



United Nations Association in Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nations Unies

Toronto youth bring Canadian perspective on water issues to the world
Youth4Water presents at Expo Zaragoza in Spain

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Zaragoza, Spain – *Youth4Water*, a committee representing the **United Nations Association in Canada's** “*The Ripple Effect*” presented to over 100 international delegates at Expo Zaragoza 2008 in Spain.

Youth4Water is the only Canadian delegation at the international exposition on ‘*Water and Sustainable Development*’.

“Canadians are so privileged and often take for granted our fresh water resources.” says 20 year old *Youth4Water* member Shire Brandi. “It is important to be educated on Canadian and international water conservation and protection.”

The group presented a 45-minute segment on Canadian water issues. They also discussed opportunities for youth groups to share knowledge and raise awareness around access to water and conservation.

Youth4Water also screened their documentary film “*Water is a matter of survival*” at the expo and sat on a discussion panel with delegates from Europe and South America.

The seven members of *Youth4Water* were selected from the Toronto Community Housing Corporation and the Institute at Havergal College in September 2007 as part of “*The Ripple Effect*.” Members are 16 to 21 years old.

“Water and sanitation are issues of key importance to Canadians according to our research, and youth are on the frontline,” says Kathryn White Executive Director of UNA-Canada.

Youth4Water meets on a weekly basis in Toronto to explore local and global water issues including; conservation, sanitation and the human right to water. They use their acquired knowledge to educate and inform their Canadian peers and fellow youth from around the world.

Their participation in Expo Zaragoza is based on educating themselves and other youth with the help of Canadian and international academics and activists.

The **United Nations Association in Canada (UNA-Canada)** is a national charitable organization established in 1946. A policy and programming organization, UNA-Canada



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supports a network of 20 volunteer branches and local contacts, with a National office in Ottawa and offices in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver. UNA-Canada's mandate is to engage Canadians in the work of the UN and the critical global issues that affect us all through innovative projects, policy research, and on-going communications with Canadians.

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Read Youth4Water's blog at: <http://www.youth4water.blogspot.com>
Visit "The Ripple Effect" website at: <http://www.unac.org/righttowater/index.asp>



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