



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2013

**Be Thankful you have a Toilet! Ryan's Well Foundation Reaffirms Commitment to World Sanitation on World Toilet Day**

Kemptville, ON – Can you imagine not having a toilet? Or even worse; having no privacy for one of humanity's most basic personal needs?

The Ryan's Well Foundation, one of Canada's foremost clean water providers to developing countries, has long been working to address this serious world health issue. On World Toilet Day, the Foundation reaffirms its ongoing commitment to raising public awareness worldwide for the need for proper sanitation facilities and education.

November 19 is World Toilet Day, a new international day of sanitation awareness officially endorsed by the United Nations.

It's a funny name to some, but it was designed that way: to highlight the significant and epidemic problem of lack of proper sanitation facilities in many developing countries. It is estimated that *over two billion people* worldwide live without proper sanitation facilities.

Long known for its work in Africa and Haiti in bringing clean water to over 700,000 people worldwide, the Ryan's Well Foundation has also built 1,012 sanitation facilities and implemented hygiene education in developing countries.

Ryan Hreljac, who started the Foundation as a six-year-old boy, wants to impress on Canadians the very real life-saving nature of proper sanitation.

"Although we've built many latrines in countries around the world, there's still so much more we can do," said Hreljac.

"I know when people think of Ryan's Well, they think of water wells. But I want to remind everyone that sanitation is also a big focus of our projects around the world. With our partners on the ground, we teach proper handwashing and sanitation techniques to communities and schools. It's real life-saving education, which we know has significant impact in stopping the spread of disease."

Check out the Ryan's Well website and social media feeds for "Toilet Tidbits": links to facts and information about world sanitation. [www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)

If you are planning a story on World Toilet Day and would like to speak with a member of the Ryan's Well Foundation, please contact:

Susan Mackie  
Communications Consultant  
[susan.mackie@live.ca](mailto:susan.mackie@live.ca)  
613-926-1436

## **Clean Water – Brighter Futures!**

PO Box 1120, 215 Van Buren Street, Kemptville ON, Canada K0G 1J0  
Tel: 613.258.6832 Fax: 613.258.2868 [www.ryanswell.ca](http://www.ryanswell.ca)  
Charitable Registration 88858 7110 RR0001