

Memorandum

PWC-C 13-2024

Subject: 2024 Niagara Children's Water Festival Summary Report

Date: November 5, 2024

To: Public Works Committee

From: Amanda Deschenes, Education and Education Coordinator, Water-Wastewater

The purpose of this memo is to provide a summary report for the 2024 Niagara Children's Water Festival (the festival) which is a collaborative event held in partnership with Niagara Region, Brock University, City of St. Catharines, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, and Ontario Power Generation. This year marked the 21st anniversary of this annual event.

The festival has been an annual event since 2003, with 2020 to 2022 shifting to a virtual festival as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Steering Committee was excited to be back in-person at Brock University for the second year. This year's festival reached over 3,200 grade four students from throughout the region.

Attendees had the opportunity to participate in 30 unique activity centres that educated students on the importance of our most natural resource - water. Activity centres are hosted by industry experts from our partners and other community organizations and provide a great opportunity to showcase the work they do related to water resources in Niagara. The committee is grateful to the 360 volunteers and 86 high school student volunteers who helped make the event a success.

Feedback received from participants and volunteers was overwhelmingly positive. In post-event surveys, teachers rated satisfaction in various categories at an average of 94% (4.7 out of 5), and volunteers at an average of 94% (4.7 out of 5).

The committee looks forward to the festival in 2025 with the introduction of three new activity centres from Niagara Region, NPCA, and Brock University for an even greater reach within our community.

Please see Appendix 1 2024 Niagara Children's Water Festival Summary Report for details.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Amanda Deschenes
Engagement and Education Coordinator, Water-Wastewater

Appendices

Appendix 1 2024 Niagara Children's Water Festival Summary Report