

# Generation in Waiting

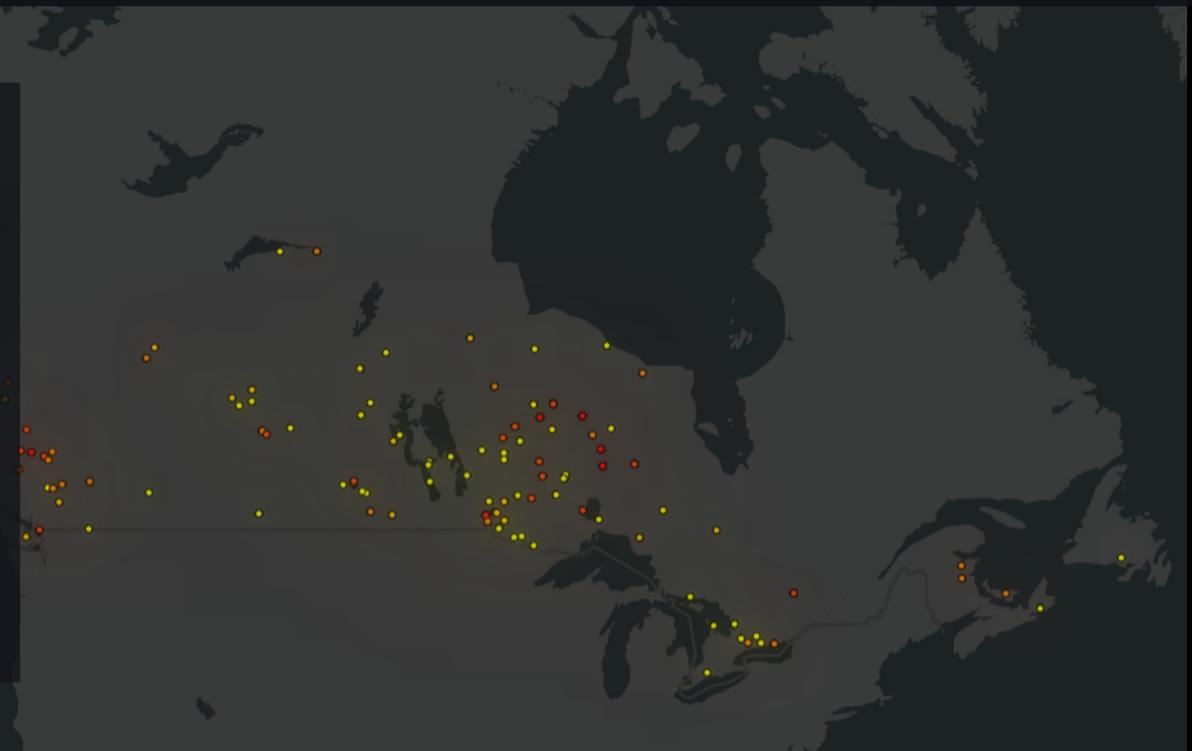
An interactive, time-based map exploring the history of long-term drinking water advisories on First Nation communities in Canada.

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Canada is home to one of the largest fresh water reserves on the planet. It is estimated that around 20% of the world's fresh water lies within our borders. With this abundant natural resource, and being of the most developed countries in the world, Canada has had no issue providing safe and clean water to the majority of it's citizens. Yet many First Nation communities have been denied that same access for years, decades, and entire generations.

*As of 2022, the average length of a long-term drinking water advisory on a First Nation community in Canada is 9 years and 1 month.*



## The Map

This is where the focus of this project comes in. The intention was to create an immersive and interactive tool which would represent not only the location of long-term drinking water advisories but also communicate the significant length of time the advisories have been in place. This was accomplished with the use of Geographic Information Science (GIS). GIS is a powerful method of communication - it can reveal new information, increase our knowledge of a phenomenon, and help to make better informed decisions. GIS is about connecting spatial data with a visual representation - typically in the form of a map. GIS and mapping have advanced considerably with the advent of modern technology and software. No longer limited by traditional hard-copy, static maps; we can now represent spatial data dynamically with immersive and interactive experiences. This mapping application was created by utilizing the power of GIS to display temporal data with advanced symbology. I hope that by interacting with the application that you may come away with a greater understanding and empathetic position on not only Canada's history of long-term drinking water advisories in Canada, but with the ways that First Nation people have struggled and continue to struggle for respect and equity in our society.

Explore the map

