



20  
23 Annual Report







WAC has delivered water in 25 thirsty countries.



We believe that access to clean water is a basic human right.



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# Message from the CEO

The 2022-23 year for Water Ambassadors Canada allowed our charity to become whole again after coming out of the pandemic period. A return to deploying Water Teams, expanded in-person fundraising events, and pivoting in a new direction with an additional office for outreach across the country all helped us to reach the benchmark of providing approximately 500,000 people with access to clean water during WAC's twenty year history.

Water Teams supported multiple projects in Guatemala as well as Honduras with well drilling and well repair. Additionally, we had individual Water Ambassadors in the DR Congo and Kenya lead with new chlorinator distributions and maintenance as well as bleach maker installation. Efforts were rounded out with filter distribution in multiple countries.

As Canadians returned to a new normal post pandemic, we challenged ourselves with expanded fundraising events through charity golf, expanded Fall Water Walks, and our new signature fundraising event via the Wet Gala in the spring.

Committed to growth, we have planted a new outreach office in Calgary. The goal of truly becoming Canada's leading charity for access to clean water globally means reaching out to all Canadians. Having Calgary and Toronto as our foundations for outreach, will allow us to take next steps in the growth of Water Ambassadors Canada.

Our milestone anniversary of twenty years culminated with the achievement of reaching half a million people with clean water during that time. As we reflected on the past generation of people receiving access to clean water, it has bolstered our vision of what is to come during the next decade for Water Ambassadors Canada.

Better Every Day,

**BRIAN JOHNS**

CEO, Water Ambassadors Canada



**WAC has delivered access to clean water to 500,000 people**



# Team Members



**BRIAN JOHNS**, Chief Executive Officer

Brian is a businessman and entrepreneur who first became passionate about water issues after a life-changing visit to Guatemala to drill a well and deliver clean water. He continues to embrace this hands-on approach to problem solving in his leadership role as CEO with the support of a strong international team working together to help change lives with clean water. Brian is a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work in his local community.



**JEFF MERRIMAN**, Field & Projects Director

Jeff spent his decades-long career as an Environmental Engineer working to clean up contaminated groundwater. This connection to water issues sparked his interest in the work of Water Ambassadors Canada and led him to join a trip to Guatemala to drill a well for a rural village. He now serves as our Field and Projects Director, helping to provide clean water to families and communities around the world.



**URSULA DEVOLIN**, Teams & Events Coordinator

Ursula's commitment to clean water began when she did fundraising walkathons as a child for many years. Later, her humanitarian commitment led her to work as a mentor and English teacher to North Korean defectors in South Korea. Her extended family is also committed to the water cause. Her father, brother and niece have all been on WAC water trips. She works as the Teams and Events Coordinator responsible for supporting trip teams and fundraising event participants.



**ALLA MIZERS**, Office Operations

Alla's deep concern for people, the environment, and healthy living inspired her to study Biology and Environmental studies at the University of Latvia before moving to Canada in 2007. These interests led her to become an active local hospital volunteer and to join Water Ambassadors Canada where she could help provide clean water to those in need. Her commitment to water issues has inspired her young daughter to become a volunteer with the charity.



# Board of Directors

## BARRY HART, Founder & Chair

Barry and his wife Heather are former teachers. They heard about the desperate need for clean drinking water in 2002. This led them to join a group to help drill a well in Guatemala. From that experience, they formed Water Ambassadors Canada. Barry always says that "Contaminated drinking water is the biggest cause of death and disease in the world, and yet it is the easiest problem to fix. You just help provide clean water." Canadian volunteers and donors have helped to give clean drinking water to thousands of people around the world. Barry and Heather are truly humbled and grateful to all.

## DR. RILEY MOYNES, Vice-Chair

Riley has worked in the education and financial sectors, and is an experienced author, public speaker, and researcher. He first joined the Water Ambassadors team during a trip to Honduras to repair a well where he was able to see first-hand the direct impact of clean water access on people's lives.

## GEORGE BUDD, Director

George has always had a passion for humanitarian work, having served at the Young Street Mission and as pastor at Curve Lake Christian Assembly, located in Curve Lake First Nation near Peterborough. He is a founding member of Water Ambassadors Canada and became involved with the charity through his friendship with its founders.

## GORDON MOUNT, Secretary & Treasurer

Gord joined Water Ambassadors during a trip to Guatemala where a team of doctors told him that clean water must always be the top aid priority, or else any medical interventions will remain short-lived. He has applied that advice, and over forty years of experience as a Partner at KPMG, to his roles as Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair of the Resource Development Committee at Water Ambassadors Canada.

## WILLIAM LAM, Director

William served as an emergency room physician for 20 years before retiring in 2011. He is actively involved in volunteering with many organizations including Bible Study Fellowship, Sanctuary Ministries, and 105 Gibson Centre. William has participated in water project trips to Central America every year since 2013, having the privilege to lead many of these teams since 2014.

## GERI RODMAN, Director

Geri is a founding member of Water Ambassadors Canada and has lived a life of service to others through her work at InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Throughout her involvement with Water Ambassadors Canada, Geri has enjoyed seeing the impact on volunteers after helping to deliver water projects in countries around the world.

## ROBERT POSITANO, Director

Robert made his career in the auto industry by retailing and leasing cars. In his free time, he leads a men's activity group and loves to golf. He got involved with Water Ambassadors Canada after reflecting on the spirit of Lent, choosing to add something to his life that would help others. That addition was working to drill wells for those without access to clean water.



**No water project  
is complete  
without education  
and training.**

## NICK DI PALMA, Director

Nick is a chartered accountant with over 30 years of experience in the finance and accounting sectors. He is passionate about helping others and uses his extensive financial knowledge volunteering his time preparing personal tax returns for seniors. Nick is a long-time volunteer hockey and soccer coach and has been an active volunteer with Water Ambassadors Canada for over 10 years.



**OUR MISSION  
Changing Lives With  
Clean Water**



# Celebrating Our Supporters

Water Ambassadors Canada delivers results because of our incredible fundraisers and donors who give their time and money to help ensure access to clean water.

While some donors wish to remain anonymous, we always love to say thank you. From investment firms, to small businesses owners; from family trust donors to individual monthly cistern donors—all donors are part of the Water Ambassadors Canada success story.

Below we recognize donors from different giving categories. Each one listed, as well as those behind the scenes, have made valuable contributions to clean water over the past year.

## Multi-Year Major Gift Donors



Eagles' Wings Charitable Trust

## Major Gift Donors

Selah Charitable Trust  
Marantha Foundation  
Rent to Own Canada  
Rice Group

Lynx Equity Limited  
H2Ontario Water Treatment and Environmental Construction

## Event Donors

Excalibur Water Systems  
Casey's Well Drilling and Total Site Services  
Jason Reay Construction  
The Pump Shop  
Above Board Carpentry  
Richardson Wealth Management



Teamwork is key to providing sustainable progress in solving the water crisis.

# Our Amazing In-Country Partners

July 2022 – June 2023

Changing Lives with Clean Water is not limited to one solution.

Leaders in eight countries across the globe helped contribute to our success from July/22-June/23. Through executing 18 projects, we were able to provide access to clean water to approximately 28,900 people that otherwise would have gone without. Through well drilling, well-repair, chlorinators, bleach makers, and filter distribution real change was felt within the communities we helped to serve.

JAIME TORRES  
Guatemala



DANIEL BRAVO  
Colombia



JOB GAMEZ  
Honduras



DRS PHILIP & NANCY WOODS  
DR Congo



ARTHUR SSAJJABI  
Uganda



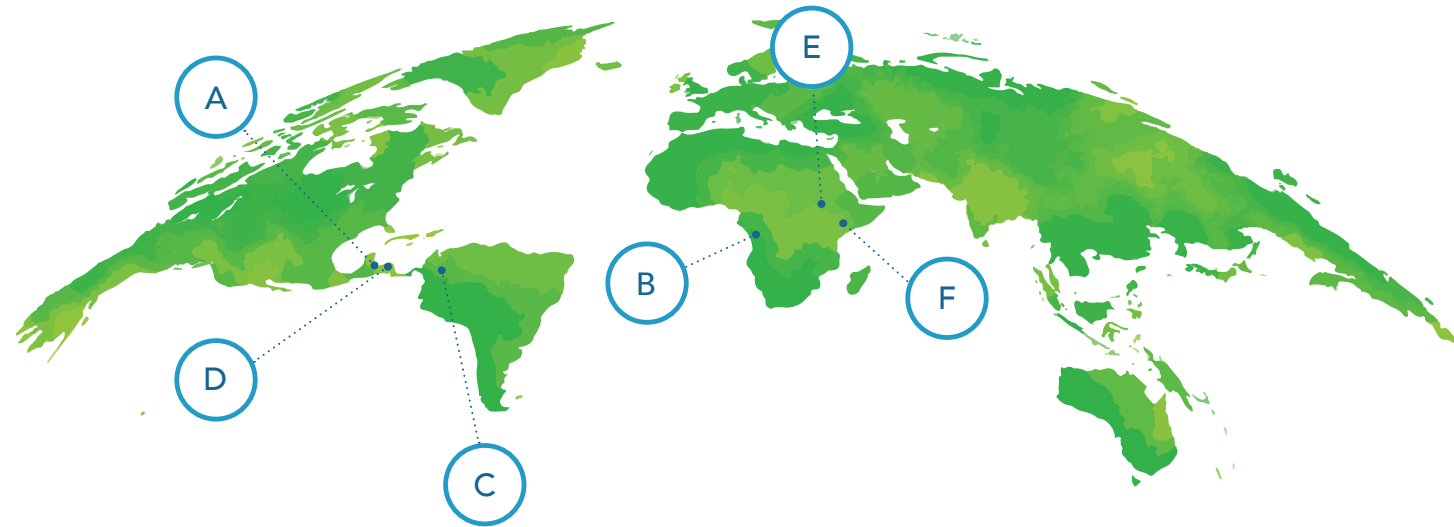
ROLAND PETERS  
Kenya





# Our Projects Around the World

Clean water is transparent, just as our project delivery!



## A Guatemala

**In-Country Partner: Jaime Torres**

Our strong partner of close to two decades, Jaime Torres and his experienced team delivers for the communities he serves. Through support of Water Ambassadors and our Water Teams, thousands of people received access for the first time in a generation, and for some the first time in their lives.

Well drilling is Jaime's specialty, and his work supported by volunteer efforts not only means clean water for the community, but helps to create an experience to be remembered for a lifetime by Water Ambassadors Canada Water Team members.



## B Democratic Republic of the Congo

**In-Country Partner: Nancy & Philip Wood**

Drs. Nancy & Philip Wood have been life long promoters of Water Ambassadors through their work in the DR Congo. Most recently their work with operationalizing bleach makers in local hospitals has resulted in the increased health and well-being for the communities they serve.



## C Colombia

**In-Country Partner: Daniel Bravo**

Daniel Bravo is a dynamic partner who leads Fundacion Douls in Barranguilla Colombia. Daniel has both an MA in Business and Organizational Leadership from Eastern University, and helps with development projects across the country. His implementation of chlorinators in many local communities has been a difference maker for thousands of people in remote villages across the region.

## D Honduras

**In-Country Partner: Job Gamez**

Job Gamez has been an integral partner of Water Ambassadors Canada for years in Honduras. From well drilling to well repair, and everything else in between, Job's entrepreneurial spirit has driven strong results for the people of Honduras. Water Ambassadors partnered with Job to execute a filter program to immediately assist people in remote areas. These communities don't have the infrastructure necessary for a major water system, but the reusable filters have provided rural families with daily clean water from their surface water sources. The filters remove bacteria that carry waterborne illnesses.

## E Uganda

**In-Country Partner: Arthur Ssajjabi**

Arthur Ssajjabi is a tireless promoter of Water Ambassadors Canada. Through his organization Generation with a Mission, thousands of Ugandan families have benefitted from the repair of broken wells due to his leadership. There are thousands of wells across Uganda that are in need of urgent repair that Arthur has committed to repairing and restoring. Water Ambassadors remains committed to the execution of his cause.



## F Kenya

**In-Country Partner: Roland Peters**

Roland Peters is a recent partner to Water Ambassadors with his humanitarian efforts in Kenya. Always thinking outside the box, his solutions help better communities. Roland recently mobilized both chlorinators and bleach makers in Matagwe to help solve waterborne illness in the area.



# The Wet Gala

The Wet Gala was conceived to help fund vital water projects globally.

At the Inaugural event held at the El Mocambo in Toronto in April, over \$160,000 was raised in support of the charity. Bringing first time sponsors to the charity, the event was an incredible success in spreading the word of the water crisis globally.



## Our Sponsors



## Our Partners



## Our Donors





# Get Involved!

Here at home, Canadian supporters found a variety of ways to get involved in fundraising and awareness campaigns for WAC.

If you are looking to get involved in helping to change lives with clean water, please visit:

[www.waterambassadorscanada.org](http://www.waterambassadorscanada.org)



## FALL WATER WALKS

Last year we had teams walking in provinces across Canada! You can get your own team of friends and family to walk, run, ride or roll for clean water anytime of the year, but we tend to focus on it in the fall. We have a peer-to-peer fundraising platform that makes this easy and fun to do.



## WATER TEAMS

Join a water team and help deliver clean water to a community in need. We'll be running about 6 teams in the next fiscal year. If you feel drawn to drilling a well, repairing wells or distributing filters, we'd love to hear from you.



## GOLF FOR WATER

We host two annual golf tournaments. One in Haliburton in June and one in East Gwillimbury in September. These fun-filled days are a great way to get involved. You can sponsor, play or volunteer.



## WORLD WATER DAY

World Water Day highlights the importance of clean water around the world. WAC celebrates this UN special day by encouraging partners to light their landmarks blue across the country. Can you go blue too?

# What's Ahead

for July 2023 – June 2024

Focusing on continuous improvement, there is excitement building for how people can get involved in 2023/2024!

## WATER TEAMS

Water Teams are operational again. We have teams planned throughout the year to Central America to help deliver access to clean water in the most efficient ways possible.

## EXPANDED FALL WATER WALKS AND GOLF

The success of our consistent events means the opportunity to scale our fundraisers across the country. As we expand our footing in western Canada, our internal support with past historical business knowledge will allow for engagement of new partners and help to create new Water Ambassadors.

## IN MEMORIAM PROGRAM

Our In Memoriam well drilling program is currently small, however with the rapidly changing demographics of one our donor segments, there is clear growth to expand the program to financial planning and funeral industry professionals. Focus at the end of the year to operationalize the program will begin to seed growth for the future.

## WET GALA

Our 2nd Annual Wet Gala in the spring is sure to be a wild success again this year. The organizing committee has work underway to make this year's event a "must attend" in everyone's calendars.



# Changing Lives with Clean Water.



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