



#SISTERSTREAMS KEEP THE WATERS CLEAN!

On August 4th, 2014, the tailings dam burst at Imperial Metals' Mount Polley Mine in central British Columbia, Canada, releasing a catastrophic 26 billion liters of mine waste into Polley Lake, Hazeltine Creek, and Quesnel Lake – headwaters and spawning grounds of the Fraser River watershed.

As of July 1st, 2017, no charges or fines have been issued, despite most of the waste still lying at the bottom of fish-bearing lakes. In addition, the Mount Polley Mine has returned to full-scale operations and is now permanently discharging more wastewater into Quesnel Lake, and relying on the lake to dilute the waste in order to meet BC water quality limits.

Quesnel Lake is still a source of drinking water and is being polluted every day. Quesnel Lake is a salmon nursery for 25% of declining Fraser River salmon. Mount Polley Mine is setting a worldwide precedent for Canadian mining companies to get away with disasters. Experts predict 2 major mining disasters every 10 years – where will it be next?

AUGUST 4TH - CALL TO ACTION

Join us in organizing a water ceremony in your community to remember Quesnel Lake & awareness about the Mt. Polley Mine disaster AND to raise awareness of your own watersheds and values for clean water!

What to do:

1. Go to your local stream, river, or lake and say a few words to acknowledge Quesnel Lake and your own watershed.
2. Take a photo & post on social media (include where you are & body of water) using #SisterStreams so we can track the actions.
3. Send your picture to waterdefenders@amnesty.ca

Go a few steps beyond:

1. Get friends and community together to raise awareness, host a gathering, picnic, water ceremony, paddle, etc.
2. Document & share with your networks
3. Write a letter to the editor raising issues in your own community & naming Mount Polley Mine