FINDING SOLUTIONS

Summer 2023 davidsuzuki.org



Congratulations! After a decade of work made possible by donors like you, the Canadian Environmental Protection Act now recognizes *every person in Canada's* right to a healthy environment.

The campaign launched in 2014 with the momentum-building, awareness-raising, cross-country Blue Dot Tour, supported by prominent thought leaders and artists.

Over the next seven years, hundreds of dedicated volunteers convinced 177 municipalities to pass environmental rights regulations, many members of Parliament signed pledges supporting them and people, organizations and communities joined the effort.

CEPA is Canada's cornerstone environmental law. Under it, the federal government regulates activities related to air and water quality, toxic ingredients in consumer products, movement of hazardous waste, protection of biodiversity, climate action and plastic pollution. It hadn't been updated since 1999.

Under the revised act, the federal government will have the duty to:

- · Protect people's right to a healthy environment
- Uphold the principles of environmental justice
- Consider cumulative effects on environmental and human health and on vulnerable populations
- Review control of toxic substances and dangerous chemicals, including ensuring that priority is given to prohibiting the most hazardous substances

A decade ago, more than half the world's nations recognized the legal right to healthy environment. Canada was not among them. Now more than three-quarters of countries recognize and protect this right.

It's not surprising that most people in Canada — some 98 per cent — want the right to a healthy environment. Many assumed they already had it!

Now they do.

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FOSTERING A FUTURE OF HOPE FOR FLUTTERERS

"We're stitching together an international patchwork of individual actions into one inspiring movement."

JODE ROBERTS, REWILDING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM MANAGER

Pollinator work you powered is paying off big time for tiny creatures.

After years of delay, persistent pressure from the Foundation and thousands of concerned people like you helped convince the federal government to reclassify monarch butterflies as endangered in May and increase protection for two western bumblebee species.

This could include restrictions on pesticides such as glyphosate (you supported our years-long campaign against it), the active ingredient in the herbicide Roundup. It's now found in one-third of our foods and has decimated milkweed (the sole food of monarch butterfly larvae) throughout North America.

Three spring webinars taught hundreds about local butterfly species, how community science supports conservation and the effects of our changing climate on insects.

And the national, volunteer-led, award-winning Butterflyway Project you made possible (which

helps people provide food and shelter for pollinators where they live) is partnering with the U.S.-based Homegrown National Park to restore declining insect populations throughout the continent.

Want to plant for pollinators? Get help here: dsfdn.org/attract-pollinators



PUSHING TO END PLASTIC POLLUTION

You made it possible for us to participate as an observer at the United Nations Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution meeting in Paris last spring.

After a week of negotiations, 175 governments decided that a first draft of the treaty aiming to end plastic pollution will be presented at the next negotiations, scheduled for November in Nairobi. The treaty is expected to be adopted at the end of 2024.

Almost all plastics are made from fossil fuels, often by the same companies that produce oil and gas. They contain thousands of toxics substances.

Contamination extends to the world's

most remote ecosystems and to many species, including humans. Only a fraction of the hundreds of millions of tonnes produced worldwide each year is recycled. Researchers say if we don't clean up our act, the ocean will have more plastics by weight than fish by 2050.

With your help, we'll continue to pressure Canada to do everything possible to keep negotiations on track, including ensuring Indigenous rights holders and waste workers are represented.

Read the statement given by Indigenous Peoples representatives at the plastic treaty negotiations here: dsfdn.org/plastic-statement



In Paris, (left to right): Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk, Inuit Circumpolar Council (Canada) president; Sabaa Khan, Foundation director general, Quebec and Atlantic Canada; Elizabeth Pijogge, Nunatsiavut Government.

WE NEED MORE BUSES...



... NOT A HIGHWAY THROUGH THE GREENBELT!

76% of Ontarians agree the Greenbelt is no place for a new highway. * Let's spend the billions allocated to Hwy 413 on better bus service.

SAVE THE GREENBELT at

davidsuzuki.org/stop-highway-413

ART: LINNY MALIN

HELPING RESIDENTS SAVE THE ONTARIO GREENBELT

"Let's get our priorities right. Save the Greenbelt and invest in people."

GIDEON FORMAN, CLIMATE CHANGE AND TRANSPORTATION POLICY ANALYST

Highway 413 is a proposed six-lane, 52-kilometre roadway. If built, it would:

- Add more than 17 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050
- Pave over 168 hectares of Ontario Greenbelt forests and wetlands and 800 hectares of prime farmland
- · Affect 29 species already at risk
- Cost at least \$8 billion and save drivers just 30 to 60 seconds per trip

An ad campaign you made possible asked Ontario transit riders if they need another highway OR would they rather that money be spent on health care, daycare, transit and/or education.

And a petition you powered called on Canada to do everything in its power to stop the megaproject. At writing, almost 55,000 people had used the platform to speak up.

Most Ontarians — 76 per cent of those polled — think the Greenbelt is no place for a new highway. With your support, we'll put electric buses and bike lanes in cities and towns, not expressways through the Greenbelt. Have your say here: dsfdn.org/stop-413

INVESTING IN SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

With your support, we've opposed a new highway under the St. Lawrence River between Quebec City and Lévis for years.

Win! In April, the provincial government dropped the project in favour of a link dedicated to public transit.

Ridership studies failed to justify implementation of the original \$10-billion, six-lane, 8.3-kilometre tunnel. The project also threatened sustainable land-use planning, encouraged urban sprawl and traffic congestion and contradicted greenhouse gas reduction targets.

Transportation is a major contributor to Quebec's climatealtering emissions, air quality problems and related public



PHOTO: MERCEDES SCHULZ

health issues. With your support, we'll continue monitoring this promising switch in direction, to ensure it's created in a way that minimizes environmental damage and benefits the most residents.

RALLYING FOR AFFORDABLE, SECURE, CLEAN ELECTRICITY

Thanks to you, we were on Parliament Hill on June 5 (World Environment Day) with dozens of allies to deliver 40,000 petition signatures to Steven Guilbeault, federal minister of environment and climate change.

The petitions, collected by nine regional and national organizations, declare support for renewable energy throughout Canada and demand an end to fossil fuel supremacy. The event also launched Renewable Power for All, which unites a broad spectrum of advocates calling for 100 per cent affordable, secure, clean electricity for all people in Canada by 2035.

Research you made possible charts a path to nationwide zero-emissions electricity, relying on a mix of wind, solar, energy storage, energy efficiency and interprovincial transmission *and no fossil fuels*. This future is within reach, costs less, creates more jobs and brings significant benefits for energy security, health and the climate.

But fossil fuel lobbyists are working overtime to lock in regulation loopholes while the industry rakes in record profits, salary bumps and taxpayer-funded subsidies. Let's not get stuck for decades with more expensive, unhealthy, uncompetitive electricity. Join us in standing up for renewable power for all. Get inspired: watch the rally video dsfdn.org/power-for-all-rally then call your MP with the help of this tool dsfdn.org/call-your-mp



PHOTO: MING WU

GOING TO COURT FOR SALISH SEA ORCAS

With your support, we're challenging the federal government's decision to approve the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.



PHOTO: CENTER FOR WHALE RESEARCH

Some of the largest salmon runs in the world migrate through Roberts Bank — the outer harbour of Canada's busiest port — as juveniles and adults. It juts out into the Salish Sea, which provides critical habitat for the remaining 73 endangered southern resident orcas.

An independent federal review panel said the project would destroy the legally protected orca's critical habitat, reduce Chinook salmon (the orcas' primary food) and increase underwater noise from shipping traffic.

Canada hosted the world in Montreal last December to finalize the Global Biodiversity Framework and focus on halting and reversing damage to biodiversity and ecosystems. Approving the terminal flies in the face of these commitments, fails to halt ecosystem damage and could condemn the endangered orcas to extinction.

While waiting for the orcas' day in Federal Court, you can urge Fisheries and Oceans Minister Joyce Murray to help them: dsfdn.org/orcas



PHOTO: VINCENT TOM

CONVERGING COLLECTIVE ACTION

You're powering the Future Ground Network and Réseau Demain le Québec, two growing online organizing hubs that support local groups taking action in their communities to secure healthier, more viable futures in the areas of climate justice, biodiversity, waste reduction and sustainable systems.

For the first time since the groups' inception in 2020, you made it possible for people to meet (in-person and virtually) in Vancouver May 13, Quebec City May 19 to 21 and Toronto May 27 for Building Power: A Future Ground Network Convergence.

Speakers, including keynote David Suzuki, offered powerful insights about the importance of collective action and stirred calls to action that left everyone buzzing.

Workshops and breakout sessions allowed participants to dive deeper into how to build and coordinate power collectively and strategically against forces driving the climate crisis.

EXPOSING THE TRUTH ABOUT LIQUEFIED "NATURAL" GAS

Whatever people call it (LNG, natural gas, fracked gas, liquefied natural gas, fossil gas, methane), new research you made possible confirms that we need to stop the greenwashing and start calling it what it is: a climate and economic disaster.

Even as the climate crisis intensifies, big oil and gas companies are pushing the British Columbia government to expand LNG. Short-term thinking to exploit as much B.C. gas as possible will have dire long-term consequences for the planet. Doing so

would mean thousands of kilometres of new pipelines, thousands of new fracking wells and megatonnes of new greenhouse gas emissions.

Our report "Burning Bridge: Debunking LNG as a Climate Solution" finds that LNG is neither a climate solution nor a bridge fuel. An immediate transition to renewables is the best bet for secure, affordable and reliable energy nationwide.

You can help. Tell B.C. Premier David Eby to say no to more LNG:

dsfdn.org/no-more-lng



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HOW TO TALK TO KIDS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

Public health experts are increasingly recognizing the toll of "eco-anxiety" — chronic fear of environmental doom — on mental health, especially for children and young people.



PHOTO: AVERY HOLLIDAY

The climate crisis isn't going away. You powered a resource to encourage more adults to talk to or teach more youngsters about it.

Here are some tips to help you talk to kids about climate change.

Listen. Ask the kids in your life what they know about climate change and hear what they have to say.

Stay with all feelings. Don't jump straight from the problem to the solutions without giving time to reflect.

Stress solutions. Take time to learn about the many people finding ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Lead by example. Show what you're doing to help the crisis. Brainstorm what you can do together.

Go outside. Getting into the great outdoors benefits all people. Research shows that kids who spend time in nature are more likely to want to protect it.

Have climate conversations with everyone. The more you do it, the more natural it will feel. And you might inspire others to talk about it too.

Keep talking. As kids grow and as climate change evolves, continue sharing, reflecting and learning together.

Pass it on: dsfdn.org/kids-climate

LISTENING TO THE WORD ON THE STREET

You've helped make it easy for tens of thousands of people to sign petitions, attend webinars, call their MPs and weigh in on consultations with governments at all levels.

We asked our community to write letters to media outlets calling for ambitious climate action. Their wise, passionate perspectives, their hopes and concerns, are moving and motivating.

You've now made it possible for us to share some of these messages more widely in our new Word on the Street series: dsfdn.org/word-on-the-street

Here's a small sampling:

Right now I am having problems paying my bills while oil companies are making record profits.

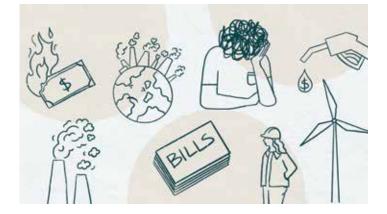
DAVID, HAMILTON ONTARIO

Shifting to clean, renewable electricity will bring well-paid, skilled jobs and more stability and security in a global market that is transitioning away from fossil fuels.

HEIDI, CALGARY ALBERTA

Now the oil and gas corporations with their super profits are not only gouging us at the pump, but have pumped up their misinformation campaigns in as many ways they can slip their oily presence into.

INGRID, REGINA SASKATCHEWAN



I'm an Inuk student from Nunavik living in Montreal and I'm terrified of what my future holds.

ELIA, MONTREAL, QUEBEC

The oil and gas industry lobbies for millions of dollars of subsidies creating a situation where tax-payers are funding the demise of the planet.

DOUG, NELSON B.C.

MOTIVATED?

Write a letter to your local news outlet: dsfdn.org/letter

Tell Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to cap oil and gas emissions: dsfdn.org/emissions-cap

Send a personalized message to your MP and we'll send that person a postcard (with artwork of your choice): $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$

dsfdn.org/postcard

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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A BOLD CLIMATE SOLUTION READY RIGHT NOW

Canada is aiming for nationwide zero-emissions electricity by 2035 — the solution needed to meet the climate crisis — and is currently drafting regulations on how to get there.

Let's seize this opportunity to improve energy affordability and security, create thousands of new jobs AND meet climate targets: dsfdn.org/yes-to-renewable



CAP FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY POLLUTION

Canada's largest, fastest-growing climate polluter — the fossil fuel industry — has NO LIMIT on the amount of greenhouse gases it can emit. While other sectors are reducing theirs, oil and gas emissions are rising.

Communities are dealing with mounting costs of living, inequalities and impacts, from increasingly extreme weather. Meanwhile, the fossil fuel industry is working overtime to weaken these regulations and ensure soaring profits.

Tell Canada to put a hard cap on oil and gas emissions, for the sake of a livable climate: dsfdn.org/emissions-cap

DIVERSITY IS STRENGTH

During the Second World War, the Canadian government sent my family to an internment camp in the B.C. Interior, even though we were all born here! I didn't speak Japanese, so it was difficult to make friends. Instead, I spent my days outside, exploring.

My family's experience is just one of too many historical examples of how Canada, like many places, was governed for the benefit of white colonizers and settlers of European descent

Attempts to quash diversity have been among humankind's biggest failings. Diversity is strength, whether in a forest, on a farm or among people. A tree plantation with a single species is subject to disease and other threats. A diverse forest is resilient — if a disease or pest attacks one species, others will thrive.

Indigenous Peoples worldwide knew from experience of being in the same place over time that we are part of nature and that what we do to it, we do to ourselves. If we take too much, systems collapse and there is nothing left for the future.

We're now facing severe environmental crises that threaten our health, well-being and survival largely because we've given precedence to one way of thinking, a way that failed to account for the importance of protecting the lands, waters, air and biodiversity that make life possible.

So much of the western world view has been through a lens of reductionist science that examines things in isolated parts and fails to account for the whole. Now, more than ever, we need diverse perspectives to better understand how to live in harmony with our surroundings and with each other.

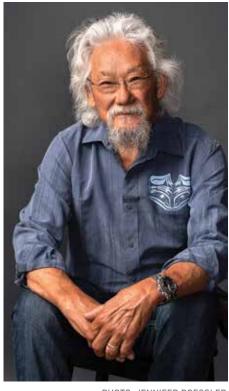


PHOTO: JENNIFER ROESSLER

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

"Much of what we've dedicated this work to requires enduring vigilance. That's why David and I are Foundation legacy donors — for our children and grandchildren. They are our conscience and our inspiration."

TARA CULLIS

Want to make a lasting impact on what you care about? A legacy gift in your will can provide hope for future generations. You'll safeguard species, habitat — entire ecosystems. You'll fight for every person in Canada's right to breathe clean air, drink safe water and eat toxic-free food. You'll support urgent, innovative solutions to the



greatest threat to life as we know it: climate chaos.

When you include us in your estate plans, you're safeguarding Earth's

life-support systems for people today, tomorrow and into the future.

Contact Siobhan Aspinall to learn more: legacy@davidsuzuki.org