



- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

(Name of school) SCHOOL WILL WALK WITH SCHOOLS IN INDIA DESPITE THE 10 000 KM BETWEEN THEM!

(City and province): On World Water Day, March 22nd, X School will participate in a Canada-India walk for water. In collaboration with SOPAR, the Society for Partnership, dozens of schools across Canada will walk in unison with schools in India, despite the 10 000 km between them.

WHAT: *WALK FOR WATER: Canada & India Unite for the Water!*

WHO: School *(name of your school or group)* in collaboration with SOPAR

WHY: World Water Day

WHERE: *(address of your school)*

WHEN: March 22nd, at *(time of your walk)*

Youth Changing the World joins World Water Day and Canadian Water Week by organizing an international walk to symbolize the relationship of millions of people with water.

Globally, an estimated 200 million hours per day are spent collecting water for household needs. In India, low-income families walk an average of 6 km per day to fetch water. This lack of water access obliges women and children to lose precious time, leading to a loss of working and school hours.

Faced with this crisis, SOPAR has developed a program of civic engagement for youth entitled *Youth Changing the World!* For over 10 years, this project has engaged thousands of Canadian students and has helped build more than 1,000 wells in India.

Over 36 years, SOPAR's Water for All Program has touched the lives of 2 million Indians.

-30-

For questions or interviews, please contact:

School: *(your name, phone number and/or email)*

SOPAR: Martin Martel, Communication Officer at 1-866-443-3616 or at martin@sopar.ca