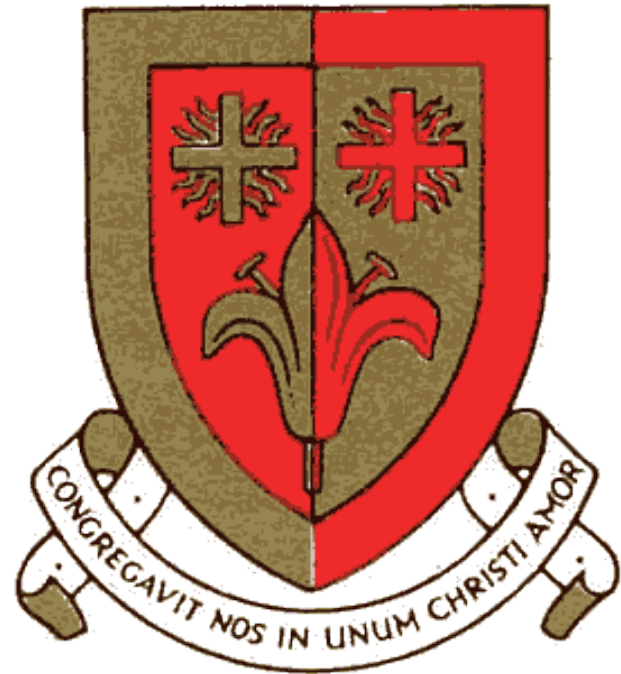
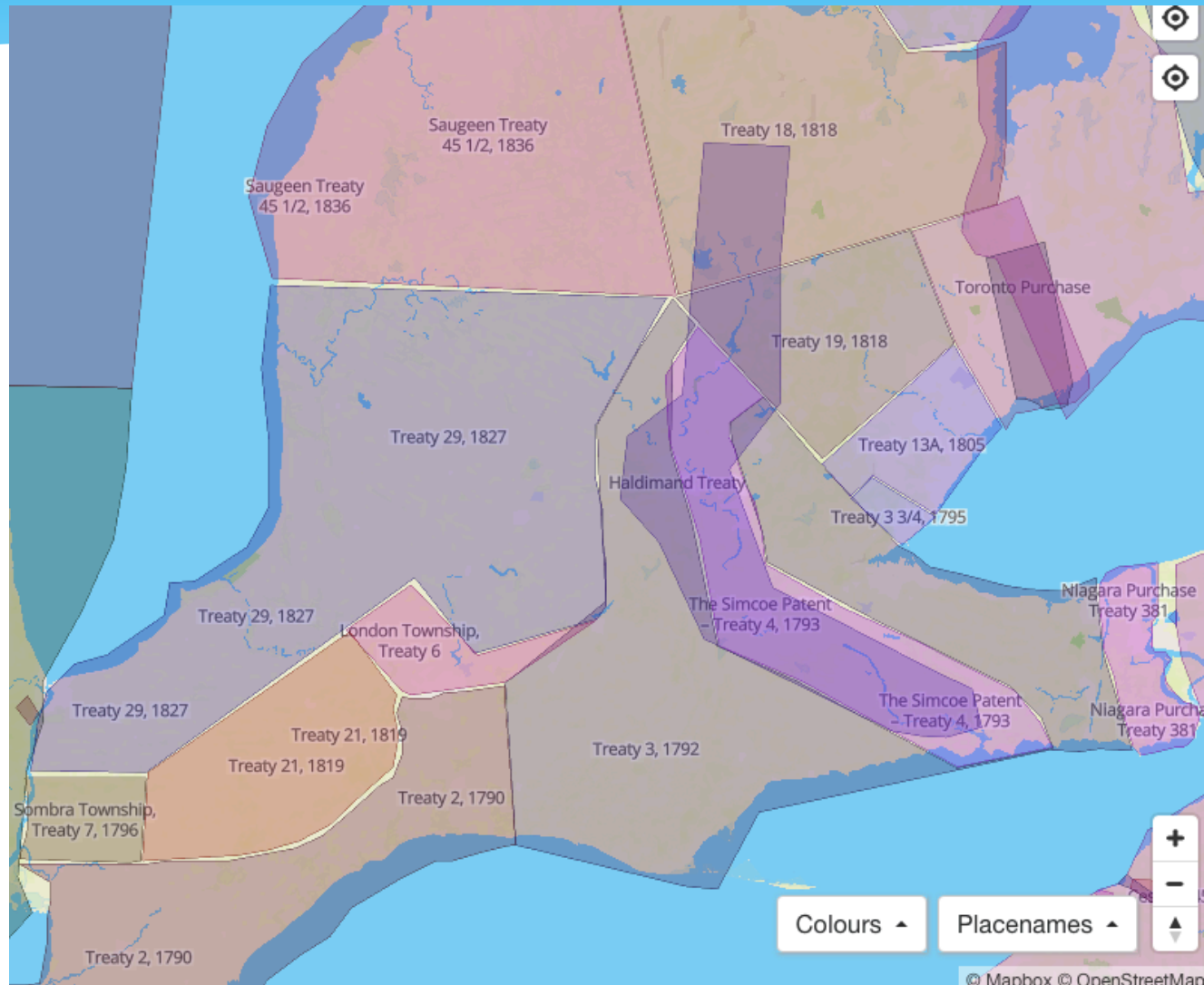


Becoming a Blue Community



Respect for People and Place



Why a Blue Community ?

- *Neighbours without access to drinking water
- *Growth of bottled water access
- *Risks of water privatization

[CSJ Video](#)

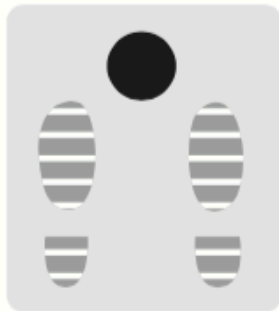
Human Right to Water



In **2010**
the UN declared
access to clean water
and sanitation
a Human Right



Millennium Development Goal
7 calls to “Halve, by 2015,
the proportion of the population
without sustainable access
to safe drinking water
and basic sanitation”



2.6
billion people lack
access to basic
sanitation (3)



884
million people
in the world do not have
access to safe
drinking-water (3)

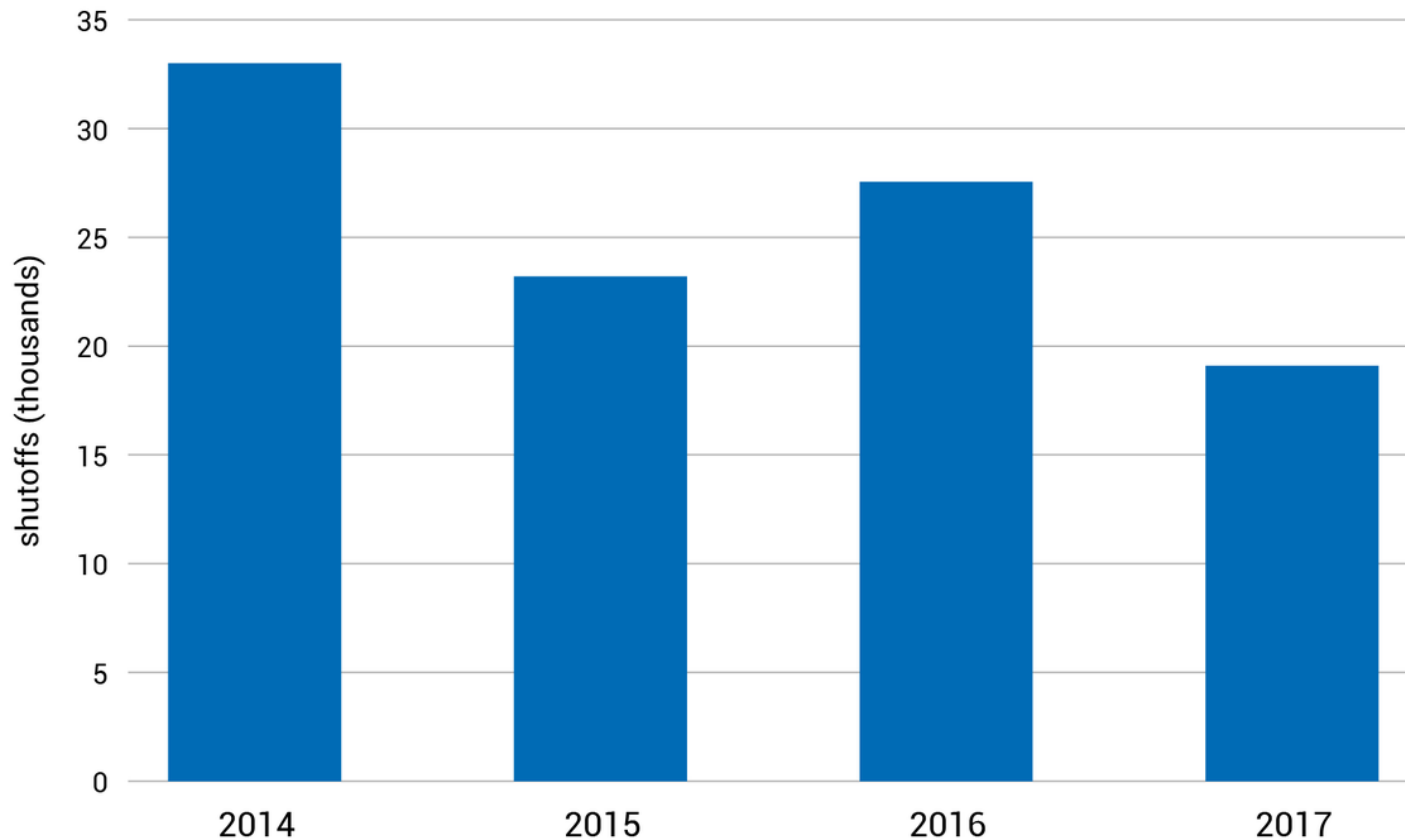
- (1) According to the World Health Organization (WHO)
- (2) According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- (3) According to the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP)

Drinking Water Access in the Great Lakes

Water shutoffs in Detroit since 2014

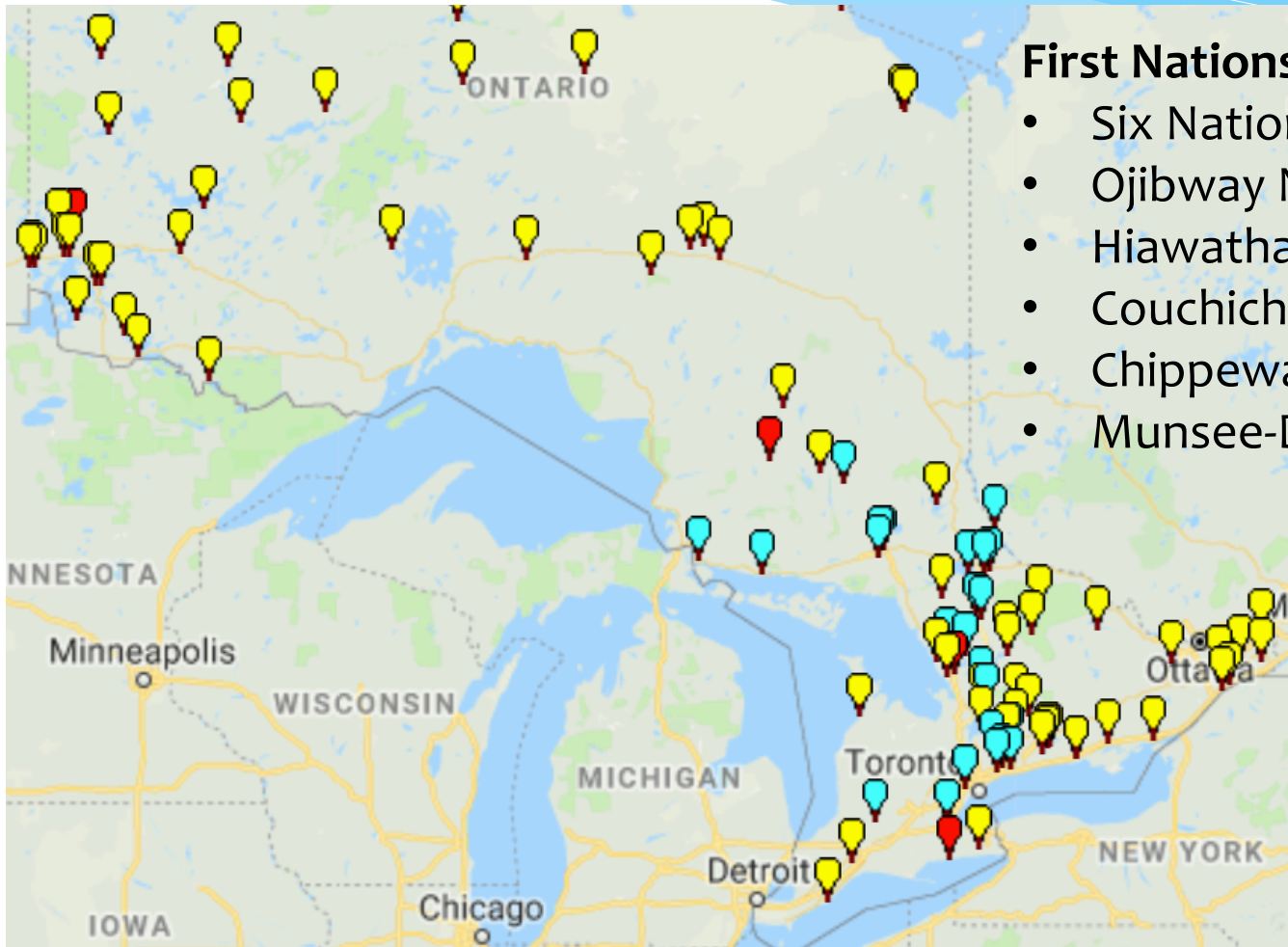


There have been more than 102,000 water shutoffs in Detroit between 2014 and 2017.



Source: City of Detroit. The number of shutoffs does not reflect a specific number of homes, as some homes have been shut off multiple times.

Drinking Water Advisories



First Nations with DWAs:

- Six Nations of the Grand River
- Ojibway Nation of Saugeen
- Hiawatha First Nation
- Couchiching First Nation
- Chippewas of Rama First Nation
- Munsee-Delaware First Nation

Bottled Water Access

4 Layers of Water Justice struggle*:

1. Who gets access to water?
2. Who gets to make the rules?
3. Who has the authority to make the rules?
4. How is authority legitimized by society?

* New [Wellington Water Watchers' video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whlyuKZIU4)

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whlyuKZIU4>

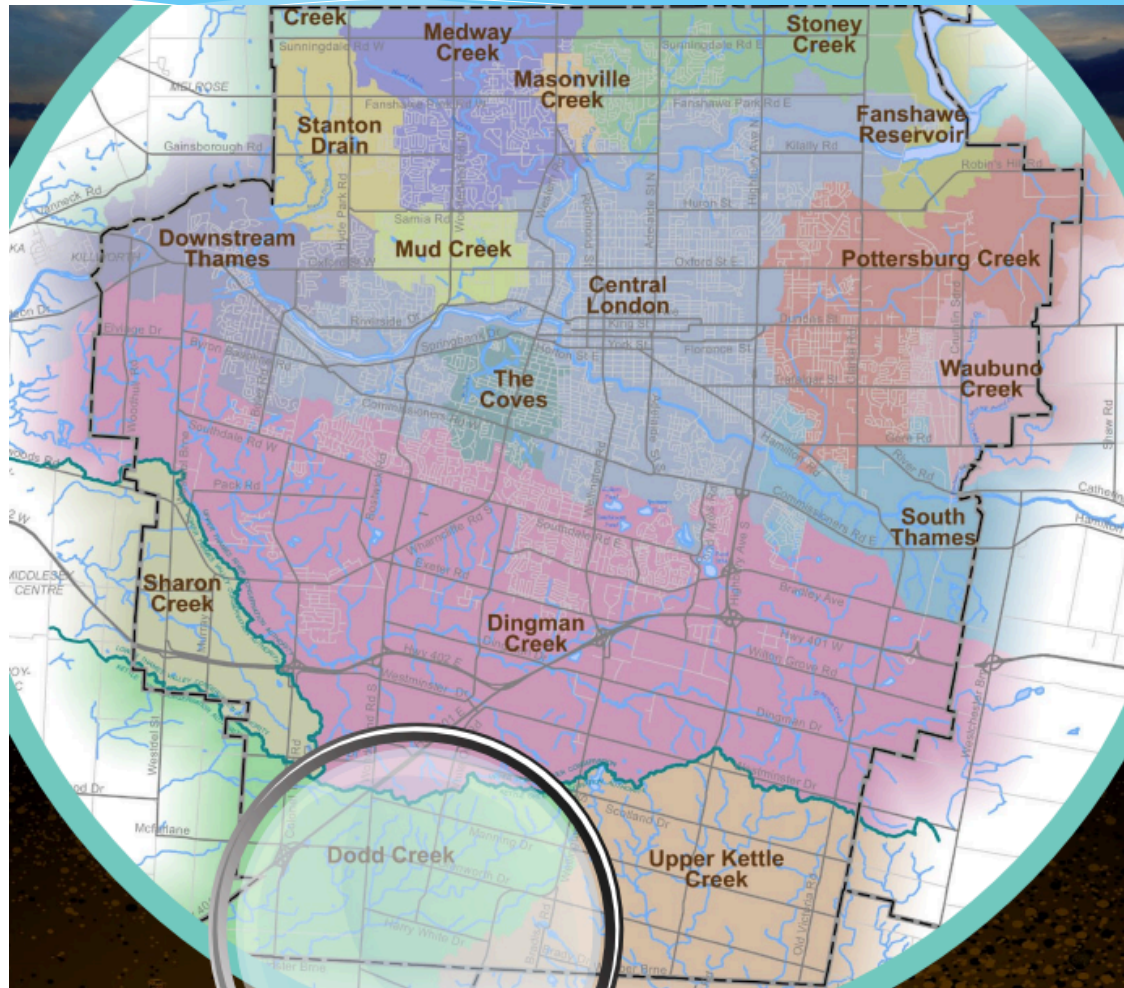
Risk of Water Privatization

- * 197 billion litres of sewage flushed into waterways
- * 36% of wastewater and 29% of drinking water infrastructure is rated poor/fair condition
- * Water infrastructure gap for municipalities. \$61 billion [gap] \$2 billion
- * 4.6 billion committed by Federal government to end the 100+ DWAs in First Nations communities. But only covers 70% of total needed investments.
- * Market-logic (food and drug examples, Hamilton, Detroit, global examples)

Blue Communities in Canada

- Cumberland, B.C.
- Comox, B.C.
- Namaino, B.C.
- Victoria, B.C.
- Burnaby, B.C.
- North Vancouver, B.C.
- Tsal'alh, St'át'imc Territory
- Thunder Bay, ON
- Bayfield, ON
- Township of Tiny, ON
- Welland, ON
- Ajax, ON
- Niagara Falls, ON
- St. Catharines, ON
- Thorold, ON
- Amqui, QC
- District of Lunenburg, NS

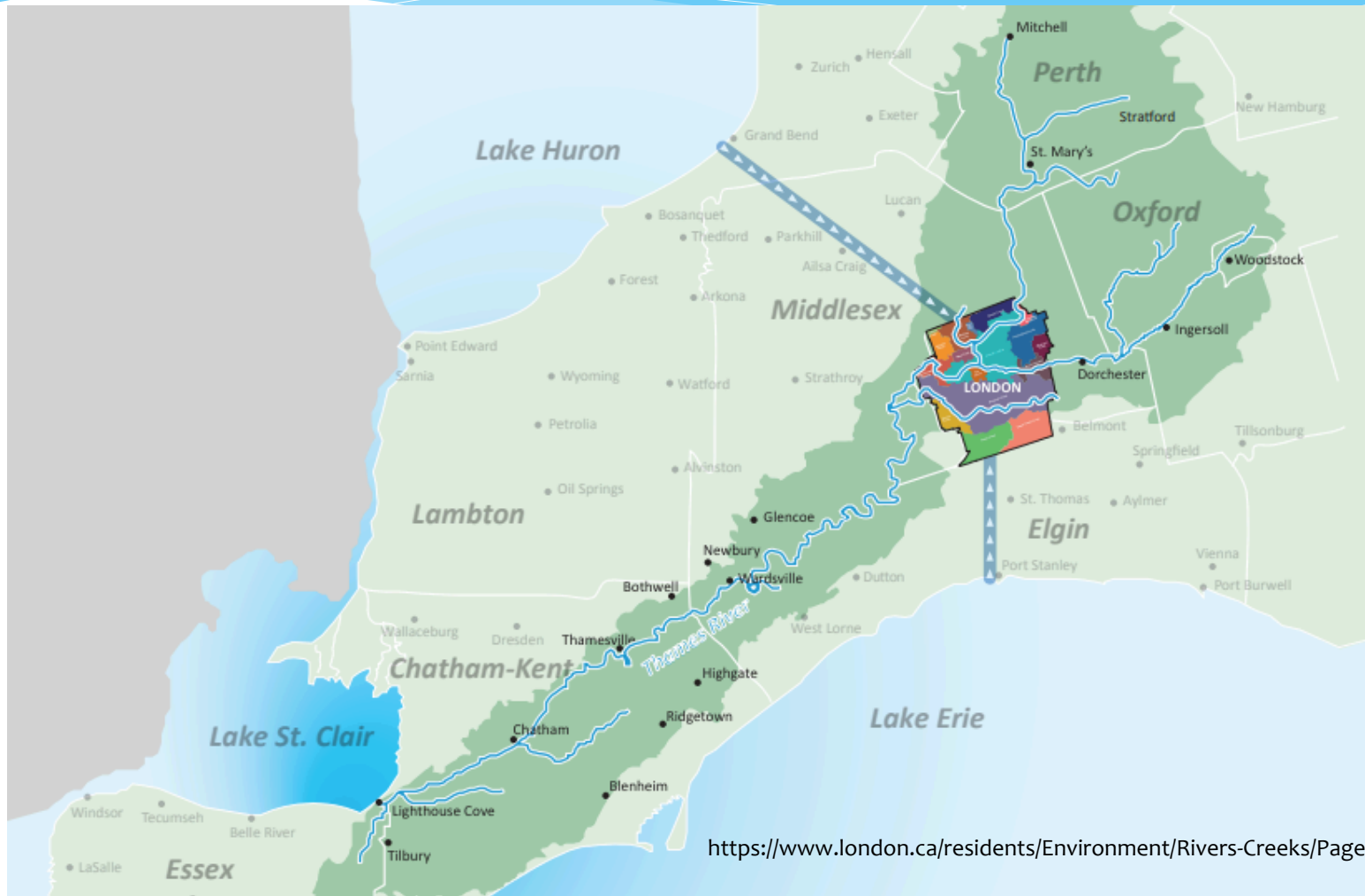
Water Connects Us



8 First Nations with Traditional Territory in the Thames River watershed

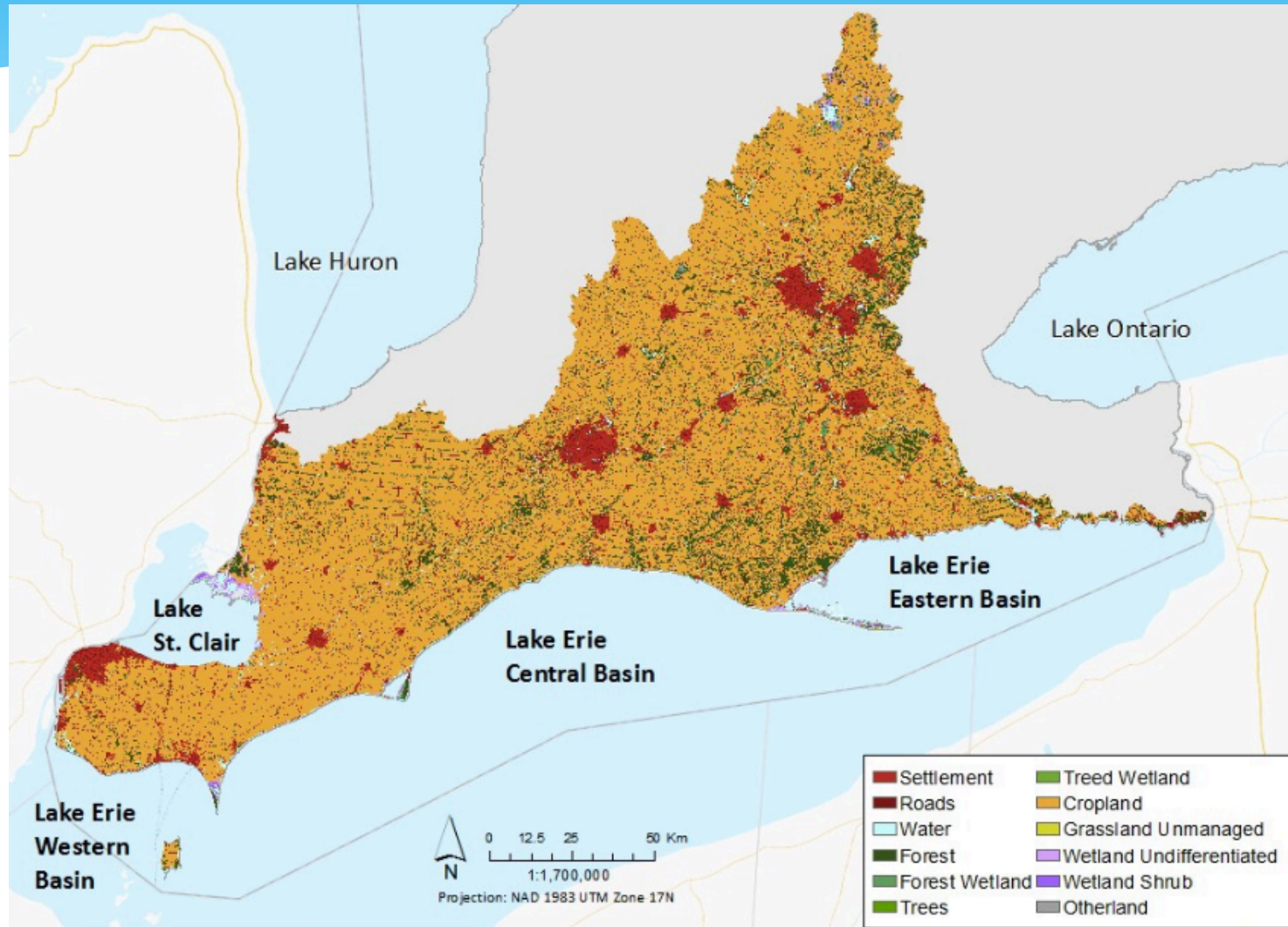
- * Aamjiwnaang First Nation
- * Bkejwanong Territory (Walpole Island First Nation)
- * Caldwell First Nation
- * Chippewas of the Thames First Nation
- * Delaware Nation of the Thames
- * Kettle and Stony Point First Nation
- * Munsee-Delaware Nation
- * Oneida Nation of the Thames

Thames River Watershed



<https://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/Rivers-Creeks/Pages/default.aspx>

Land Use for Lake Erie basin



Lake Erie Watershed



Algae in Lake Erie

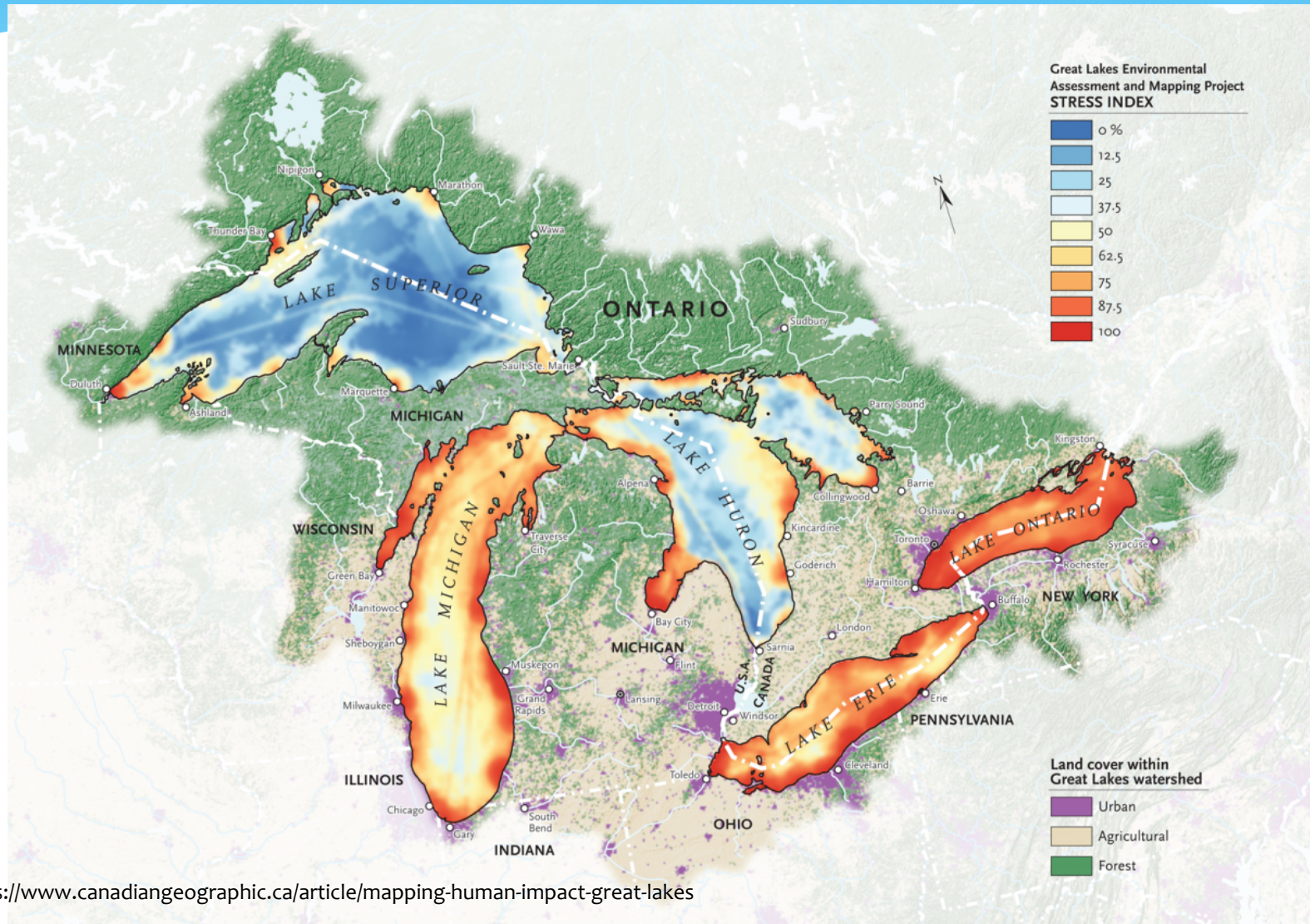


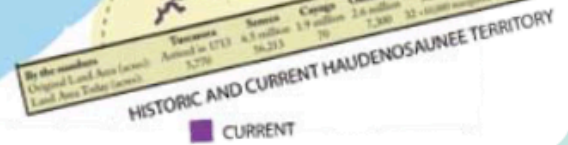
©ESA 2013 - Processed by EarthWatching (ESA/ESRIN)

Regulatory Failures

- Stormwater (infrastructure and hard surfaces)
- Agriculture
- Wastewater treatment
- Wetlands and woodlands
- Sustaining attention and funding

Great Lakes are Stressed





Actions

- * Municipal election issue?
- * Say No to Nestle campaign
- * Awareness and accountability re. First Nations DWAs
- * River Talks gathering October 18, 19 & 20
- * Statement for London Environment Network?
- * Thames River Rally clean up (October 20)
- * All Nations Grand River Water Walk (Sept 15-29)
- * End-of-year Blue Communities milestone?
- * and . . .

THE RIVER TALKS

A GATHERING AT DESHKAN ZIIBI

OCTOBER 18, 19, & 20



MUSEUM LONDON
421 RIDOUT ST

Gather at Deshkan Ziibi/Thames River for three days of indoor and outdoor talks, walks, activations, and art focused on river ecology, hydrology, culture, history, conservation, and gender and social justice.

https://www.londonenvironment.net/the_river_talks

Stay In Touch

* Our website:

<https://bluecommunitiesnow.wixsite.com/water>

* Our email:

blue.communities.now@gmail.com