



## PRESS RELEASE

### BLAINE FAVEL, CEO OF KANATA EARTH, JOINS THE AQUAACTION BOARD

**Montréal, Aug 17th** - François de Gaspé Beaubien, Chair of the Board of AquaAction Board, is very pleased to welcome Mr. Blaine Favel, CEO of Kanata Earth.

Mr. Favel served as Chief of the Poundmaker Cree Nation and Grand Chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations. He is an influential Plains Cree leader who has made significant contributions to scholarship, education, public service and the Canadian public good. Mr. Favel served as the University of Saskatchewan's chancellor from 2013 to 2016 and played a key role in guiding the university's planning and actions in Indigenous education and engagement.

*"Our mission is to restore freshwater health in Canada and given all the challenges Indigenous communities face we are truly thrilled that Blaine has accepted to join our Board" shared Mr. de Gaspé Beaubien. "We look forward to partnering with Indigenous communities as well as government agencies, universities and private enterprises to ensure that the tech solutions developed by the young innovators in our programs can help towards achieving measurable impact on freshwater health, access and governance. Blaine's leadership role will be invaluable in helping us form lasting solution-based partnerships to address freshwater issues in Canada."*

Blaine Favel is passionate about freshwater and eager to harness the talent of Indigenous youth and young Canadians to develop lasting solutions. *"It is a very sad situation when so many indigenous communities across our great land have to truck in drinking water. As Indigenous people we have a sacred connection to water. It's critically important that the role of Indigenous people as caretakers and having rights to water through title be respected and supported. I am very pleased to be joining the AquaAction Board so that we may assist young entrepreneurs, working in collaboration with Indigenous communities, municipal, provincial, and federal bodies, to help find solutions to our collective freshwater issues. We must craft solutions for today and future generations."*



## **About AquaAction**

AquaAction is a Canadian registered charitable organization whose mission it is to restore freshwater health in North America. Through its core programming, it engages talented young innovators, activating their technologies, and supporting them as they turn their solutions into results.

To learn more about AquaAction : <https://aquaaction.org/>

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## **About Blaine Favel**

Blaine Favel is Founder of First Peoples Pipeline, CEO of Kanata Earth, and President of Battle River Bison, a not for profit focused on bringing the bison back. Mr. Favel served as the University of Saskatchewan's chancellor from 2013 to 2016. Mr. Favel is member of Poundmaker Cree Nation and an influential Plains Cree leader who has made significant contributions to scholarship, education, public service and the Canadian public good.

In addition to a Bachelor of Education, Mr. Favel has a law degree from Queen's University and an MBA from Harvard Graduate School of Business. He was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan in 2012.

During his term as Chancellor, Mr. Favel played a key role in guiding the university's planning and actions in Indigenous education and engagement. In the fall of 2015, alongside President Stoicheff, Mr. Favel co-hosted the first Building Reconciliation National Forum, where Aboriginal and university leaders gathered to discuss how universities across Canada can respond to the calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Mr. Favel worked to ensure that this first forum was the beginning of what has now become an annual gathering hosted by Canadian universities.