

Wellington Water Watchers Calls for *Full Moon Water Blessings*

Water for Life, Not for Profit.

**For immediate release
November 16, 2016**

Guelph-Wellington – While encouraging all Ontarian’s to participate in the political process that allows for public commenting on water-taking policies, Wellington Water Watchers (WWW) also invites us to consider another relationship we each have with water as our birthright. Water is essential for all of life, and as such is more than just a “resource to be managed”. It is a precious gift we are entrusted with while we are here. To honour and celebrate this relationship, Wellington Water Watchers calls on Faith-based or traditional cultural groups to host a **Full Moon Water Blessing** on a Sunday closest to the full moon throughout the coming year.

The first of such **Full Moon Water Blessings** happened this past Sunday. On November 13th, the eve of the super moon, a group gathered to honour the sacredness of water in accordance with Anishnabeg traditions. Amidst the lingering scent of burning sage, jars of water from area waterways that had been gathered over the past months were poured into two copper pots after a story about those waters had been shared. The two pots were then carried to each participant to see within, their own reflection and to pray into for the health of our waters. Each attendee was given a small vial of these waters to take home with them. WWW extends our sincere gratitude to Jan Sherman and Lois MacDonald for hosting this beautiful ceremony and for reminding us about the sacredness of our waters.

A partner organization called the [Great Lakes Commons](#) has for many years advocated for a shift in our collective language around water.

“ We love and depend upon our waters to sustain not only our lives, but all of life. We cannot stand by while our waters are treated as an expendable and exploitable resource when we know they are a source of life,” states the Great Lakes Commons

Dedicated to the protection, restoration and conservation of drinking water in Guelph and Wellington County

Charter [Declaration](#). “Seeing that the health of our waters is intertwined with our own health and that of generations yet to come, we are called to assert a deeper connection and more powerful role in the future of our waters.”

In calling on Faith-based or traditional cultural groups to host a Full Moon Water Blessing, Wellington Water Watchers hopes to create lasting conversations about the deeper relationship we each have with water. A relationship we all share in regardless of age, gender, race, faith or ancestry.

“We all know the moon governs the pull of waters and tides across the globe,” says Karen Rathwell, board member of Wellington Water Watchers. “It seemed fitting to invite water blessings to align with a lunar cycle instead of the current Gregorian calendar to best aid us in shifting our focus with respect to water from that of regulation to celebration.”

The Sundays closest to the full moon over the coming year are as follows:



wellington *Water* watchers

invites faith based groups or cultural traditions to host a Full Moon Water Blessing on the Sunday closest to each of the full moons throughout the year

Blessing Dates

- Sunday, Dec. 11
- Sunday, Jan. 15
- Sunday, Feb. 12
- Sunday, Mar. 19
- Sunday, Apr. 9
- Sunday, May 7 or 14
- Sunday, Jun. 11

VISIT wellington *Water* watchers.ca FOR MORE INFO

Dedicated to the protection, restoration and conservation of drinking water in Guelph and Wellington County

The invitation to Faith based or traditional cultural groups is to host a **Full Moon Water Blessing** close to sun down. To register for a date as a host please visit http://wellingtonwaterwatchers.nationbuilder.com/full_moon_water_blessing

###

About Wellington Water Watchers: Founded in 2007, Wellington Water Watchers (WWW) is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization based in Guelph, Ontario. Committed to the protection of water resources and public education, WWW works to affect local water policy and protect water sources. WWW also sponsors and supportsguest speakers, debates, and are active at bottled-water free community events.

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Karen Rathwell, Board Member,

Wellington Water Watchers

mkrathwell@gmail.com 519-362-7615

Arlene Slocombe, Executive Director,

Wellington Water Watchers

arlene.slocombe@gmail.com 519-400-9507