Grade 8 Science Water Unit

First Nations Water Issue in Canada

Name:	Class:	Date:

It is important to know the issues and part of that is looking for reliable information on the internet.

We are going to look into information on the First Nations Water Issue In Canada.

Your assignment is to look up information and find out the answers to the following questions. You can look up videos, websites, blogs, articles or even books and magazines but you have to record your source too. Doing research is great but the best way to do it is to have the questions already formed. I am going to help out by giving you some of the questions. The big question is: "What is the situation with access to water for First Nations People in Canada?". Answer as many as possible of the following questions.

What are the problems with the water?

It is not safe to drink or, in some cases even bathe in.

What are the pollutants that make the water unsafe? What is the source of the pollutants?

Various contaminants – bacterial, microbial and even heavy metals and other poisons like cyanide for gold extraction.

Who is affected in the Native communities and how many people does it affect?

It affects those on reservations and it affects mostly remote reserve residents ~16,000 FN people.

Where are these people/communities? (perhaps a map)

See map – all over Canada Mid latitudes

Who is responsible for fixing the problem?

Everyone Especially the government and the people who are on the Reserves



What are some of the solutions?

Stop polluting – clean up the pollution; build water treatment systems for reserves; Pipe in clean water; deliver clean water by truck or bottles (expensive)

How much would it cost to fix the problems?

\$6 billion over the next 9 years

Are all the problems the same?

No, there are many situations with many pollutants.

Are there any success stories?

Yes. Many advisories have been lifted but many still remain.

Who is to blame for this issue and/or who is blaming whom?

We blame the government, but it is the industry and the laws – it goes far back to Colonialism and the lack of care for the environment and the pushing of First Nations people onto remote reserves.

Any other information or personalities that you come across as you do your research.

Answers will vary.

** Remember to include your sources – Google is not a resource – it is a search engine. Much like a library is not a source but the books are. **