

# An overview of Aboriginal Drinking Water Issues in Canada



Kevin Rumsey, BREE 652  
Sept. 29, 2016



# Outline

- Cultural background
- Current challenges
- What needs to be supported
- Recommendations

\* All photos taken from Google Search



**NOTICE**

**THIS  
WATER IS  
UNSAFE  
TO DRINK**





LIVE Thunder Bay More Streams

Up North

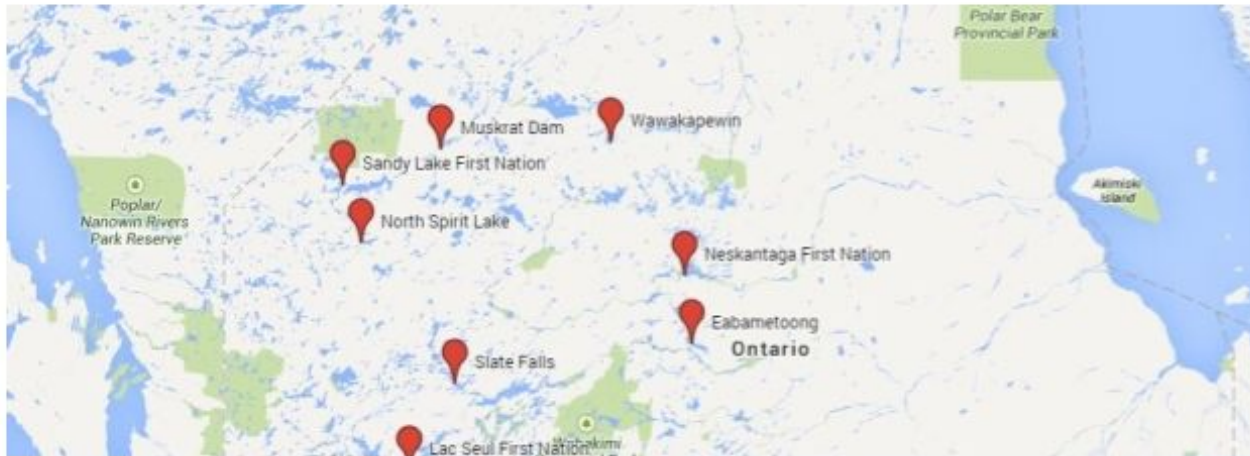
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# AUDIO | 10 First Nations with more than 10 years of bad water

## No safe drinking water in Neskantaga First Nation for nearly 20 years

By Jody Porter, CBC News | Posted: Sep 08, 2014 5:00 AM ET | Last Updated: Sep 08, 2014 3:45 PM ET



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*Boil Order - START: APRIL 17 2015 - SEA ST & WATER ST - JB 1/14*



## Boil Water Order



Due to the possibility of unsafe water, Castine Water Department consumers are directed to **Boil All Water** for one minute at a rolling boil before drinking, making ice cubes, washing foods, brushing teeth or in any other activity involving consumption of water. This Order shall remain in effect until further notice!

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to:

Castine Town Manager at

207-336-4902

or to the

State of Maine Drinking Water Program at  
287-2070 during normal business hours.

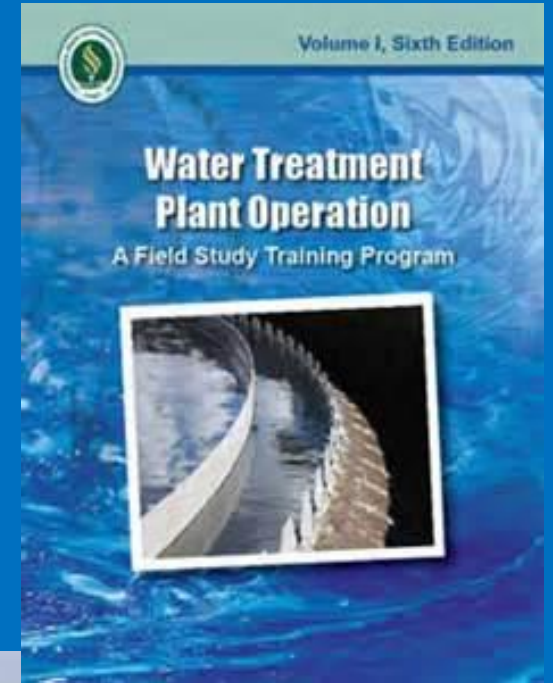
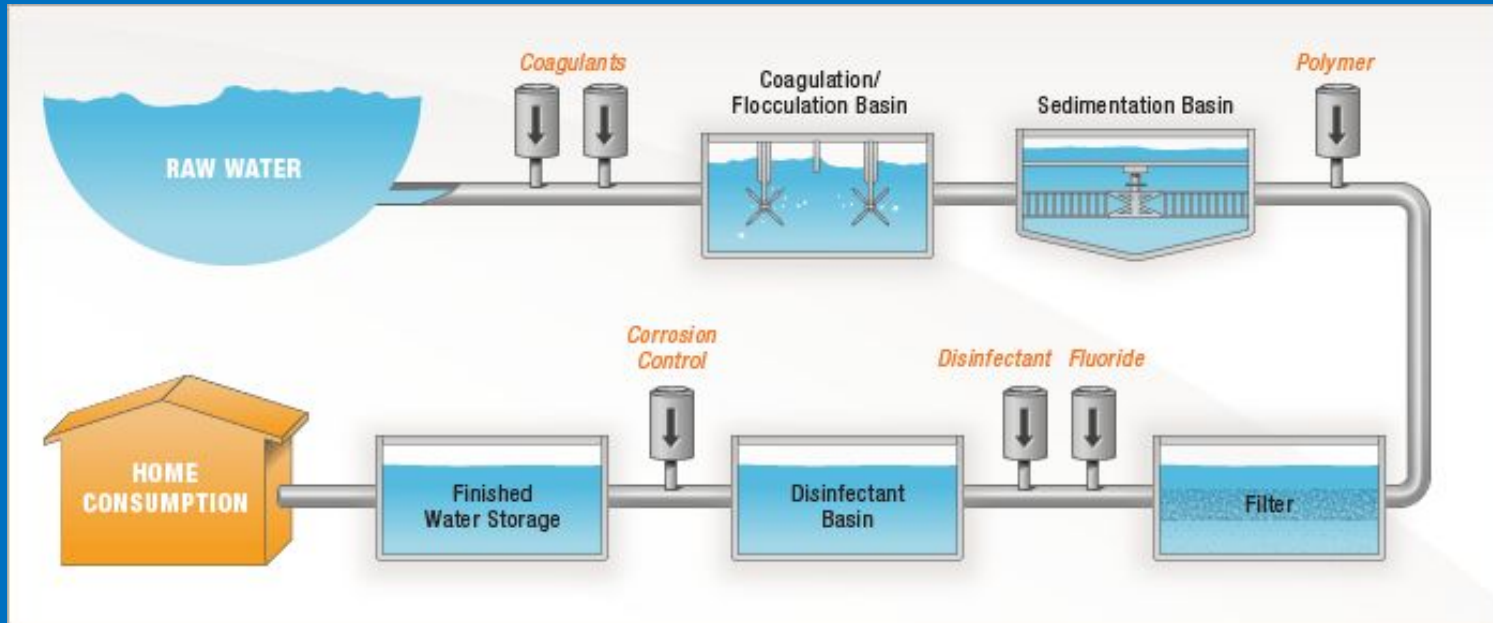
**TO BE POSTED IMMEDIATELY.**

# BOIL-WATER ADVISORY in EFFECT

As of 3:30pm, Saturday Sept 27th  
Official City of Mercer Island Alert

All Residents of Mercer Island Are  
Advised to Boil Their Tap Water  
Before Drinking

All Mercer Island Restaurants Are  
Ordered to Close by Dept of H







**Why?**



REPORT OF THE EXPERT PANEL  
ON SAFE DRINKING WATER  
FOR FIRST NATIONS

NOVEMBER 2006

- Report of the *Report on Expert Panel on Safe Drinking Water for First Nations (2006)*.

**“...primary problem is a lack of financial resources, qualified people and governance structures, to manage, operate and maintain First Nation water and wastewater treatment plants.”**











# More Support Required



# Appropriate Capacity Building



Mental

Physical

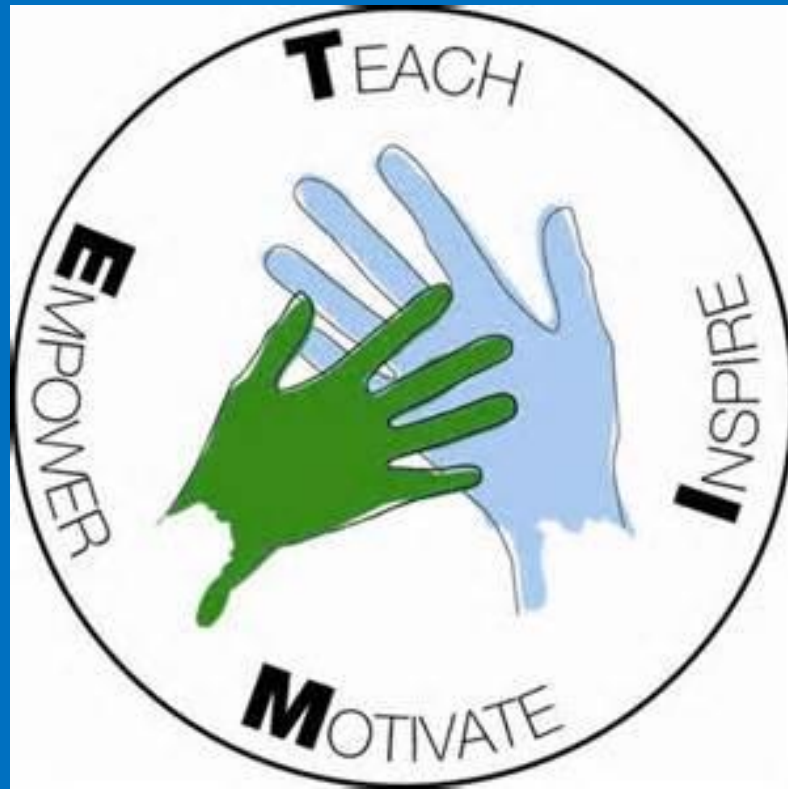
Spiritual

Emotional









# Mobile Training WTP Units



# SOME RECOMMENDATIONS

APPROPRIATE  
TECHNOLOGY



EARLY  
CONSULTATION



BUILD CAPACITY



TECHNOLOGY FOR  
REMOTENESS



CLEAR ROLES AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES



INCREASED  
FUNDING





# INGENUITY

**WE CAN'T SOLVE  
PROBLEMS  
BY USING THE SAME  
KIND OF THINKING  
WE USED WHEN WE  
CREATED THEM**

Albert Einstein



# Thank you

- Primary Reviewers :  
Sharon May Nelson  
Guillermo Portillo Perez  
Mahsa Gharri

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