

finding SOLUTIONS



David
Suzuki
Foundation

spring 2017
www.davidsuzuki.org



PHOTO: LINH DO / THE VERB

At long last, a national climate action plan

You helped achieve a major milestone. For the first time, Canada has the makings of an effective national climate plan that, if carried out, could mean meeting its 2030 greenhouse gas target!

The federal framework includes policies you helped promote, including:

- ✓ A price on carbon pollution
- ✓ A coal power phase-out
- ✓ A green-building standard
- ✓ A clean-fuel standard
- ✓ A commitment to invest in transit, electric vehicles and renewable energy infrastructure
- ✓ A requirement to cut methane emissions from the oil and gas sector
- ✓ A review mechanism to make sure the plan is implemented

But the plan falls short in important areas.

The federal government acknowledges the importance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, but it approved pipelines and liquefied natural gas projects despite opposition from many Indigenous groups.

The plan includes measures to expand electric vehicle charging stations, but it doesn't include a zero-emission vehicle standard that would make them more available and affordable.

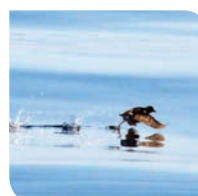
It calls for an end to fossil fuel subsidies by 2025, but it doesn't outline a schedule for the decrease.

Solutions exist to put Canada on course for a clean, sustainable future. Thank you for being a part of the journey!



Standing with
Grassy Narrows

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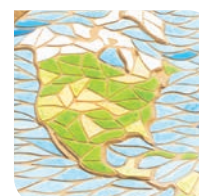
Making waves for
ocean protection

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Gardening for
butterflies

5



Speak up for
environmental rights

6

You're helping Indigenous communities get clean water

More than 100 drinking water advisories are routinely in effect in Indigenous communities in Canada — some for years, even decades.

The federal government promised to end all First Nations' long-term drinking water advisories within five years of its 2015 election. But it's not on track to fulfil its commitment.

With your help, we led a coalition of organizations to monitor federal progress on ensuring clean water to First Nations. Ontario has the highest number of water advisories, so we started there.

The *Glass Half Empty?* report found three found advisories in three



With your help, people in Canada are speaking out to ensure the federal government lives up to its promise to end the First Nations drinking water crisis by 2020.

communities have been lifted or will likely be lifted within five years. Efforts are underway in three other communities — but it's uncertain whether those will succeed by 2020. Three others are unlikely to have advisories lifted within five years. And in one community that had its advisory lifted, new drinking water problems emerged.

Everyone in Canada has a right to clean water. Thanks to you, some

10,000 people have already used our online platform to remind government to live up to its promise to end the First Nations water crisis by:

- * Being transparent about progress
- * Simplifying the process
- * Supporting a First Nations-led approach to drinking water.

Join them and have your say here: action2.davidsuzuki.org/water



PHOTO: ALLAN LISSNER, FREEGRASSY.NET

DSF's Rachel Plotkin carried the canoe used to deliver petitions to Queen's Park in July.

Standing with Grassy Narrows

The people of Grassy Narrows First Nation fought for more than 40 years for access to safe water. In 1962, a pulp and paper mill dumped 9,000 kilograms of untreated mercury waste into the Wabigoon River system they rely on.

You made it possible for us to hand-deliver more than 10,000 signatures to Premier Kathleen Wynne in support of Grassy Narrows. With your help, we created a platform for famous authors to #StandWithGrassy, including sharing pictures of their feet on social media.

In February, the Ontario premier finally committed to clean up the toxic mess. After she made that promise, more than 12,000 of you used our online platform to urge the Ontario government to stand by it.

You're making waves for ocean protection

You're helping ensure Canada meets its international marine protection goals. Here are three successes to be proud of:

PRESERVING GLOBALLY UNIQUE SPONGE REEFS

In the 1980s, scientists discovered glass sponge reefs in B.C.'s Hecate Strait. Until then, the rare, delicate reefs were believed to have been extinct for 60 million years. In February, the federal government announced it will protect the reefs. Safeguarding them also provides refuge for the many food fish species that are part of that ecosystem.

PROTECTING MARINE RICHES

Most people have heard of city planning. But Canada does not have clear zones and regulations for ocean activities. That's why, with your support, we've pushed for better management of North Pacific coastal waters for more than a decade. For cultures, communities and economies to flourish long-term, human activities must respect biological limits.

In February, the federal government announced it will move forward with developing a plan to guide how people use the North Pacific, with Canada, B.C. and First Nations co-governance.



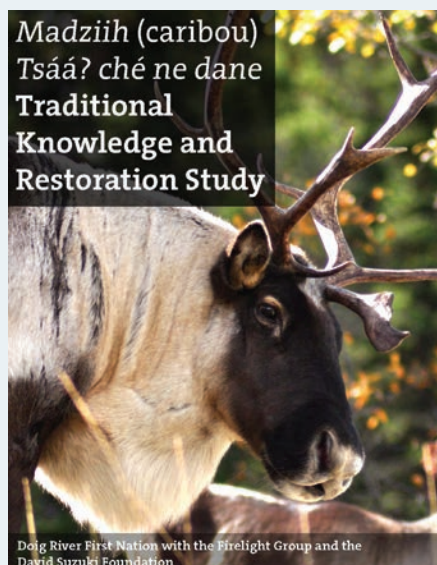
PHOTO: GREGORY "SLOBIRD" SMITH / FLICKR

PROVIDING SANCTUARY FOR SEABIRDS

More than a million seabirds nest on the Scott Islands, just off the northwest tip of Vancouver Island, every year. That includes half the Cassin's auklets in the world and 95 per cent of Canada's common murre. There are so many zooplankton and small fish in the area that five to 10 million birds travel thousands of kilometres every year to feast there.

We welcomed the federal government's announcement to protect the waters off the Scott Islands — Canada's first marine National Wildlife Area. But until government develops clear regulations on fishing, vessel-based pollution, oil spills, shipping, and oil and gas exploration, the protected area will just be lines on a map. With your help, we encouraged some 6,000 people to send messages to decision-makers saying the proposed protections are inadequate.

Thank you for caring about oceans!



You amplify Indigenous voices

You helped us support Indigenous communities so that the biodiversity values they hold dear are identified and maintained through provincial planning processes. This includes two groundbreaking reports:

- * One features the voices of Doig River First Nation elders about places where boreal caribou used to roam and calve in their

traditional territory, so these areas — now criss-crossed with fossil fuel operations, roads and clearcuts — can be prioritized for restoration.

- * The other, which maps the alarmingly high level of industrial activity in the Blueberry First Nations traditional territory, is being used in negotiations with government.

Building highways of habitat for pollinators

With your help, in 2014, a small group of keen Toronto volunteers became our first troop of Homegrown National Park Rangers.

They turned strips of pavement and schoolyard lawns into butterfly gardens. They created rain gardens of native plants. Guerilla plantings appeared along streets and laneways. And canoes filled with pollinator-friendly flowers appeared throughout their neighbourhoods.

Now, thanks to you, this citizen-led celebration is welcoming pollinators across the country. It's the Butterflyway Project!



We're training volunteer Butterflyway Rangers in Richmond and Victoria, B.C.; Toronto and Markham, Ontario; and in Montreal, Quebec. We'll help them

establish networks of butterfly-friendly habitat where they live.

Neighbourhoods where Ranger troops plant a dozen or more pollinator patches will get official David Suzuki Foundation Butterflyway designation. They'll also get signs and a place on the national Butterflyway Project map.

People all over Canada care about pollinators, so we're providing resources and advice on how to create a butterflyway in any neighbourhood.

In Quebec, our French language project, *l'Effet Papillon*, focuses on monarch butterflies. Scores of schools and citizen volunteers have signed up as *Patrouilleurs Monarques* (French for "monarch rangers"). They'll act as ambassadors in their communities to help protect monarchs. Several Quebec municipalities are also planning to offer hundreds of milkweed seeds packs to their residents. (Milkweed is the only plant where monarchs lay their eggs and is their caterpillars' first food.)

Special thanks to our generous Butterflyway Partners, Nature's Way and Cascades.

And thank YOU for helping give Canada butterflies.

A natural haven in the heart of Canada's largest city

You helped the Foundation and its allies fight hard for several years to establish Canada's first urban National Park in Toronto's Rouge River watershed.

In February, the federal government passed legislation that added more than 17 square kilometres to the park. It also provided greater protections for ecosystems, wildlife and working farms within its boundaries. *Consider this your victory!*

ROUGE NATIONAL URBAN PARK IS:

- * Twenty-one times the size of New York's Central Park
- * Home to more than 1,000 plant and animal species
- * Within 100 kilometres of 20 per cent of Canada's population
- * One of the largest urban parks in the world

The park follows the Rouge River from its source in the Oak Ridges Moraine to Lake Ontario. It gives millions of nearby residents access to wilderness and farmland.

Three highways, a major rail corridor (used to transport oil and other harmful materials) and an oil pipeline all run through Rouge Park. Citizens, community groups and organizations will have to ensure its ecological values are sustained.

How to garden for butterflies year-round

Does your yard or green space have what butterflies need throughout the seasons?

Think beyond providing flowers for nectar in the height of summer.

Many butterfly species we see in Canada don't migrate. You can provide habitat and food for their entire lifecycle — eggs, larvae, pupae and adults — all year. You'll need:

- * **Host plants:** Adults need a place to lay eggs where their caterpillars will forage. (Plant species that will get eaten and not just look pretty!)
- * **Mud puddles:** Some butterflies rarely visit flowers. They prefer mud, poop (a.k.a. "scat" or "dung"), sap and rotting fruit.
- * **Blooms from spring through fall:** Don't limit your garden to an end-of-July colour extravaganza. You'll need a diversity of native nectar plants to flower over a few months.
- * **Overwintering habitat:** Consider not raking leaves to provide a butterfly nursery! Most butterflies in Canada overwinter as caterpillars, others as pupae.

A few species winter as adults, hibernating in hollow trees, under bark and firewood piles, or in garden shed cracks and crevices. Few spend winter as eggs.

- * **Sunshine:** Make sure you (or your neighbours) have sunny spots.
- * **Nectar plants:** Most butterflies will feed from more than a few plant species.
- * **Think about the role of your yard or green space:** Is it a habitat source (high quality patch that supports population increases)? Or is it more of an island? Some yards can provide for one butterfly species' entire life cycle. Some are disconnected from other habitat patches. Walk around the block and view your neighbourhood through a butterfly's eyes. Chat with your neighbours and see what they're planting. Note possible connecting corridors between butterfly-friendly patches. Can schoolyards, boulevards and local parks where you live help support butterflies?
- * **Get to know native butterfly species:** Not every person in Canada can create monarch butterfly habitat (e.g., they aren't native to Vancouver Island).

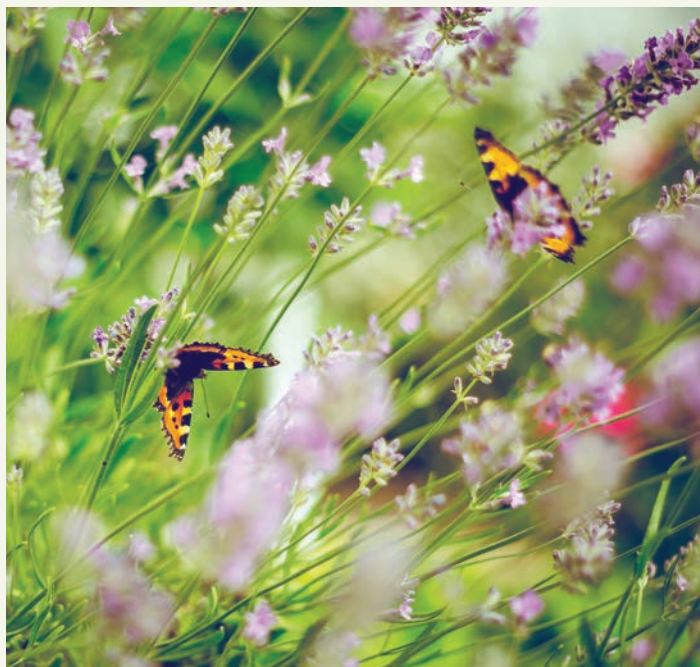


PHOTO: BERNARD SPRAGG / FLICKR



PHOTO: OLIVIA PLUMMER

On October 18, 200 Blue Dot volunteers wrote messages of climate hope on pieces of recycled cardboard. Artist Ilona Valcov assembled their missives into this globe, displayed for all to see on the Queen's Park lawn.

You helped Ontarians speak up for their environmental rights

When the Ontario government reviewed its Environmental Bill of Rights, it asked for public input. Thanks to you, thousands took this once-in-a-generation opportunity to have their say.

With your help, Blue Dot campaigners mustered their volunteer troops. They, in turn, reached out to residents and decision-makers.

Your support powered more than 400 on-the-ground volunteers, more than 19,000 submissions to the Ontario Environmental Registry, 23 face-to-face meetings with MPPs across all

parties and seven Blue Dot town hall meetings across Southern Ontario.

Supporters asked decision-makers to include these improvements to Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights:

1. SUBSTANTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

The right to breathe clean air, drink safe water, enjoy a non-toxic environment and expect healthy ecosystems for our children and grandchildren.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES

Including well-known concepts such as zero waste, polluter pays, the

precautionary principle and inter-generational equity.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Indigenous and low-income people are disproportionately exposed to environmental hazards.

We've worked with our partners at Ecojustice and the Canadian Environmental Law Association to bring to bear the overwhelming public support for a stronger bill. We're also urging Ontario to encourage environmental rights action at the federal level.

Canada learns its greenbelts are gold mines

With your support, we showed that the 56,000 hectares of Ottawa's greenbelt, including Gatineau Park, provide ecosystem services worth approximately \$332 million per year. These services include cleaning the air, sequestering carbon, producing and pollinating our food, and controlling erosion.

To celebrate Montreal's milestone 375th birthday, you're making it possible to plant 375,000 trees in the city's greenbelt. Jour de la Terre Québec and Fondation Les Cowboys Fringants are our partners in the project. The trees will increase canopy cover and support biodiversity.



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A publication of the David Suzuki Foundation, a registered Canadian charity working to protect the diversity of nature and our quality of life, now and for the future.

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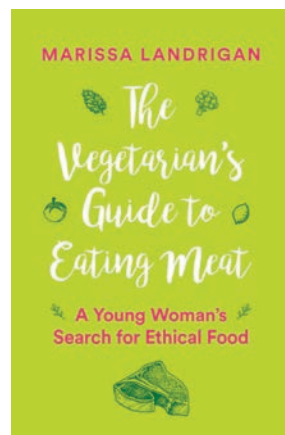
Charitable number

Canada: BN 127756716RR0001
US: 94-3204049



Just Cool It! By David Suzuki and Ian Hanington
Greystone Books / David Suzuki Institute

Climate change is the greatest threat humanity faces. But what's to be done? And how do we know which information to trust in this "post-truth" era of fake news and misinformation? David Suzuki and Foundation senior editor Ian Hanington offer a broad overview of the subject, from the science and its history to the many solutions that must be considered if we are to resolve the crisis. Renowned writer and activist Naomi Klein calls it "an unflinching look at the meaning of the climate crisis and an impassioned call to rise up, with joy and confidence in our collective ability to forge a just future."



The Vegetarian's Guide to Eating Meat
By Marissa Landrigan
Greystone Books

What happens when a hard-core vegan feminist and animal-rights activist decides to examine her ideas about food? U.S. writer Marissa Landrigan set out to challenge her assumptions, visiting a slaughterhouse, hunting elk and looking closely at where food comes from. The insights she gained are controversial and thought-provoking, and shed light on what it means to eat ethically. It's a journey of self-discovery as well as an exploration of food and eating.



To the Ends of the Earth
A film by David Lavallee

Narrated by award-winning film star Emma Thompson, David Lavallee's film explores the rise and consequences of extreme energy, including oilsands, shale gas, shale oil and tight oil. The fossil fuel era started when oil, coal and gas were inexpensive and relatively easy to obtain. That's all changed. Not only are these resources more expensive to extract now that we've depleted many of the accessible reserves, they're also more damaging to the environment and climate. Dense with information, the film also conveys the human element to the current energy and environmental crisis, through interviews with people ranging from an Inuit village mayor to a Canadian farmer to a river conservationist in the U.S. Through it all, viewers are inspired by those who are taking action.

Why the delay in addressing smog and climate change?

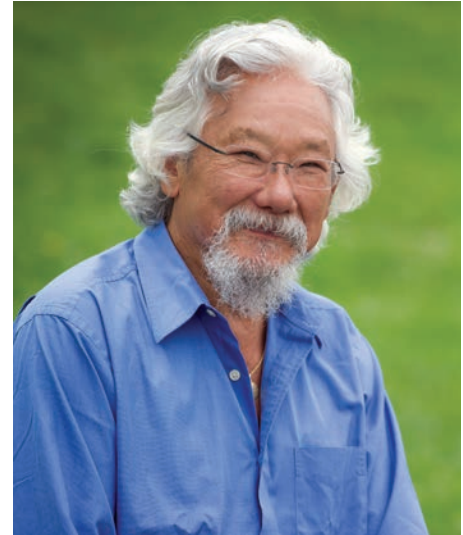
I recently lectured at the University of Hong Kong. I was alarmed that a veil of smog obscured the view across the bay, but people said it was an exceptionally clear day. I found that scary. But it wasn't as bad as what I saw in Pasadena, California, in the 1970s or Varanasi, India, 10 years ago. On a recent trip to Beijing, China, I couldn't see buildings across the street.

Concerted efforts to reduce pollution make improvements possible. The mountains around Los Angeles were once invisible but are now clearly in view. China finally acknowledged that air pollution is killing thousands daily and is shifting toward clean energy and a greener economy.

We create environmental problems by releasing pollutants into air, water and soil, and often respond only when our health is affected. Sometimes we can do little more than halt the effluents and wait for nature to cleanse

itself. As learned from oil spills, that may take decades or even centuries. Now, we've altered the chemical makeup of the air, disrupting carbon and nitrogen cycles and creating the ultimate crisis for humanity.

For decades, scientists warned that human activity is fuelling climate change. But efforts to downplay or deny the problem have prevented necessary action. Last year, every U.S. Republican presidential candidate was a climate change denier. The successful candidate, Donald Trump, claimed climate change is a hoax perpetrated by China. In Canada, our previous government ignored the issue and attempted to muzzle public discussion about it. Now, in the crowded field of Conservative leadership candidates, only Michael Chong acknowledges the need to act. Audience members booed him when he championed a carbon tax, one of



the most effective economic methods to reduce the danger.

Hong Kong students and media interviewers asked me why the developing world (including China and India) where per capita emissions lag far below rich nations like Canada and the U.S., should reduce emissions when countries whose fossil-fuelled economic growth created the problems show few signs of reducing theirs. If we aren't doing what we demand of others, why should they pay attention?



PLANT YOUR SEED FOR TOMORROW — TODAY!

Make or update your legacy plans, free of charge

Legacy donors create real, lasting change by including the David Suzuki Foundation in their estate plans.

We're partnering with the Canadian Free Wills Network to offer our supporters, age 55 and over, the opportunity to have their wills written or updated free of charge through a local lawyer or notary.

Having an up-to-date will gives you peace of mind. It's also an opportunity to include a bequest to the Foundation — though there's no obligation to do so.

To learn more, please contact Ashton Orr-Frayn at 1-800-453-1533 ext. 1214 or aOrrFrayn@davidsuzuki.org.

If you've already made your legacy plans and included the Foundation, thank you!

Some conditions apply.