



TEN MILLION FOOTSTEPS: Nova Scotian Evan Morgan walks along downtown Acton Saturday on his way across Canada. Starting in Victoria, BC, the genial walker hopes to reach St. John's, Newfoundland, in December.

Cross-Canada walker here Sat. raises money for wells in Haiti

It's a long walk from Victoria, BC to St. John's Newfoundland, about 8,500 kilometres, but for Evan Morgan and his wife Donna it's about Walking for Water.

Maybe you noticed Evan Morgan festooned with Canadian flags and sun helmet, as he walked through Rockwood and Acton on Saturday. He was followed by a silver VW Beetle support vehicle noting the Cross-Canada walk is collecting money for wells in Haiti.

A native of Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, Morgan is walking across this huge country to "raise awareness and draw financial support" for his "Cup of Cold Water Project." He hopes to raise enough money to drill wells in 1,000 communities in the poverty-stricken country of Haiti.

Over four million of Haiti's seven million people don't have safe water. Non-potable water has become a breeding ground for diseases to which children are particularly susceptible.

Foe Evan Morgan and his wife it has become a challenge to raise enough money to have wells dug to assist the people of Haiti. They believe access to safe water is a basic human right and a key factor in the fight against disease.

Morgan told The New Tanner he and his wife became involved in helping Haiti after their son, a doctor, went to the Caribbean island on a medical mission. He came back noting one of the things Haitian need most is safe wells for clean water.



SUPPORT VEHICLE: John Chappelle drives Morgan's support car, a silver VW Beetle, as they follow the cross-Canada route.

Later, a visitor in his home from Haiti, buttressed his son's tales. The Morgans felt they would like to do something and decided on a cross-Canada walk.

He and his wife, Donna, left Nova Scotia on March 1, 2001, and drove to the west coast in their motor home. Morgan began walking on April 1 at "Mile Zero" in Victoria, BC and hopes to finish at "Mile Zero" in St. John's, Newfoundland, in December of this year. It's a distance of approximately 8,500 kms following the same route as when they went west.

Looking hale and hearty, Saturday, despite the heat, Morgan says he walks 42 kms a day. Usually his wife follows in their motor home, where they sleep, but she was off for two weeks visiting relatives in Ontario, so he was

had been preceded by both Terry Fox and another cross-Canada walker, and he was most welcome to rest there, too.

Morgan and his wife pay all their own expense, including food, while they're on this journey, so all donations go towards wells in Haiti. "So far we've got enough cash to do two more wells," Morgan says. He hopes to raise enough for 10 more wells over two years and 100 over 10 years.

Cup of Cold Water Project is a federally registered charity and tax receipts will be issued at year-end for donations. They may be sent to Cup of Cold Water Project, c/o John Le Blanc, Treasurer, 25 Candlewood Court, Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, B4C 1C6. You can make an immediate credit card donation by calling 1-902-864-2212.

Further information on the well project can be found on the website, www.cupofcoldwater.org.

TOWN DIGEST

BUTT OUT SOONER

It looks like Halton Hills will be smoke-free sooner, not later. Town councillors have agreed to set up a committee to review the existing smoking bylaw with the intent to go 100 per cent smoke-free in all public and workplaces by June of 2002, a year earlier than the target date in the existing by-law.

Along with Town and Regional staff, the smoking by-law review committee will include health officials, representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Federation of University Women, Royal Canadian Legion and one restaurant and one bar owner.

While health officials blame smoking and second-hand smoke for millions of dollars in health care costs, some bars and restaurants are worried the smoking ban will kill business.

PAY UP, PLEASE

The Town will invoice the province for the \$114,000 in additional costs and lost revenue it faces resulting from the delays in new tax legislation.

The Town lost \$85,000 in revenue when it had to delay sending out tax bills by one month because Queen's Park was late in finalizing the new legislation. The Town also spent an additional \$22,000 for staff time and printing to prepare a new standardized tax bill.

Halton Hills isn't the only municipality asking the province to cover the additional costs - the tax delays and legislation changes cost Halton Region and its four municipalities approximately \$700,000.

Last month, the province refused a request from Halton Hills to recoup the \$85,000 in lost revenue by delaying a scheduled tax transfer payment to the school board by one month.

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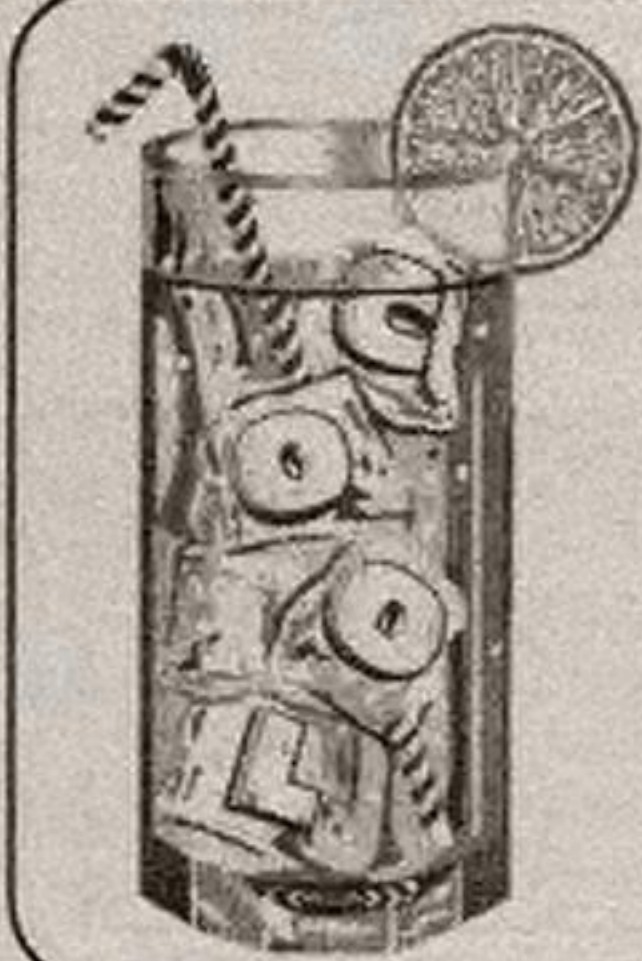
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