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## **GROUPS CHALLENGE BC MUNICIPALITIES TO TAKE OUT BOTTLED WATER**

VANCOUVER, May 28, 2009 – Today eight labour, environmental, student, and social justice groups have taken the campaign over bottled water to municipal councils throughout British Columbia.

In a package of materials distributed to every municipality in BC, the groups are calling on municipalities to phase out the sale and provision of bottled water and re-invest in public water. The package of materials can be accessed at, [www.insidethebottle.org](http://www.insidethebottle.org).

“In Canada 48 municipalities from 8 provinces and 1 territory have taken out bottled water and re-invested in public water,” says Joe Cressy, Campaigns Coordinator for the Polaris Institute. “Already 6 BC municipalities have taken action – we’re calling on the rest of the province to join in taking out the bottle and standing up for public water”.

“Our research shows that bottled water is leaving a toxic footprint on the earth — from the oil consumed to the toxic substances released during manufacturing and the mountains of waste created,” says Sean Griffin, Research Coordinator for Toxic Free Canada. The group’s newly-released research report, *The Toxic Footprint of Bottled Water*, is available at [www.toxicfreecanada.ca](http://www.toxicfreecanada.ca)

### Groups Involved:

Polaris Institute; Toxic Free Canada; Canadian Union of Public Employees BC; BC Federation of Labour; Sierra Youth Coalition; BC Government and Service Employees’ Union; BC Teachers’ Federation; Wilderness Committee

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