

YOUR TOP WINS IN 2024

You've powered 50 many victories for nature in 2024. This report celebrates this year's best of the best.



PHOTO: CHANG DUONG

LANDING CANADA'S FIRST ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LAW

Too often, pollution and environmental degradation disproportionately affect Indigenous and other historically marginalized communities. After years of advocacy work powered by supporters like you, we celebrated final passage of the National Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Strategy Act in June. The new law requires the federal government to develop and regularly report on a national strategy to assess, prevent and address environmental racism and advance environmental justice. Consultations on a national environmental justice strategy have begun. In September, we presented at Environment and Climate Change Canada's first symposium on environmental racism.

PROMOTING A PLASTIC-FREE WORLD

Thanks to you, we took part in international negotiations aimed at developing an ambitious, legally binding global treaty to limit plastic production, restrict chemicals of concern and ban non-essential single-use plastics worldwide. Plastic, made from fossil fuels, is a significant source of carbon emissions and pollution and contains numerous toxic substances. In Canada, nearly 90 per cent of plastic waste ends up in landfills, incinerators, lakes, parks and the ocean.

To sign our petition: dsfdn.org/Stop-Plastic-Pollution



PHOTO: NAJA BERTOLT JENSEN



HOLDING BIG OIL ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS CLIMATE POLLUTION

You're helping us push the fossil fuel industry to clean up its methane pollution. Last December, the federal government drafted regulations requiring the industry to eliminate more than 75 per cent of its methane emissions by 2030. It committed \$30 million to a Centre of Excellence to improve methane measurements, which will improve independent verification of progress. We continue to push for final regulations. In September, the Government of British Columbia strengthened its methane emissions regulations for new and existing wells, facilities and pipelines throughout the province.

PROTESTING A MEGA-HIGHWAY THROUGH THE WORLD'S LARGEST GREENBELT

You've made it possible for us to campaign against a proposed mega-highway through the Ontario Greenbelt. Scientists, celebrities, faith and business leaders and — most recently — the National Farmers Union-Ontario and the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario have joined more than 75,000 of our community members in opposing Highway 413. *It's working!* Polling shows that more than 80 per cent of Ontarians don't want the project. And 79 per cent want the federal and provincial governments to put more money into public transit.



PHOTO: GASP4CHANGE

CALLING OUT THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY

“We need to fight against the fossil fuel era and an industry that’s not going to go down lightly.”

SEVERN CULLIS-SUZUKI

For decades — even though *its own scientists knew* the dire effects of greenhouse gas emissions — the fossil fuel industry has copied the tobacco industry playbook, lying about the severity of climate change and the cost of acting to reduce emissions.

Five examples of oil and gas industry misinformation:

- **Carbon capture and storage.** Industry touts this technology as the solution to reduce its emissions. But it’s unproven and expensive. We need to move away from fossil fuels to proven renewable energy.
- **Greenwashing.** Rebranding is a tried and tested marketing tool. “Clean” oil doesn’t exist. “Natural” gas is still a fossil fuel. And liquefied natural gas isn’t a bridge fuel.
- **Downplaying renewables.** Besides being the cheapest forms of energy in history, wind and solar are affordable, reliable, secure and create jobs.
- **Driving inflation and asking for public money.** Oil and gas companies are raking in record-breaking profits and driving inflation while demanding that the Canadian government foot the bill for its carbon capture facilities, worth billions.

• **Delaying climate action.** Big Oil has political influence at some of the highest levels, including at international climate summits. It can’t be trusted to write the regulations needed to govern this polluting industry.

We don’t have the fossil fuel sector’s deep pockets, enormous advertising budgets or powerful lobbyists. We have strength in numbers — of concerned people (like you), families and whole communities calling out this industry’s practices and pushing for change.

Help hold the fossil fuel industry to account:
dsfdn.org/PeopleAndPlanet



ART: LINNY MALIN

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PROTECTION OF THE GREAT BEAR SEA

As societies grapple to create a world in which all people can thrive in harmony with nature, Coastal First Nations are offering a way of seeing our place in the world that will move us onto a different

path by protecting the biodiverse nature on which we utterly depend.

An agreement announced in June between 17 First Nations and the British Columbia and federal governments —

the Great Bear Sea Project Finance for Permanence initiative — is the realization of decades of vision, negotiation and collaboration, and will help develop a conservation economy supporting 10 million hectares of culturally and environmentally rich marine ecosystems. In part, this financing agreement will fund a 2.8-million-hectare network of marine protected areas.

For more than a decade, our team has provided technical expertise and communications to support marine protection in the Great Bear Sea, helping to broaden the understanding that healthy oceans provide plentiful rich and healthy food, build resiliency against climate change and ensure that people can continue to enjoy nature’s bounty for generations.



BOOSTING BYLAWS FOR BIODIVERSITY

Traditional turfgrass lawns are important for outdoor recreation and leisure. But they use vast amounts of water and harmful chemicals, take up precious space and provide little ecological value.

Last spring and summer, LawnShare helped hundreds of individuals, companies and communities adopt sustainable lawn-care practices and transform yards, fields and roadsides into healthier environments for wildlife *and* humans.

But some people eager to participate ran into a bylaw wall. **In some communities, outdated municipal bylaws and enforcement policies limit the potential of habitat gardens to positively transform our cities, towns and society.**

In response to this contradiction, we and our partners sent an open letter to municipal staff, elected officials and related associations in support of bylaw reform. We hosted a countrywide November meeting with municipal staff and elected officials. We’re supporting policy development and implementation. And we’re helping people understand the bylaw enforcement process, defend their rewilded gardens from regulatory overreach and engage in bylaw reform if needed.

You can too! Support biodiversity and climate protection. Send your letter to your mayor and councillors at:
dsfdn.org/bylaws-for-biodiversity



PHOTO: TRYNA MCLEAN

MAPPING THE ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE



ART: LINNY MALIN

The world’s current dominant economic system is built on an endless “make, use, dispose, repeat” cycle, extraction industries and worker exploitation. It perpetuates overconsumption, waste and environmental injustice and isn’t working for people or the planet.

Instead of pursuing economic growth at all costs, healthier, safer alternatives — wellbeing economies — put human and planetary needs at the centre of activities and ensure those needs are met so that *all life can flourish*.

Thanks to you, we’ve been working with the global Wellbeing Economy Alliance to build WEAllCan, a wellbeing economies organizing hub in Canada.

Our report “Mapping the Wellbeing Economies Landscape in Canada” includes a first-of-its-kind living, interactive map featuring people, groups and organizations from different sectors throughout Canada that are applying wellbeing economy strategies to their business models. Participants come from every walk of life, from academics and business to faith and labour groups, media and non-governmental organizations — and more!

Check it out: dsfdn.org/WEAllCan

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