

Bruce Davidson's Bio:

Bruce Davidson is co-founder and spokesman for The Concerned Walkerton Citizens, a group that was formed in direct response to the Walkerton Water Tragedy. The CWC successfully fought for and gained full status in the Walkerton Water Inquiry. Since 2000, he has been involved in outreach, education and policy development regarding the protection of drinking water sources across Canada. Currently, Bruce holds positions on a number of boards and committees including, The Saugeen Grey Sauble North Bruce Peninsula Source Protection Committee, The Board of Directors of the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA), the Brockton Environmental Advisory Committee, the Walkerton-Hanover Landfill Committee, Chair of the Grey-Bruce Sustainability Network, and was the 2010 recipient of the Bay Shore Broadcasting Malcolm Kirk Award for the Environment.

Walkerton: From Infamy to Excellence

This presentation will explore the consequences of failing to protect drinking water from source to tap. The talk begins with a submersible camera view of the inside of Walkerton's Well number 5, which allowed a lethal blend of contaminants to enter Walkerton's drinking water system and is followed by a review of the systemic breakdown that led to the tragedy. The seminar also profiles the social, economic and health ramifications that plagued the community following the tragedy including the impacts of fear, distrust and denial. The tale of the Walkerton journey from infamy to excellence would not be complete without profiling the community's miraculous recovery and the ensuing improvements in the management of drinking water across the country. This seminar provides a unique citizen's perspective on the Walkerton water tragedy that resonates with water professionals on both a technical and emotional level regarding the need for comprehensive protection of drinking water.

Bruce Davidson's presentation of *Walkerton: From Infamy to Excellence* has been presented at a variety of locations, including all 19 of Ontario's source protection committees, several conservation authorities, municipal public utilities commissions, treatment and drinking water distribution staff throughout Ontario, environmental industries associations, Ontario drinking water inspectors, first nations drinking water symposiums, regional health units, environmental forums, high schools, colleges, universities, youth groups and community organizations. Bruce has also presented *Walkerton: From Infamy to Excellence* in 9 provinces, participated in hundreds of media interviews and appeared on CBC, CTV, Global Television, T.V. Ontario and various international media programs on several occasions.