

WaterCan joins forces with WaterAid

**Doing more good for more
people in more places.**

WaterCan becomes the Canadian member of WaterAid, the leading global NGO federation focused exclusively on improving poor people's access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation in developing countries.

"We are extremely pleased to join the WaterAid family. This strategic alliance will enable WaterCan to enhance the scope and impact of our work, helping the world's poorest communities to access safe water and basic sanitation. Together, with the other WaterAid members, we will have the global critical mass and scale needed to address effectively one of the world's most pressing health and development challenges."

John Connolly, WaterCan Chair

"WaterCan and WaterAid share a common set of values, vision and approach to working with the world's poorest communities. We both passionately believe that safe drinking water and sanitation are fundamental to life and everyone has a right to these basic services. By joining forces we believe we can have a bigger impact, helping more people in more places take the first steps out of poverty. We are delighted that WaterCan is bringing its 26 years of experience and expertise to our global federation."

Jeremy Pelczer, WaterAid International's Chair



An Exciting New Partnership

WaterCan is a leading Canadian charity dedicated to providing clean drinking water, sanitation and hygiene education to the world's poorest people. Since 1987, WaterCan's programs have reached more than 1.2 million people, breaking the cycle of poverty and disease, and increasing opportunities for health, education, gender equality and economic growth. www.watercan.com

WaterAid is the leading international NGO federation focused exclusively on improving access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation for the world's poorest communities. WaterAid works in 27 countries across Africa, Asia, the Pacific region, and Central America. Since 1981, WaterAid has reached 17.5 million people with safe water and, since 2004, 12.9 million people with sanitation.

In November 2011, WaterAid approached WaterCan about becoming its Canadian member. Following extensive discussions and due diligence between the staff and boards of the two organizations, in June 2013 WaterCan's board unanimously agreed to accept WaterAid's invitation to join the global federation.

In July 2013 WaterCan became the exclusive Canadian member of WaterAid.

A Global Response to a Global Crisis

Over the past 26 years WaterCan has helped to create over 1.2 million success stories – children, women and men whose lives have been dramatically transformed through improved access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation.

Globally we've taken great strides towards realizing WaterCan's vision of Clean Water for All. This is evidenced by the United Nations' encouraging announcement made in early 2012 that over two billion people have gained access to clean drinking water due to the international community's collective efforts over the past two decades.

However, despite progress, due to increased urbanization, rapidly growing populations, increasing competition for finite water resources and the effects of climate change, over 768 million people today continue to lack clean drinking water while triple this number – 2.5 billion – lack proper sanitation. The result, among many other terrible effects, is the completely avoidable deaths of 2,000 children under the age 5 each day.

This demands a new global and multi-partner response that can tap into the expertise of leading international

organizations, develop innovative relationships with socially responsible global corporations and funders, and an ability to work with local governments at district, regional and even national levels.

By becoming the Canadian member of WaterAid, WaterCan will now be able to substantially magnify the scope and impact of its work to help significantly more children, women and men in the world's poorest countries.

We are confident that joining the WaterAid family is an exciting and major step in our organization's ongoing evolution. It will significantly extend our operational reach, give us access to more research, expertise and technology, while helping to build a global critical mass to address the global water and sanitation crisis.

As a WaterAid member, WaterCan will contribute to the global federation's current Global Strategy (2009- 2015) that has the goal to assist a further 25 million people to directly access safe water and sanitation, and influence the policies and practices of governments and service providers to reach a further 100 million people.

Simply put: we'll be able to do more good for more people in more places.

WaterCan – WaterAid’s Newest Member

As the Canadian member of the WaterAid family, we’ll join others in the UK, US, Australia, and Sweden to form the nucleus of a major global movement to bring clean water and sanitation to the world’s poorest people. WaterAid is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of representatives from each WaterAid member.

We will be able to participate in building relationships with other international organizations, global donors, and national governments. We will also be able to draw upon supporting research and technologies and a larger storehouse of knowledge and best practices to further enhance the effectiveness of our programs. Furthermore, as a WaterAid member, WaterCan will be better positioned to extend our efforts to vulnerable communities elsewhere in the developing world.

Finally, we’ll bring an important perspective and a Canadian voice to the table as we help develop and enact policies and practices which will guide the global federation’s efforts to bring clean water and sanitation to the world’s most vulnerable people for years to come.

It’s a Great Fit

What’s clear – right down to our near-identical mission statements – is that WaterCan and WaterAid have the same vision and the same approach to supporting sustainable, cost-effective, gender-sensitive and community-driven projects, which address not only the need for clean drinking water, but also sanitation facilities and hygiene education. We are confident that the fit is right.

WaterCan and WaterAid respectively bring to this partnership 26 years and 32 years of proven experience and expertise in working in the international water and sanitation sector.

Both WaterCan and WaterAid passionately believe that safe drinking water and basic sanitation are fundamental to life and everyone has a right to these basic services; they form the first essential steps in overcoming poverty.

As the Canadian member of WaterAid, WaterCan remains a wholly Canadian registered charity with the same volunteer Board of Directors and staff team. WaterCan is legally independent of both WaterAid International and other members of the global federation.

What is WaterAid?

Established in 1981, WaterAid is the leading international NGO focused exclusively on improving access to safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation for the world’s poorest communities. WaterAid works in 27 countries in Africa, Asia, the Pacific region, and Central America.

WaterAid international is a global federation of organizations formed in 2010 and comprises members in the UK, US, Australia, and Sweden, and now Canada with the joining of WaterCan. WaterAid international is governed by a Board of Trustees made up of representatives from each WaterAid member.



Please Join Us.

There's no questions, WaterCan could have continued on its path of producing solid results in East Africa. For the past 25 years, WaterCan has been grateful for the trust and support of its committed base of Canadian supporters, as well as the Canadian government, who have helped more than 1.2 million people gain access to safe water and basic sanitation.

But, given our experience, our skills and our passion for our mission, the rare opportunity to have a much, much larger poverty-fighting impact was impossible for us to pass up.

We fully understand that to go from making "a difference" to making a MAJOR difference means that we also have to grow our support.

Very basically, more resources will be needed to tackle a bigger job.

Now, more than ever, as the Canadian member of WaterAid, WaterCan will be able to substantially magnify the scope and impact of its work to assist significantly more children, women and men in the developing world.

Our staff, our volunteers, and our local partners overseas are up to the challenge. Please join us and help realize our common vision of a world where everyone has access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation.





The Global Water and Sanitation Crisis: An Overview

Worldwide, 768 million people lack access to clean drinking water, additionally 2.5 billion live without basic sanitation like toilets and latrines. The global water and sanitation crisis is one of the most pressing - yet wholly solvable - challenges facing communities and local governments in the developing world today.

At any one time, half of the world's hospital beds are occupied by people suffering needlessly from water- and sanitation-related diseases like diarrhea, typhoid and cholera. Diarrhea, alone, kills 2,000 children under the age of 5 each day. This is a crisis to which there are simple and cost effective solutions that have the power to transform the lives of families and communities quickly and forever.

WaterCan believes addressing local water and sanitation needs provides a strong foundation for supporting broader poverty fighting efforts. By improving local access to clean water, basic sanitation, and hygiene education, the cycle of poverty and disease can be broken, making way for dramatic improvements in key areas of development such as child and maternal health, education, gender equality and local economic growth.

Beyond their humanitarian benefits, investments in water and sanitation also make good economic sense. According to the World Health Organization and UNICEF, every dollar invested in water and sanitation yield on average US \$1 to \$4 economic returns in terms of health care cost savings and increased economic productivity.


WaterCan EauVive
Give Water. Give Life.