring (CBWM) work. The efforts detailed in this story support our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Robust & Accessible Information winning condition, and specifically the Accessible Data impact measure. (Led by the Gordon Foundation, Living Lakes Canada and WWF-Canada)

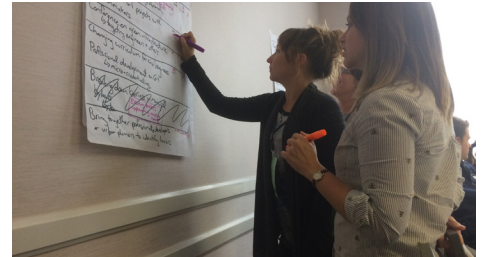
Read full impact story: http://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/elevating_cbwm_a_national_discussion

Increased the implementation of transformative green infrastructure in Canada.

Impact Story Snapshot:

Communities advancing action plans for green infrastructure

A green infrastructure Community of Practice was set up to advance the uptake of transformative green infrastructure in communities across Canada consisting of 10 consistent participants from 10 communities. The efforts detailed in this story support our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Sustainable Built Environments winning condition, and specifically the Green Infrastructure impact measure. (Led by Canadian Freshwater Alliance & Green Communities Canada)



Read full impact story: http://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/action_plans_for_green_infrastructure

Supported actions taken by Indigenous governments to implement Indigenous water rights and by non-Indigenous governments to advance UNDRIP and the TRC recommendations.

Impact Story Snapshot:

Revitalizing Federal Freshwater Laws

A small group of Indigenous and non-Indigenous water leaders convened for a two-day dialogue in Winnipeg to discuss how renewal of federal water laws and policies could advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and support Canada's implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This work supports our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Nested Watershed Governance winning condition, and specifically the Watershed Governance impact measure. (Led by Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resource and Forum for Leadership on Water)

Impact of the OLW Network

Advance policy frameworks that support watershed governance across Canada, including new federal policy or legislation that enables partnerships at the watershed scale.

Impact Story Snapshot:

Freshwater groups at forefront of efforts to modernize federal environmental laws

OLW Network members coordinate conservation and environmental organizations from across Canada to champion proposed changes to the Fisheries Act and Navigation Protection Act. The efforts detailed in this story support our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Enforced Legal Standards winning conditions, and specifically the Environmental Flow Standards impact measure. (Led by the Forum for Leadership on Water and the Canadian Freshwater Alliance)



Read full impact story: http://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/modernize_federal_environmental_laws

Improved recreational water quality across Canada by advancing solutions to combined sewer overflows and other key actions.

Impact Story Snapshot:

One trillion reasons to tackle Combined Sewer Overflows

In addition to gathering baseline data on combined sewer overflow occurrences in communities across Canada, a bilingual toolkit was created to support community groups and proactive decision-makers to support change in their communities. The efforts detailed in this story support our ambitious goal of all Canada's waters in good health by 2030 by focusing on the Sustainable Built Environments winning condition, and specifically the Combined Sewer Overflow impact measure. (Led by Ottawa Riverkeeper & Swim Drink Fish Canada)



Read full impact story: http://www.ourlivingwaters.ca/one_trillion_reasons



Open Access Hubs: In the Columbia Basin of BC, a conference was held to explore solutions to two problems: the need for a Columbia Basin water monitoring framework, and a Columbia Basin water data hub. (Led by Living Lakes Canada)



Media: Gathered baseline data on our media impact measure: the percent change in traditional media stories on water impacts. (Led by the Canadian Freshwater Alliance)



Watershed Governance: Gathered baseline data on our watershed governance impact measure: the percent of Canada's major 25 watersheds with a mechanism in place to support watershed governance. (Led by Our Living Waters)



Watershed Entities & Plans: Gathered baseline data on our watershed entities & plans impact measure: the percent of Canada's sub-watersheds with a watershed entity and a watershed plan. (Led by Our Living Waters)

Our 2018-19 Our Living Waters Management Team



Wendy Cooper as the OLW 2030 Fund lead, manages the Fund, distribution of grants and reporting.

Tony Maas as the OLW strategy lead, focuses on overarching strategy and federal government relations.

Tim Morris as the funding lead, leverages and coordinates collaborative funding opportunities for the Network.

Andrew Stegemann as the project director and shared measurement lead, oversees overall operations and ensures we are measuring our progress towards achieving our ambitious goal.

Lindsay Telfer as the communications and member engagement lead supports Network-wide communications and engagement activities.

The Our Living Waters Network is a project on the Tides Canada shared platform.

Collaborative Projects Funded in 2018

These projects were funded by the OLW 2030 Fund in 2018 to be delivered in 2019, with the exception of the two rapid response grants which were delivered in 2018.

Project Name	Project Description	Priority Area
Freshwater and the 2019 federal election	Positioning fresh water as a priority issue for federal election platforms across all parties leading up to the 2019 federal election.	Advance policy frameworks that support watershed governance across Canada, including new federal policy or legislation that enables partnerships at the watershed scale.
Reconciliation and the Canada Water Act	Working towards a renewal of the Canada Water Act with Indigenous and non-Indigenous water policy leaders.	Support actions taken by Indigenous governments to implement Indigenous water rights and by non-Indigenous governments to advance UNDRIP and the TRC recommendations.
Capacity support for a water data hub in the Columbia Basin of BC	There is growing momentum in building data hubs across the country, leveraging the momentum and success of Mackenzie DataStream. Investments in the Columbia Basin, Lake Winnipeg region and Atlantic Canada will help ensure that hubs in these regions make water data accessible for analysis and decision making.	Support the creation of water data hubs across Canada and strengthen community-based monitoring networks that are informing decision-making.
Capacity support for a water data hub in the Lake Winnipeg region		
Capacity support for a water data hub in Atlantic Canada		
Addressing sewage discharge in communities	Providing tools and support to communities to address the sewage problems in their watershed.	Improve recreational water quality across Canada by advancing solutions to combined sewer overflows and other key actions.
Soak it up! A community of practice spurring local action for green infrastructure implementation	Expanding the community of practice with training, resources, and peer support, while also implementing action plans that have been developed.	Increase the implementation of transformative green infrastructure in Canada.
Rapid Response Grant: Living Waters Rally - Indigenous Governance Sessions	Supporting Indigenous representatives to attend the 2018 Living Waters Rally as well as support for the Rally's focus on reconciliation in watersheds and ensuring Indigenous organizations and allies are leading those conversations.	Support actions taken by Indigenous governments to implement Indigenous water rights and by non-Indigenous governments to advance UNDRIP and the TRC recommendations.
Rapid Response Grant: National Community-Based Water Monitoring (CBWM) Roundtable and Dialogue	A national gathering to support legitimizing CBWM by looking at how to standardize it nationally and develop a national policy in order to maximize its potential to support decision makers with robust water data.	Support the creation of water data hubs across Canada and strengthen community-based monitoring networks that are informing decision-making.

Our Living Waters Network Members

ACAP Saint John; Alberta Wilderness Association; Aqua Forum, Assembly of First Nations; Athabasca Watershed Council; Atlantic Water Network; Bird Studies Canada; Canadian Freshwater Alliance; Canadian Wildlife Federation; Carrot River Valley Watershed Association; Canadian Environmental Grantmaker's Network; Centre d'écologie urbaine de Montreal; Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources; City of Coquitlam; Atlantic Water Network; Conservation Council of New Brunswick; De Gaspé Beaubien Foundation; Ecology Action Centre; Environmental Defence; EOS Eco Energy; First Nations Fisheries Council of BC; Forum for Leadership on Water (FLOW); Fraser Basin Council; Freshwater Future; GPI Atlantic; Green Communities Canada; Green Roofs for Healthy Cities; Grow Ontario Together; G3E - Groupe d'éducation et d'écovigilance de l'eau; Grow Ontario Together, Jijuktu'kwejk Watershed Alliance; Kairos Canada; Kitsumkalum Nation; Lake Ontario Waterkeeper; Lake Windermere Ambassadors; Lake Winnipeg Foundation; Lintner Law; Living Lakes Canada; Lush Cosmetics; Mainstreams Environmental, Mountain Equipment Co-op; Moir Consulting; Morris Consulting; Muskoka Watershed Council; Nova Scotia Nature Trust; Okanagan Basin Water Board; One Cowichan; Ottawa Riverkeeper; Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance; POLIS Project on Ecological Governance; Real Estate Foundation of BC; Re-imagining Atlantic Harbours; Rivers without Borders Canada; Rivershed Society of BC; Save Our Valley Alliance; Save the River / Upper St. Lawrence Riverkeeper; Sibylline Océans; Sitka Foundation; Slave River Coalition; Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation; Stegemann Consulting; Swim Drink Fish; T Buck Suzuki Foundation; Tesera Systems Inc.; The Gordon Foundation; Tides Canada; Vancouver Aquarium; Water Rangers; Watersheds Canada; Watershed Watch Salmon Society; WWF-Canada.

2018 Our Living Waters Funding Partners

