



YOUR TOP WINS IN 2025



PHOTO: RICH MARTELLO

MAPPING CITIES' CLIMATE RESILIENCE

Instead of traditional grey infrastructure (roads, buildings, sewers, etc.), cities need to incorporate more green spaces, trees and waterways that help regulate temperature, reduce floods and improve air quality. We partnered with environmental solutions platform developer Habitat to review and graph ecosystem services in five pilot cities: Gatineau, Ottawa, Quebec City, Saskatoon and Vancouver. The resulting mapping tool helps decision-makers recognize, prioritize and protect natural systems that have significant — and often overlooked or misunderstood — community benefits.

DEMANDING POLITICIANS PROTECT THE PLANET

All people in Canada benefit when we take care of the environment and each other: cleaner air, better health, resilient communities and more jobs and investment opportunities. Leading up to the April federal election, our community members sent thousands of letters to all party leaders demanding that the next government prioritize climate solutions and nature protection and support strong environmental and social justice values. **We continue to be your eyes and ears on Parliament Hill.**



PHOTO: HANNAH BUSING



PHOTO: NICHOLAS DOHERTY

LANDING CANADA'S CLEAN ELECTRICITY REGULATIONS

Despite opposition from fossil fuel billionaires and politicians who serve their interests, collective action helped achieve Canada's clean electricity regulations. Now it's up to the provinces and utilities to implement plans that go even further, to gain the most benefits for people living in Canada. We must also ensure that workers, communities and Indigenous nations on whose lands these projects are built will benefit directly from this once-in-a-generation opportunity.

REWILDING TO HELP NATURE HEAL

LawnShare helps individuals, companies and communities adopt sustainable lawn-care practices and transform yards, fields and roadsides into healthier environments for wildlife and humans. The Butterflyway Project's volunteer Rangers create neighbourhood native plant gardens to feed and shelter pollinators. Healing Forests bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities together, fostering dialogue and honouring residential school victims, survivors and their families. And we're pushing for bylaw reform against outdated policies that limit these kind of rewilding efforts.



PHOTO: ALFONSO BETANCOURT

ADVANCING THE FIGHT AGAINST PLASTIC POLLUTION

Thanks to your support, we were able to participate in the most recent round of international plastic treaty negotiations in Geneva this past August. Your continued commitment is also empowering us to hold Canadian politicians accountable and push for stronger plastic regulations at home.

After six rounds of negotiations, the global treaty process is now suspended until further notice. No consensus was reached on a draft text or when talks would resume. But more than 100 countries, including Canada, did not back down on an ambitious agreement, signalling that most participating parties support effective measures to address plastic production. We'll continue to follow international developments and advocate for domestic policies and laws that align with global fossil fuel phase-out and plastic-reduction objectives.

SECURING RENEWABLE POWER FOR ALL

You're supporting our work to secure affordable, reliable, renewable power for everyone living in Canada.

We're calling for an upgraded east-west electricity grid based on renewable energy that respects Indigenous rights, creates thousands of good jobs and is more efficient for all people who live here.

In July, we partnered with more than 100 organizations demanding \$20 billion in federal investments over five years in new electricity transmission connections between provinces, supports for Indigenous-led projects and worker training.



PHOTO: NUNO MARQUES



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REIMAGINING A BETTER WORLD

Science shows that experiencing art literally lights up our brains' neural pathways, making us more open to new ideas and more likely to activate them.

With your support, we're again hosting the Rewilding Arts Prize. Five winners will each receive a \$2,000 prize and a profile on our website and in *Rewilding magazine*. They'll also join the Rewilding Arts Collective — a national network advancing ecological awareness through creative practice.

Past winners' work spanned textiles, sculpture, installation, photography and sound. It was on view at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa until October — the first major exhibition in Canada devoted entirely to rewilding-themed art.



KIMBERLI KOLODY-WATT (CENTRE) WITH REGINA CITY COUNCILLORS VICTORIA FLORES AND SHANON ZACHIDNIAK.

DO YOU KNOW “THE DIRTY DOZEN?”

Product labels often say “natural,” “sustainable” or “biodegradable”—terms not regulated in Canada. Without a reputable ecolabel, these can give people a false sense of environmental responsibility.

Thanks to you, we're building on research we did in 2010 to investigate toxic ingredients found in cosmetics. Personal care products have proliferated. And harmful chemicals show up in food, household cleaners, packaging and everyday items.

To adapt to the evolving toxins landscape, we've retired the name "The Dirty Dozen." But the goal is the same: providing information and solutions people need to make safer, healthier choices. Making those decisions sends a powerful message to industries and policy-makers that people who care want stricter regulations on toxins.

LIFTING UP YOUNG LEADERS

Your support helped Kimberli Kolody-Watt, a David Suzuki Foundation “gaptivist,” present to Regina city council on behalf of Better Bus Youth for a fare-free transit pilot for high school students — an important step toward building a safer, more equitable city. It passed unanimously.

Students' school involvement improves when they have safe, reliable transportation. When young people ride the bus for free, they're more likely to continue using transit as adults. And not having to pay (in Regina, a youth bus pass costs \$600 a year) helps people afford other necessities.

Earlier this year, Kimberli was named one of Regina's top 25 change-makers for her work on fare-free transit and inclusivity.

Read more about Kimberli and Regina's youth-led fare-free transit movement here: dsfdn.org/accessible-transit

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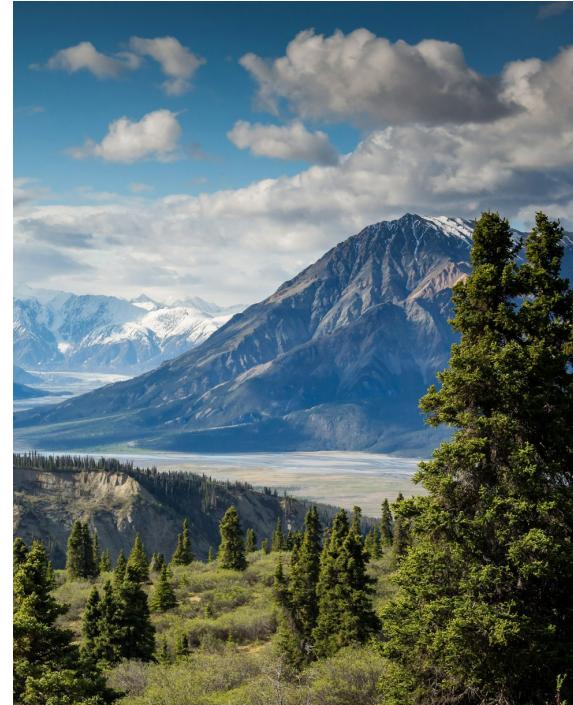
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