

News Release

A FRESH LOOK AT FRESH WATER

RIDEAU VALLEY, January 14, 2010 — Photographs produced by eighteen second year art students at the University of Ottawa (U of O) as part of an international water conference are now on public display in the Atrium of the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre in Manotick. Nine photographic artworks from the Troubled Waters Conference are currently up until January 29; the remaining nine will be taking their place from February 1 – 15.

The exhibition was prepared as a class assignment for Professor Lorraine Gilbert of the Visual Arts Department at U of O. Professor Gilbert's instructions were to take a fresh look at fresh water and present a visual story with three related photos, called a "triptych", about some aspect of water. Generally speaking, the students researched, took, printed and mounted their photos and wrote the accompanying text during September and October. It was the students' first undergraduate course in digital photography.

Each triptych has a small card in the lower right hand corner with a short explanation of the story the student is expressing in the pictures. Eighteen students, eighteen visions of fresh water....

It is refreshing to see water through the eyes of young Canadians. How and why is water important to them? You will find beautiful and thoughtful examples of waste water, surface water and ground water in various types of human use.

These original artworks are on loan to the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority from the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Ottawa. Everyone is welcome to drop by during your next business visit and leisurely enjoy this fresh look at fresh water.

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