October 8, 2013

The need for swimmable, drinkable, fishable water is in the forefront of all discussions relating to waters shared between Canada and the United States. Though our waters have been governed by the Boundary Water Treaty since 1909, circumstances around these waters have changed greatly over the past century.

As I write this letter, several decision-making processes are in effect that will have major and irreversible impacts on our ability to swim, drink, and fish in transboundary waters in Canada and the United States.

Water Without Borders? comes at a time when Canadians and Americans, alike, must act with courage. Emma S. Norman, Alice Cohen, and Karen Bakker offer a courageous, forward-looking assessment of new models of water governance. As transboundary nations, Canada and the United States must make decisions that will not compromise our countries’ visions for swimmable, drinkable, fishable water.

Water Without Borders? is a unique and indispensable read for both American and Canadian defenders of the right to swimmable, drinkable, fishable water. The rules that govern the relationship between Canada and the United States as it relates to shared water resources will predict the success or failure of any law enacted alone.

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