

Toronto Conference
The United Church of Canada

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October 30, 2013

To all United Church of Canada Conferences

At its meeting on September 10, 2013 the Community Connections and Right Relations Commission of Living Waters Presbytery of Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada passed the following motion regarding the crisis in water:

MOTION:

WHEREAS there is much concern about the low water level in the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay and other lakes, rivers and streams across Canada, and we are concerned about the consumption of millions of liters of water used in the hydraulic fracturing process which is laced with toxic chemicals which renders it unusable for human consumption,

AND WHEREAS the mining companies are spilling mercury in previously pristine rivers, lakes and streams,

AND WHEREAS development is creating a lowering of the groundwater, thus effecting aquifers and wells, and water companies are bottling water at an alarming rate,

AND WHEREAS the oil sands and oil spills are polluting lakes, rivers and streams , and it is estimated that by 2030 the demand for water will outstrip supply by 40% which indicates a world problem; WE, the Community Connections and Right Relations Commission of Living Waters Presbytery of Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada, urge the Government of Canada to enact immediate legislation to control the use of, and thus conserve, water, a most precious resource. **CARRIED**

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The mission of Toronto Conference is to strengthen Congregations, Pastoral Charges, Outreach Ministries, and Missions to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.




The Community Connections and Right Relations Commission also passed the following motion regarding Fraser River salmon:

MOTION:

WHEREAS it has been reported that the salmon population that returns to the Fraser River each year to spawn is decreasing at an alarming rate and our First Nations brothers and sisters claim it is caused by habitat destruction and the warming of the river due to global warming, and this is supported by the melting of the ice cap and the rays of the sun being absorbed into the water, and not deflecting on the ice;

WE, the Community Connections and Right Relations Commission of Living Waters Presbytery of Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada, ask the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia to take immediate action to address this problem. **CARRIED**

Yours sincerely,



Rev. Audrey Brown, Secretary
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