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Ms. Shauna Curry • CALGARY • AB

WATER FOR HEALTH: BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY

Water is essential for public health and a powerful entry point for breaking the cycle of poverty. An estimated 2.1 billion people rely on a fecally contaminated water source; 4.5 billion people lack safely managed sanitation; 38% of health care facilities in developing countries lack a clean water supply; and over 350,000 children die each year due to inadequate water, sanitation and hygiene. CAWST, the Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology, is a Canadian non-profit that has trained over 1000 organizations in 84 countries who, in turn, have reached 15.4 million people with better drinking water or sanitation. This session explores global water issues and solutions, and CAWST's approach; and considers the potential application to rural and remote communities in the Canadian context.

1. Discuss global water and sanitation issues as they relate to health
2. Describe common transmission routes and interventions for waterborne infections
3. Identify ways to take action
4. Consider potential application as applied to the Canadian context