



## PROGRESS ON PESTICIDES

Pesticides such as bee-killing neonicotinoids are a major threat to biodiversity. But the federal pesticide regulatory agency flip-flopped on a proposed ban, allowing widespread use of “neonics” to continue.

Canada’s system for regulating pesticides is failing to protect nature. *But that could soon change.*

**Your support for our work on pesticides is paying off.** In August, the federal government launched a “targeted review” of the Pest Control Products Act and announced a \$50-million investment over three years to bolster pesticide regulations and find alternatives. And Health Canada paused consideration of a flawed proposal to increase allowable residues of glyphosate on many foodstuffs.

Glyphosate is the active ingredient in the herbicide Roundup. It’s now found in one-third of our foods. And it’s decimated milkweed (the sole food of monarch butterfly larvae) throughout North America.

With your help, we’ll push the federal government to fulfil its election promises to:

- Strengthen the Pest Control Products Act to better protect human health and the environment.
- Align with world-leading approaches to improve transparency when assessing pesticide risks.
- Increase opportunities for independent scientists to take part in decision-making.
- Ensure impacts on wildlife are fully considered
- Support food producers that choose alternative approaches.

Canada can do better. Last year, the European Union set a target of reducing pesticide use by 50 per cent by 2030. It also banned the three main neonicotinoid pesticides in 2019.

## WELCOME SEVERN CULLIS-SUZUKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“The difference is that because of COVID-19, we now know what a real emergency response looks like. Beforehand, I was doubtful that political leaders were capable of collaborating across party lines, acting on science and moving billions to transform the status quo. But in the face of that planet-wide existential crisis, they did. Now, at the beginning of this decade that requires transformation in order for us to survive, we know what’s possible. We know that collectively, humanity is fully capable of tackling the climate and biodiversity crises.”

~SEVERN CULLIS-SUZUKI

We’re thrilled to announce that Severn Cullis-Suzuki — environmental activist, speaker, television host, author and long-time Foundation volunteer — formally became our executive director in September.

Daughter to co-founders Tara Cullis and David Suzuki, Severn became an environmental activist as a child, organizing with classmates to raise awareness on environmental issues, and eventually speaking publicly to delegates at the UN in 1992, asking them to act to protect the future, and to make their actions reflect their words.

Severn studied the natural world. She completed a B.Sc. in ecology and evolutionary biology, and an M.Sc. in ethnoecology. “The science was — and still is — clear,” she said. “We’re on a collision course with the laws of nature.” She also grew up learning from Indigenous friends and relatives, who shared with her a value system that gave her hope for humanity.

Severn has continued as an advocate and communicator for intergenerational justice, calling on institutions and



individuals to address climate change and humanity’s role in the sixth mass extinction. She has worked on campaigns and media projects in many countries, and is proud of international collaborations including the Earth Charter ([earthcharter.org](http://earthcharter.org)).

For the past decade, Severn has lived on the archipelago of Haida Gwaii, homeland of her partner Gudt’aawt’is Judson Brown of the Ts’aahl clan. They’ve been raising their children close to the land on Haida Gwaii, and working on revitalization of the Haida language. But even on Haida Gwaii, the challenges of the greater world — climate and biodiversity collapse — are evident. Earth’s climate is rapidly changing.

Severn joins the Foundation to continue the fight for social and ecological justice, and for a transformation to a just, post-carbon economy. It’s clearly time for “all hands on deck.”

Welcome Severn!



## GETTING OUT THE VOTE

“A democracy is as strong as the people who make its values come alive, every single day. It’s not all up to the politicians. It’s up to all of us to stay engaged, ensure our interests are looked after and work with people of all backgrounds and political stripes.”

~DAVID SUZUKI

**Your support made it possible for us to help get out the vote in a snap federal election during a global pandemic. The campaign reached out to tens of thousands of people in Canada and:**

- Provided party platforms on key environmental issues.
- Helped people register, vote by mail or find their polling station.
- Joined forces with One Earth One Vote, a non-partisan effort to ensure the environment, social justice and Indigenous rights were on the election agenda.
- Compiled opportunities for people who live in Canada but can’t vote to get involved.

With this election over, you’re now helping push the government to accelerate work already underway and swiftly implement its promises. In the first 100 days this should include:

- Strengthening regulation of methane, a potent greenhouse gas.
- Developing a plan to phase out all public financing of the fossil fuel sector.
- Introducing “just transition” legislation to support workers and communities in the shift away from fossil fuels.
- Publishing regulations banning non-essential single-use plastics.
- Updating the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, including recognizing your right to a healthy environment.
- Reintroducing the act addressing environmental racism.
- Applying critical habitat protection orders for at-risk species such as caribou and orcas.
- Expanding protected areas on land and sea throughout Canada, with Indigenous people, local communities and workers as partners.

With your help, we’ll channel our collective concern for the crises our living planet faces into pushing for a thriving, equitable, low-carbon society.

Learn more about how you're making a difference here: [bit.ly/moresolutions](http://bit.ly/moresolutions)



## QUEBEC BANS FOSSIL FUEL EXPLORATION AND EXTRACTION

Human activity — mainly burning fossil fuels — is heating the planet faster than scientists predicted.

You've helped mobilize pressure against the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure throughout Canada for decades. Now, thanks to relentless pressure from thousands of residents, environmental groups like ours and Indigenous Peoples, Quebec has closed the door on oil, gas and coal in its territory for good.

The decision is in line with the province's goal to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels to fight climate change, including by reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by 37.5 per cent from 1990 levels by 2030. It came after many projects, such as the GNL/Gazoduq — a liquefied natural gas industrial



complex project in Quebec's Port of Saguenay and a 780-kilometre pipeline linking it to northeastern Ontario — were cancelled, one after another.

It's a visionary lead for all of Canada — and the world.

## LEADING AT THE MOST IMPORTANT CLIMATE CONFERENCE EVER

The annual UN Conference of the Parties COP26, held this year October 31 to November 12 in Glasgow, Scotland, was arguably the most important climate conference ever. Goals included raising climate finance and finalizing rules on international carbon markets, agreeing on transparency, a global goal for adaptation and more.

You made it possible for us to participate in the online event "The Climate Dialogues" on climate ambition at COP26. They featured:

- Inspiring discussions led by diverse Quebec civil society groups.
- Consensus across sectors on the need to meet Paris Agreement objectives set in 2015.
- Targeted events on Canada's carbon neutrality law and climate justice.
- An intergenerational dialogue with David Suzuki, Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Ellen Gabriel (Indigenous rights activist and land defender of Kanehsatà:ke ancestral territory) and Samuel Rainville (ambassador for Mikana and activist for Indigenous rights and climate justice).

Indigenous voices and their calls to decolonize climate action are key to COP26 success and should be central to all negotiations. To that end, we were pleased to give our two conferences passes to Indigenous Climate Action so they could attend COP26 in person.

To slow the impacts of the accelerating climate crisis, participating countries need to follow through on their commitments.

Want to keep the pressure up? Tell the federal government that urgent climate action can't wait. [bit.ly/bold-action-now](https://bit.ly/bold-action-now)

## GET OUTSIDE AND INTO NATURE

Research shows that time spent in nature makes people happier, healthier and less stressed. It increases creativity and lowers the risk of heart attacks. It even makes us nicer and more empathetic.

Make time to get into the great outdoors. A 50-minute walk in nature — even in colder months — can improve memory and focus by about 20 per cent. As little as 10 to 20 minutes a day can make a big difference.

Here are some ideas to inspire you:

- **Exercise outside.** You just need to dress for the weather.
- **Snowshoe.** It's a winter activity for all ages.

• **Build or sculpt with snow.** Get your neighbours involved and put on a snow show.

• **Watch for wildlife.** Not everybody hibernates!

• **Find footprints.** Snow makes it easier to see where something wild has walked.

• **Play.** Get your skates on. Go for a rainy run. Jump on a sled or toboggan.

• **Look up.** Cloud watching any time of day clears the mind and calms the senses.

This pandemic has been a reminder that people trapped inside in windowless settings are more anxious, hostile, depressed and less productive.

Even if you can't get outside, uncover your windows so you can look out and let natural light shine in.

When you love nature, nature loves you back.



## SUMMER 2021 CAMP SUZUKI AT CHÁ7ELKWNECH REUNION

Since 2015, you've helped make it possible for us to work with the Squamish Nation to offer Camp Suzuki at Chá7elkwnech (Gambier Island), a multi-generational, nature-based summer camp that combines environmental stewardship and Indigenous-led outdoor education in British Columbia's spectacular Átl'ka7sem (Howe Sound).

Because of COVID-19, 2020 camp was cancelled, so this year was particularly exciting — although pandemic health restrictions allowed only one session in August. Interest doubled, but camp ran at about half normal capacity (to maintain safety), with the same number of Squamish leaders.

Every day was interspersed with Squamish songs, stories and ceremony. A highlight was a trip in the *Koholth* — a Squamish ocean-going canoe. When Squamish camp



PHOTO: TREVOR LEACH

leader Chiaxten started singing "Yewyews" ("The Orca Song") by Latash from the centre of the canoe, two pods of orcas surfaced nearby. Chiaxten said it was only the fourth time in 30 years travelling in the *Koholth* that he'd seen orcas.

Learn more about camp in summer 2022 at [bit.ly/campsuzuki](https://bit.ly/campsuzuki)





"Watching this little slice of nature and humanity interact I could see a path to healing and justice that is rooted not just in transformative change but in love and equality for all."

~ KIVA STIMAC



"As a child, I felt accepted by nature. Snails coming out of their shells inspired me to do the same. My connection with nature increased my understanding of how humans are harming my refuge."

~ LINDSAY FRANKEL



"The slaughter of buffalo to force Indigenous People onto reservations is an atrocity we must never forget ... Now is the time to practice deep listening, cultivate humility and move forward with gentleness and gratitude."

~ NEVADA CHRISTIANSON

## ART FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

Meeting the challenge of the climate crisis requires laws and policies. It also requires everything else we have — the full force and potential of human imagination and ingenuity.

**Thanks to you, we hosted a collaborative art project that brought together creative people from diverse backgrounds.**

Led by community arts facilitator Nadia Chaney, 36 artists took part in an online workshop. They worked together to hone their stories and create compelling art.

Their creations portray the profound passions that drive climate ambition — what gives people hope, what terrifies them. Their pleas for action and justice are united, urgent and strong.

Each of the works has been turned into a poster with the artist's call to action and a hashtag, link and QR code for more information. We partnered with UB Media to broadcast digital versions of the work in restaurants, pubs and on university campuses. We sent books featuring

the collected works to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and climate-involved federal government ministers.

Help spread these moving images:

- Explore the online gallery at [bit.ly/art-climate-justice](https://bit.ly/art-climate-justice) and share it with people in your networks.
- Download the work at [bit.ly/download-art](https://bit.ly/download-art), to print and post in your community.



"I search for the harmony we can create with nature. This kind of connection benefits our brains, our bodies, our fellow living beings and the planet we inherited."

~ ANTON DYMTCENKO

- Share #ArtForClimateJustice on social media.

At writing, more than 300 people had downloaded more than 2,200 posters to put up in their communities. Since it launched on October 25, the online gallery has been the second-most visited page on our website.



"Small in the vastness of everything. Small but mighty. One like thousands. Many ones form billions ... Maybe the oneness in sustaining this Earth in bits and pieces is what will save us all."

~ OLIVIA ONUK

## Finding Solutions

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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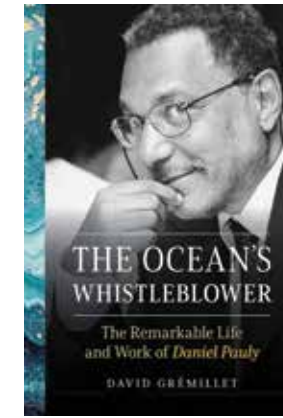
Severn Cullis-Suzuki

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## The Ocean's Whistleblower: The Remarkable Life and Work of Daniel Pauly

David Grémillet; translated by Georgia Froman  
GREYSTONE – DAVID SUZUKI INSTITUTE

Many know Daniel Pauly as the influential UBC marine biologist who came up with the idea of "shifting baselines" whereby knowledge about nature is lost when we lose sight of what once was. An outspoken advocate for protecting oceans from overfishing, he's also had an incredibly interesting life. He was born to a white French woman and a Black American soldier after the Second World War, and later "adopted" by an abusive family. Despite the difficulties, he finished school and pursued a career in oceanography. Oceanographer David Grémillet illuminates Pauly's life and legacy in this captivating biography.

## YOUNG PEOPLE ARE BREAKING UP WITH CARS

One of the David Suzuki fellows you supported, Jérôme Laviolette, asked the question "What's the psychological relationship between Quebecers and their cars?" He learned that younger people are ready to give 'em up!

Cars are responsible for a vast array of social consequences, from climate change and community health to personal and public finances. They foster inequity and affect quality of life.

Sustainable mobility requires a holistic approach, with major changes in transport policies, urban planning, infrastructure and mobility-management strategies. It means important changes in social norms, attitudes and lifestyles.

Using surveys and focus group sessions, Jérôme learned that young millennials (a.k.a. "Generation Y") and the oldest of Generation Z are more sustainability-focused and less car-oriented than previous generations.

But his research also revealed that this cohort is still attracted to suburban living. A solution? To avoid car dependency, we need specific transportation and urban planning policies that promote alternatives to cars in all types of neighbourhoods.

Check out his report here: [bit.ly/jerome-report](https://bit.ly/jerome-report).

## GOVERNMENTS MUST END SUPPORT FOR COAL, OIL AND GAS

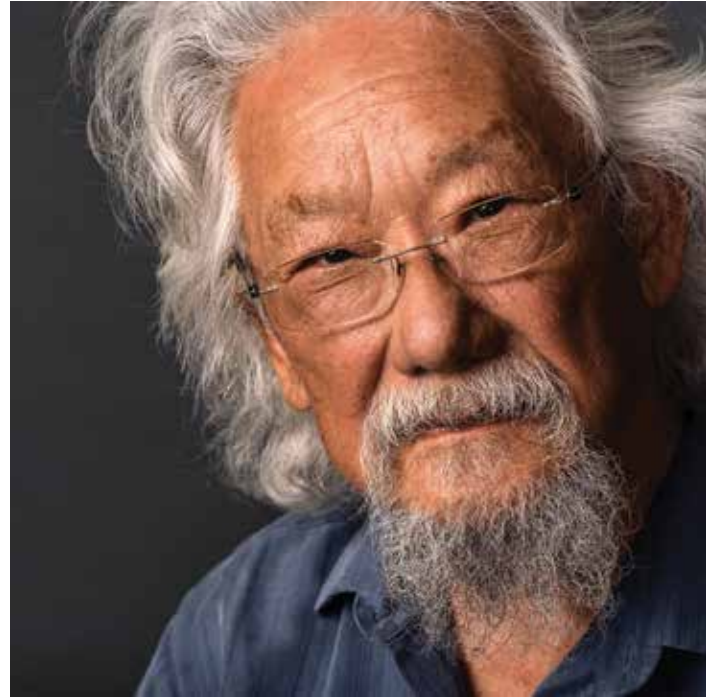
With governments continuing to promote and subsidize fossil fuels even as they meet for conferences like COP26 in Glasgow, it's no surprise the world isn't on track to avoiding the worst climate impacts.

Canada spends billions to support, defend and promote the most profitable industry in human history, despite dire warnings of how that industry is fuelling a global climate crisis that threatens human health and survival.

The accelerating impacts of global heating — from floods, droughts and wildfires to disease spread, pollution and refugee crises — are extremely costly and will get even more so if we fail to confront climate disruption.

Canada must unite with leading countries to ratchet down fossil fuel emissions and develop a plan for a managed production decline. It must quickly update its climate plan, deliver on the commitment to end public finance for oil and gas subsidies abroad by 2022, sign on to the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance and introduce just transition legislation without delay.

Those of us who have been pleading for decades about the need to curtail fossil fuels have repeatedly been told that



a transition “can’t happen overnight.” But that’s been an excuse to keep it from happening at all.

This is now about expressing our love for our children. Our health and lives depend on ambitious action to get off fossil fuels. Governments must lead, and politicians must remember they’re elected to serve the people, not a single, destructive industry.

## SEND GIFTS THAT PROTECT NATURE

Instead of stuff, send virtual gifts that push for bold climate action, protect nature so it can sustain all life and create healthier, safer communities that benefit *everyone*. Train a volunteer Butterflyway Ranger, protect critters you care about, support grassroots climate emergency action — and more!

The person receiving your gift will get a beautiful e-card with original art by a Canadian artist. And you’ll get a tax receipt.

[bit.ly/DSF-virtual-gifts](https://bit.ly/DSF-virtual-gifts)



ILLUSTRATION: CRYSTAL SMITH