

November 2011



"The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think, than what to think." ~ Bill Beattie



March 15-18, 2012, Kananaskis, Alberta

You and your school are invited to apply for **Navigate 2012**, a fun, memorable, all-expense-paid educational opportunity in Kananaskis where we'll explore the most important water issues facing Alberta. You and your students will hear from leading water experts, network with like-minded educators and students from around the province and leave with the tools you need to initiate a water education project in your school or community.

20 teams, each with four high school students and two teachers, will be selected to attend Navigate 2012. On March 15, the floodgates will open! Have a

team from your school be there to join in on the fun as we promote awareness, understanding and excitement about this important resource and inspire your students to become future water leaders.

Dive in at www.navigate.ca

Make a splash! Make a difference.



Your experiment in Space for the world to see.

What will you do?

<http://www.youtube.com/>



YouTube is asking students to come up with a science experiment for space and upload a video explaining it on YouTube. If their idea wins, it will be performed on the International Space Station and live streamed on YouTube to the world. And they'll throw in some out-of-this-world prizes, too.

Can plants survive beyond the Earth? Could proteins in space reveal the mysteries of life? Science in micro gravity can help unlock the answers. The countdown's begun.

Scientist and Engineer in the Classroom

If you are looking for a new way to engage your science students, call Praxis to book a Scientist or Engineer for your classroom.

Contact us to book a demonstrator for your chemistry unit or an expert in boats and buoyancy.

Our Scientists and Engineers are experts in their fields. They

are enthusiastic and cannot wait to share their knowledge and experience with students, young and old. Call 403-527-5365 to book an expert today.

If you have a science-related hobby or interest and would like to volunteer with Praxis, please contact our office at 403-527-5365 or email at praxis@praxismh.ca to get started.

Praxis would like to thank the following organizations for helping make the 2010 Family Science Olympics a **HUGE** success:

- APEGGA
- MHHS
- Delta Bow Valley Hotel
- Games Galore and the Billiard Store
- And especially: all of our fantastic volunteers

Living Scientist of the Month: Monique Dubé

> Environmental Scientist of the Year Award 2011.

> Research Chair (Tier II) in Aquatic Ecosystem Health Diagnosis at the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

> "Adventure athlete, feminist, firebrand and water scientist" [Allan Casey](#).

> Grew up in Calgary. Her father was a science teacher who brought home classroom critters.

> She has brought in more than \$16 million in research funding.

> She has published on average, more than 8 times a year and given more than 90 lectures world wide.

> She competes in ultramarathons, barrel racing events at rodeos, plays & records folk music and is the mother of two young children.



Ms. Monique Dubé on the banks of the South Saskatchewan.

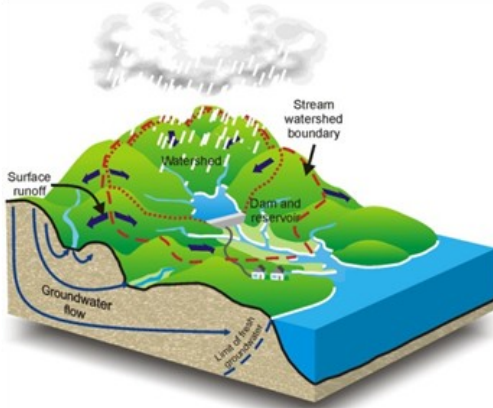
http://www.canadiangeographic.ca/magazine/jun11/environmental_scientist.asp

Praxis: The Science and Technology Hotline c/o 200 7th Street S.W. Medicine Hat, AB T1A4K1 P. 403.527.5365 E. praxis@praxismh.ca F. 403.528.6570 W. www.praxismh.ca



SEAWA, the South East Alberta Watershed Alliance, is a Watershed Planning and Advisory Council (WPAC), an independent, non-profit organization

designated by Alberta Environment to assess the condition of the watershed and prepare plans to address watershed issues. WPACs were set up to provide the provincial government with information to make decisions. Some of the information is provided in the form of an [Integrated Watershed Management Plan \(IWMP\)](#) which provides advice to address regional issues raised by stakeholders. While WPACs lead the process, an IWMP is developed cooperatively by watershed residents, municipal governments, local industry, interest groups and others.



There are a number of tasks involved in developing an IWMP. The first task is identifying, and prioritizing, land and water-related issues in our watershed so SEAWA designed a short [survey](#) to get feedback on what people in the South Saskatchewan River sub-basin are thinking right now:

- What concerns do you have about the watershed?
- What issues do you think should be discussed?

- What do you want the watershed to be like in 10 years? Or 20 years? Or 50 years?
- What choices would you make to get to that vision of the watershed?

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to do the short survey!

There are no wrong answers, only missed opportunities to have your opinions considered! Please provide your input and [contact us](#) with any questions you have about either the survey, the IWMP or SEAWA.

Maggie Romuld, SEAWA Watershed Project Coordinator



Family and friends of SEAWA took to the river to celebrate World Rivers Day, conducting experiments and learning about the science of rivers along the way!



Measure	Water 18C	Water 19.0
Temperature	Water 18C	Water 19.0
Turbidity	>10	>10 NTU
Dissolved Oxygen (DO)	11 mg/L	9 mg/L
Nitrogen	N/A	.25
Phosphorus	0.09 mg/L	.20
pH	8.3 pH	7.4 pH
Stonely	- lots -	1
Mayfly	- lots -	0
Other		15.0 norm

Praxis' mandate is to promote science education so helping organizations such as SEAWA to get their survey out makes sense. If your school or organization is has a science related endeavour they wish to promote, please give us a call.

Founding Member of:



Grade 9 Teachers:
Girls: Operation Minerva Jan 30
Boys: Operation Thoth April 20

Be on the look-out for your Operation Minerva registration package; coming soon.

- Future Events:**
- Nov. 10:** SD76 PD Day (see you there!)
 - Nov. 11:** Remembrance Day
 - Nov. 11:** Binary Day (last one this century)
 - Nov. 16:** Praxis Meeting—MHC Courtyard 6pm
 - Dec. 24-Jan 8:** Christmas Break
 - Jan. 30:** 20th Annual Operation Minerva
 - Feb. 20:** Family Day
 - Feb. 23-24:** SEATA Teacher's Convention
 - March 24:** Science Fair
 - April 20:** 2nd Annual Operation Thoth



CARING FOR OUR WATERSHEDS™

is an educational program that weaves together the combined strengths of industry, environmental organizations and communities to engage students in preserving and improving their local watersheds. The [CARING FOR OUR WATERSHEDS](#) program empowers students to imagine, develop and create solutions in their local watersheds.. They are currently offering a \$1000 prize to grade 7-12 students for a proposal that answers the question; "What can you do to improve your watershed?" See: <http://caringforourwatersheds.com>

Don't forget to read our Science Smarts column published every Saturday in the Medicine Hat News or visit our website for the latest Praxis information.

For all your Science needs contact Praxis

P. 403-527-5365
 F. 403-528-6570
 E. praxis@praxismh.ca
www.praxismh.ca
 Twitter: @PraxisMedHat