

A Promise to Future Generations

Inspired by and Adapted from:
"THE COUSTEAU SOCIETY / EQUIPE COUSTEAU"

I, _____, graduate of the Bachelor of Applied Science and Engineering Program at the University of Toronto, **believe** that all generations should have the opportunity to enjoy the bountiful world that I have come to know.

I **believe** that all life is precious and inseparable from the environment, and that the well-being of humanity is dependent on the condition of this Earth.

I **believe** in the worth and dignity of all people, present now and in the future.

I **believe** that the consequences of humanity's decisions can threaten the ability of future generations to meet their needs, to fulfill their dreams, and to determine their destinies.

As an engineer and a citizen of the world, I **know** there are better paths.

My journey, a product of my choices, shall not be bound by the practices of the past. Guided by the best foresight that our wisdom can provide, together we shall find responsible solutions that will make future generations **proud**.

If I can do something to change this world, let me begin **now**.
Today, I declare this promise. Tomorrow, we shall face these challenges together.

To this end, and in addition to complying with the ethical standards established by my profession, I **promise** to uphold to the best of my abilities the principles outlined in the five Articles herein.

Article I

Each generation has the right to inherit a healthy Earth where they can develop their culture and social bonds as a member of one intergenerational family, and each generation has a corresponding responsibility to accord a similar right to future generations.

Article II

All generations, sharing in the estate and heritage of the Earth, have a duty as trustees for future generations to use resources responsibly and with forethought, to honour life on Earth, and to foster human freedom.

Article III

In fulfilling the duty owed to future generations, it is the paramount responsibility of each generation to be prudent and constantly vigilant to ensure that biodiversity and the balance of nature are respected.

Article IV

All appropriate measures shall be taken to ensure that the rights of future generations are protected and not sacrificed for the expedience and convenience of the present generation.

Article V

The rights of future generations have a claim on the conscience of all peoples. To develop a culture that promotes respect for individuals, society, and the environment, every person is challenged to imaginatively implement these principles as if in the very presence of those future generations whose rights we seek to perpetuate.

This promise was signed and sealed this ___ day of _____, _____, in the presence
of _____;

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal:

_____.

(seal)