

**Founding Documents** - The effective date of this document is January 5, 1998

*"Power is not revealed by striking hard and often, but by striking true."* - H. de Balzac

The Safe Drinking Water Foundation (SDWF) is a charity with the primary purpose of finding and extending treatment and preventative solutions to make surface and ground water safe for human consumption in rural areas around the world. SDWF acts as a catalyst for the formation of charities around the world with similar objectives and goals ensuring world-wide access to safe drinking water. In support of this activity SDWF (Canada) will publish a Safe Drinking Water Newsletter and a Safe Drinking Water Research Journal as well as maintaining an Internet site where safe drinking water information will be accessible. Safe drinking water extension material (books, cd-roms, videos) will also be produced. In Canada the major challenge is to provide rural users on the prairie with solutions so that safe water can be produced from excessively poor source waters. These poor source waters are a result of extensive agricultural activities, a semi-arid climate and the presence of glacial tills overlying deposits from an ancient inland sea.

To ensure that SDWF is using the best science available to reach its goals, several technical advisors from around the world are on the board of directors. These directors are not involved in the day-to-day running of SDWF(Canada), but play an integral part in defining solutions that SDWF can apply. The Safe Drinking Water Foundation has applied to become a registered Canadian charity. Registration is anticipated in May 1998 at which time SDWF will issue tax-refundable receipts.

### **Mission Statement**

To promote safe drinking water through supporting innovative R&D; increase awareness of health concerns from consumption of poor quality water; act as a catalyst to ensure that appropriate action is taken to enable the provision of safe drinking water to rural residents.

### **Vision Statement**

Finding safe drinking water solutions through funding support of R&D, identify costs of poor quality water to society, and make recommendations to improve standards of drinking water and thereby positively impact the health of rural people.

### **The Need for the Safe Drinking Water Foundation**

The need for a Safe Drinking Water Foundation arises from the following facts:

Most source waters used for drinking water purposes in the world are not safe to use without treatment. A large quantity of this water is consumed without treatment or with inadequate treatment. This results in human illness that can be the major disease factor for individuals, small communities and in some cases countries. The UN has

estimated that more than 5 million people die each year from diseases related to polluted drinking water and inadequate sanitation.

Poor quality water also restricts industrial development further hampering progress towards safe drinking water. Most efforts in the drinking water field have been dedicated to large systems with few resources placed on small systems despite the fact that these systems dominate rural areas around the world.

### **The Purpose of the Safe Drinking Water Foundation**

In a step to address these gaps the Purpose of the Safe Drinking Water Foundation has been established:

- To make sustainable water treatment technologies available for rural water users around the world.
- To promote targeted R&D on safe drinking water treatment technologies for rural water users around the world.
- To promote public education programs on safe drinking water treatment technologies for rural water users around the world.
- To fund innovative world-wide applied R&D on safe drinking water treatment technologies for small systems.

### ***In support of these activities The Safe Drinking Water Foundation will:***

- Conduct R&D for particle removal from water
- Conduct R&D for dissolved organics removal from water
- Produce an Internet Home Page
- Produce a Safe Drinking Water Newsletter
- Produce a Safe Drinking Water Research Journal
- Produce safe drinking water extension material including books/cd-roms/videos
- Work with agencies and corporations around the world

### **The Board of Directors**

SDWF's current board of directors is composed of water quality experts from around the world except for the development officer. All directors have published extensively in the field of fresh water (except development officer). The Canadian directors are responsible for the day-to-day operation and financial management while three technical advisors from around the world are helping in defining goals and solutions for SDWF to implement.

Directors are elected for a period of three years and can be renewed. Suggestions for new directors can be made by any present Director; the election of new directors will be determined by the entire Board of Directors. The President and Technical Directors hold their positions for three years when a new president/directors need to be elected. The President/Technical Directors can be re-elected for one additional term.

The President, the Executive Director and the Development Officer are responsible for the day-to-day running of SDWF and are responsible for SDWF's financial management; these three director positions can only be held by Canadian residents. The Vice-President and Directors acting as Technical Advisors can either be Canadian residents or may reside in other countries. The selection of the Vice-President and Technical Advisors is based on technical qualifications and for demonstrated ability to use scientific knowledge to find innovative solutions to water quality problems.

As SDWF develops it is anticipated that an administrative assistant may be hired to carry out day-to-day routine tasks.

### **The Charitable Status of the Safe Drinking Water Foundation (Canada)**

The Charitable Status of SDWF is based on the following:

Relief of poverty by providing solutions to obtaining drinking water that is safe for human consumption resulting in decreased illness and death.

Advancing education by supporting R&D on safe drinking water and making this information publically available. This will also advance the science of safe drinking water.

Beneficial to the community by relieving victims of floods and pollution, relieving sickness, and protecting the welfare of children.

The Safe Drinking Water Foundation's profits or gains will be used solely to promote the activities of the Safe Drinking Water Foundation without purpose of gain for its members.