Francis Scarpaleggia has it right in today's Gazette article . For too long, we have looked at our water resources, sighed deeply with satisfaction, dove into our backyard swimming pool, or thankfully took a long hot shower. We use a lot of water, we sell our water supply to others, we move water around without thought to the consequences. But things must change.

On the same day that MP Scarpaleggia suggests we pull our act together, Vancouver is considering whether to have water metres installed in all new homes and those undergoing major renovations. Vancouverites consume 295 litres of water per person per day. Now I only drink about 2 litres a day so what am I doing with the rest of it? This is more than double most major European cities. Currently, there is no motivation for Vancouverites to use less water since most homeowners pay a flat rate for water consumption.

Water is more expensive than gas when bottled but only cost about $0.02 when it comes out of the tap. This is a fraction of what it costs in most countries and is a fraction of the real cost of water. With many municipal water systems needing replacement, this price does not reflect the true cost of keeping our municipal water systems in good repair and keeping our water clean and flowing. Canadians live a delusional water fairy tale with thoughts that we will always have an endless supply of potable water. But it is not just lack of real pricing that threatens our water supply.

In New Brunswick, St Mary's First Nations is having a celebration of water to bring attention to the issue of hydrofracking that is threatening to put their drinking water at risk. Harry Laport of St. Mary's First Nations was quoted as saying, "Without water, we are nothing." And he is right. We need water. We need it more than we need the shale gas we are extracting. Risking our water supply for oil and gas is not worth it.

Here is a fabulous and fabulously entertaining explanation of fracking.

It is true that Canada has a lot of water. We are very lucky to all live in such a water rich country and I believe we should all work toward maintain our waterways whether by reducing our water

use, committing to drinking tap water, fighting for clean tap water, or protecting the species that rely on our waterways.