



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sleeman Breweries Donates \$40,000 to Local Clean Water Project

This Sunday, during World Water Day, people around the globe will focus their attention on water and on the actions needed to better protect it. Sleeman Breweries is showing its commitment to clean, safe water by providing a \$40,000 donation to the One Drop Foundation through the Sleeman Better Water Fund.

The Sleeman Better Water Fund supports Canadian water conservation and promotes clean water accessibility. The proposal brought forward by One Drop Foundation was a solid fit for that mission.

With this donation from the Sleeman Better Water Fund, One Drop Foundation is supporting the Six Nations Mobile Water Lab.

Many households in Six Nations of the Grand River rely on wells or cisterns for their water. However, these sources are vulnerable to contamination that is often identified only after community members notice a problem. Hosted by Six Nations Polytechnic in collaboration with Six Nations Services, the Mobile Water Lab allows for proactive testing of household wells and cisterns so that community members can feel confident in the water they use for drinking, cooking, and caring for their families.

“We were excited to see One Drop Foundation’s funding application this year,” says Mike Minami, President and CEO of Sleeman Breweries. “They are a well-respected organization, and we appreciate their community-centered approach to addressing water issues.”

One Drop Foundation aims to unite people and empower communities to solve the global water crisis through innovative, sustainable actions.

The project will use the funding to purchase instruments and equipment and to create training and educational materials for the community. The project is part of the Indigenous Water Allyship program that supports solutions by and for Indigenous communities, ensuring sustainability through local ownership, autonomy, and empowerment.

“The mobile lab will allow SNP to train a generation in water management, monitoring, and STEM,” says Dawn Martin-Hill, lead of the *Ohneganos Ohnegahdę:gyo* water research program and

Professor Emeritus at McMaster University's Indigenous Studies Department. "This knowledge will increase community capacity to secure access to clean water."

"Safe water lasts when communities are equipped to lead," says Ernenek Duran, President and Chief Executive Officer at One Drop Foundation. "This support helps advance Indigenous-led water monitoring that pairs dependable testing with practical, hands-on learning. By building local skills and confidence, we can strengthen long-term water stewardship."

"Many of us take for granted that when we turn on a tap, we're accessing clean, safe water," says Linden Gossen, National Environmental Health and Safety Manager, and project lead for the Sleeman Better Water Fund. "One Drop Foundation is working with local communities to ensure everyone can have that same level of trust in their drinking water."

The Sleeman Better Water Fund provides \$40,000 in funding each year to registered Canadian charities that are creating positive change in the fields of water conservation and clean water access. Past recipients of the Sleeman Better Water Fund include Living Lakes Canada and Fondation Rivières.

Applications for the Sleeman Better Water Fund open every September with funding awarded on March 22 for World Water Day. The Sleeman Better Water Fund is administered by the Guelph Community Foundation, a local partner that facilitates charitable giving. Visit sleemanbreweries.ca/sleeman-better-water-fund to learn more.

- 30 -

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About The Guelph Community Foundation

The Guelph Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation whose purpose is to provide leadership in community philanthropy and enhance the quality of life for the people of Guelph and surrounding areas through endowments, stewardship, and granting programs. To learn more visit guelphcf.ca.