

# Time to formulate a plan for most valuable asset: Water

BY ED REES, THE PROVINCE JUNE 13, 2013

Re: Ben Parfitt's op-ed on the need to modernize the Water Act.

I disagree that we are in danger of running short of water. The greatest waste of water in B.C. is the many trillions of gallons of water that are dumped into the Pacific Ocean each year.

To illustrate, consider Environment Canada's water-level and stream-flow statistics for the Fraser River: the average outflow is 3,475 cubic metres (917,400 gallons) per second. Just imagine, that's enough to supply every man, woman and child on Earth and that's just one river.

I urge the federal and provincial governments to meet and start to formulate a plan for the future of Canada's water.

We are sitting on the biggest, most valuable asset in the world. If we make proper use of it, it can eradicate poverty, build the finest hospitals, universities and schools and provide the means to grow crops on billions of acres around the world.

If we are not prepared to do this then we should not be surprised at the consequences.

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