



**MEDIA RELEASE
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Jan. 26, 2012

RBC gives \$5000 to support Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival

CORNWALL January 26, 2012 – St. Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences today announced that the RBC Blue Water Project has recently provided a grant to support the organization's popular Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival.

To celebrate the gift, Johanne Delves, regional vice president, RBC, Dianne Nixon, manager, Cornwall Main Branch, RBC and Sylvie Perreault, manager, Cornwall Mall Branch, RBC dropped by the organization's Cornwall office to present Marc André Roy, education coordinator at the River Institute a cheque for \$5,000.

"Since we launched the RBC Blue Water Project in 2007, we have had the privilege to support and get to know some great grassroots organizations in our community that truly care about protecting and preserving water," said Johanne Delves, regional vice president, RBC. "The St. Lawrence River Institute and their Water Festival educates young people about conservation and water protection, so we are very proud to support them in their efforts to protect the world's most valuable resource, water."

The Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival is a 3-day event that consists of twenty-five interactive water discovery stations specially designed to convey messages of water conservation and protection through activities and games. The River Institute coordinates 3 Water Festivals that reach over 2000 school children in our region every year.

"The festival is truly a local initiative that aims to encourage responsible behavior and increase awareness around the preservation of the vital resource of water to children in a real fun way," said Marc André Roy, coordinator, Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival."

About the St Lawrence River Institute of Environmental Sciences

The River Institute was established in 1994 as a unique community partnership involving government, education, business and industry, and the Mohawks of Akwesasne. Its mandate is environmental research and education with a focus on the Great Lakes / St. Lawrence River ecosystem. It has earned an international reputation for its fresh water ecosystem research projects. For more information, visit www.riverinstitute.ca.

About RBC and the RBC Blue Water Project

The RBC Blue Water Project is a 10-year, \$50 million philanthropic commitment to supporting organizations that protect watersheds and ensure access to clean drinking water in Canada and abroad. Since 2007, RBC has committed more than \$28 million in single and multi-year grants to over 400 organizations.

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