

# ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES IN CANADA

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

**Moderator**



Patricia Crowe is the Co-Chair of Saskatchewan Indigenous Economic Development Network

**12:00-2:00PM EDT**

**CANADIAN  
FEDERATION OF  
BUSINESS &  
PROFESSIONAL  
WOMEN**

**Panelists**



**Jessica Vandenberghe**  
P.Eng., M.Sc.



**Nicole Hancock,**  
Executive Director, Safe  
Drinking Water  
Foundation (SDWF)



**Tasha Beeds,**  
Indigenous Scholar



Business and Professional Women's of Canada <https://bpwcanada.com/>

BPW is a non-partisan, not for profit organization that works to improve the economic, political, social and employment conditions of women. BPW Canada has UN consultative status through ECOSOC.

## Links to anything that can be posted in the chat during the panel talk:

- Clean Water, Broken Promises: Institute for Investigative Journalism media push in February 2021: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/cbdc979bf27642bfba51689ca3c180e8>
- The Water Crisis in Canada's First Nations Communities: Examining the progress towards eliminating long-term drinking water advisories in Canada (November 14, 2021): <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/52a5610cca604175b8fb35bccf165f96>
- Ending long-term drinking water advisories (Government of Canada): <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1506514143353/1533317130660>
- Short-term drinking water advisories (Government of Canada): <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1562856509704/1562856530304>
- Class Action Litigation on Drinking Water Advisories on First Nations (McCarthy Tétrault): <https://www.mccarthy.ca/en/class-action-litigation-drinking-water-advisories-first-nations>
- Wellness Together Canada: Mental Health and Substance Use Support: <https://www.wellnesstogether.ca/en-CA>
- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (2015) [https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection\\_2015/trc/IR4-8-2015-eng.pdf](https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2015/trc/IR4-8-2015-eng.pdf)
- UNDRIP <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/declaration/index.html>
- Water Song [http://www.motherearthwaterwalk.com/?attachment\\_id=2244](http://www.motherearthwaterwalk.com/?attachment_id=2244)
- Safe Drinking Water Foundation's website: [www.safewater.org](http://www.safewater.org)
- Safe Drinking Water Foundation's Educational Programs: <https://www.safewater.org/school-programs-overview>
- Safe Drinking Water Team's website: [www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org](http://www.safedrinkingwaterteam.org)
- Saskatchewan First Nations Water Association Inc.'s website: [www.sfnwa.ca](http://www.sfnwa.ca)
- Ending long-term drinking water advisories <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1506514143353/1533317130660>
- Short-term drinking water advisories (Government of Canada): <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1562856509704/1562856530304>
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## PANELIST BIOS:

**Jessica Vandenberghe**, P.Eng., M.Sc. is Dene Tha born and raised in a very inclusive German family in northern Alberta. She has had an exceptional career based on her two engineering degrees from the University of Alberta and has worked in the oil sands, mining, regulatory, infrastructure, and consulting industries. She is an Indigenous Professional Engineer, Industrial Professor, and the Assistant Dean (Outreach) at the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Alberta. She also has her own consulting firm, Guiding Star Consulting where she contributes to Truth and Reconciliation, acting as a bridge to Indigenous communities, talks to Calls to Action implementation, and works on TRC awareness. She is a mother of two and is passionate about equity, diversity and inclusion. She sits on many boards and Councils, walks in many governance worlds, and does her best to contribute to the development of well-rounded and ethically minded engineering students who will ultimately build strong and vibrant communities within Canada.

**Nicole Hancock:** Nicole has worked for Safe Drinking Water Foundation (SDWF) since 2006 in increasing levels of responsibility. SDWF has sent water testing kits to over 3000 different schools across Canada since 2001. SDWF's mission is to educate the leaders of today and tomorrow about drinking water quality issues to realize our goal of safe drinking water being available to every Canadian. When Nicole is not working for Safe Drinking Water Foundation, she can be found working for two other water organizations, teaching math and French, or writing educational courses for online learners. She has also worked for The Saskatchewan First Nations Water Association Inc. (SFNWA) since early 2019. The mission of SFNWA is to build capacity at the community level for the care and control of water on reserve. Ph. 306-934-0389 E-mail: [info@safewater.org](mailto:info@safewater.org) Website: [www.safewater.org](http://www.safewater.org)

**Tasha Beeds:** Tasha is an Indigenous scholar of nêhiyaw (Plains Cree), Scottish-Metis, and Caribbean ancestry from the Treaty 6 territories of Saskatchewan. She activates as a kôhkom (Grandmother), Water Walker, and a Mide-Kwe from Minweyweywigaan Midewiwin Lodge situated in Roseau River First Nations and Wiikwemkoong Unceded Reserve. She belongs to the Makwa (Bear) Clan and is a traditional daughter to Daabaasanaqwat (Peter Atkinson). Tasha's collective work highlights and celebrates Indigeneity while promoting Indigenous nationhood, sovereignty, and care and protection of the land and waters based on carrying Indigenous Ancestral legacies forward for future generations. She was selected as a Na'ah Illahee Sovereign Futures Indigenous Environmental Leader and supported by the NdN Collective for her movement as a Water Walker. Tasha is currently a limited term lecturer at the University of Saskatchewan Indigenous Studies Department; the Ron Ianni guest scholar at the University of Windsor's Indigenous Legal Orders Institute; the inaugural Indigenous scholar at Carleton University's Anako Indigenous Research Institute; and an adjunct faculty member at Kenjgewin Teg/Queen's University. <https://linktr.ee/SaskRiverWaterWalk> [livingwaterwalk@gmail.com](mailto:livingwaterwalk@gmail.com)

**Patricia Crowe:** *Patricia A Crowe Communications Consultant, Advisor, Advocate*

As a Nêhiyaw/Métis woman from Northern Saskatchewan, Patricia consults, advises and advocates with two-eyed seeing, knowing and doing, representing Indigenous women on global, national, provincial and grassroots platforms.

Patricia Crowe is the Co-Chair of Saskatchewan Indigenous Economic Development Network and works with Morris Interactive Ltd. as a Senior Consultant. Sharing her lived experience, wisdom and knowledge, Patricia works directly with First Nations and Métis organizations and communities within Treaty 6 territory.

Her collective leadership experience includes project management, coordinating strategy, facilitating and moderating online and in-person workshops & forums and she actively adds her voice to webinars, social media live events on economic development and social issues. She mentors, guides and helps women to connect with opportunities that nurture their passions.

As part of her lifelong commitment to Indigenous women, families and communities, her Board and Commission roles include Native Women's Association of Canada, Saskatchewan Aboriginal Women's Circle Corporation, Saskatchewan Police Commission and Provincial Partnership Committee on Missing Persons. As a supporting member of the Saskatchewan delegation attending the 2nd National Roundtable on MMIWG, Patricia continues to advocate for Saskatchewan MMIWG2S+ families at provincial and local gatherings, action plans and justice symposiums. Patricia call Saskatchewan home and enjoys travel, slo-pitch, golf, community events and spending time with her family.

Connect with Patricia on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/patricia-a-crowe-84781974/>