

BUILDING THE CASE FOR A BETTER EARTH



2016

VICTORIES
REPORT



ecojustice

OUR THANKS TO YOU

Dear friend,

The victories captured in this report demonstrate how the support of people like you has made a lasting difference for the environment we all share. And yet, we all know there is so much more work to be done.

Thanks to you, we were able to pressure governments into taking steps to ban plastic microbeads and bee-killing pesticides. Your support played a big part in protecting the fragile Arctic from exploratory drilling and gave endangered wildlife a voice in the courtroom. In the coming months, we'll be counting on you to help us achieve even more.

Your continued support will backstop our efforts to protect wild salmon populations, oppose risky fossil fuel infrastructure that takes us in the wrong direction on climate change, and advance the legal recognition of environmental rights in Canada.

Winning these fights won't be easy — nothing worth doing ever is — but thanks to your incredible commitment, we know that no matter how long the battle or how tough the fight, a brighter environmental future is within our reach.



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You give Ecojustice the opportunity to work as hard as we can, for as long as it takes, to ensure the environment is front and centre before the courts and in the public eye. Thank you. Together, we will build the case for a better earth.

With sincere appreciation,



Devon Page

Devon Page,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tricia Barry

Tricia Barry,
PRESIDENT AND CHAIR





OUR STAFF IN ACTION



VANCOUVER

Huda Al-Saedy, Jocelyn Anderson, Cailey Armstrong, Shauna Blair, Morgan Blakley, Karen Campbell, Emily Chan, Mythu Chung, Randy Christensen, Virginia Cristin, Sarah Doty, Mark Dunphy, Marion Greene, Andrea Gutierrez, Allison Jones, John Keller, Zoran Komljenovic, Ethan Krindle, Carmen Lansdowne, Carol McDonald, Sean Nixon, Ashton Orr-Frayn, Devon Page, Jineane Payne, Kimberly Shearon, Maggie Valenzuela, Margot Venton, Vicki Vishniakoff, Ally Wold, Harry Wruck



TORONTO

Kim Adlar, Venetia Bodanis, Laura Bowman, Julia Croome, Sandra Gamboias, Delaney Greig, Charles Hatt, Charlotte Ireland, Ian Miron, Elaine MacDonald, Kaitlyn Mitchell, Jessica Molnar, Jennifer O'Connor, Liat Podolsky, John Swaigen

ALBERTA

Betty Gabel, Melissa Gorrie, Barry Robinson, Fraser Thomson, Dyna Tuytel

OTTAWA

Emma Billard, Scott McAnsh, Celine Perret, Pierre Sadik

Thanks to the support of donors like you, we're able to celebrate another successful year in our efforts to protect Canada's wildlife and ecosystems. Some of these victories took years to realize, and it is thanks to your continued commitment that these tough wins were possible.

Passage of the *Great Lakes Protection Act*



The Great Lakes Basin, one of the most important freshwater ecosystems on earth, finally received the legal protection it deserves when Ontario's legislature passed the *Great Lakes Protection Act* in October 2015. Thanks to the long-term support and commitment of donors like you, Ecojustice was able to ensure that the Great Lakes have a legislative safeguard that will protect and restore watersheds, wetlands, beaches, shorelines, and coastal areas of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin for years to come.



CCBY2.0 / ROY LUCK

Jumbo Resort put on ice



The Jumbo Glacier Resort has been proposed in one form or another for more than 20 years. When it was tabled for development once again, we were determined to see it cancelled once and for all. Thanks to a groundswell of on-the-ground opposition and unrelenting efforts to keep Jumbo wild, the proposal was finally put on ice in June. Ecojustice helped our clients make the case that the proponent had failed to meet its legal duties and obligations, which led to the B.C. government pulling the project's Environmental Assessment Certificate. Thanks for sticking with us through what is hopefully the final chapter on Jumbo Glacier Resort. We could not have done it without your support.





Taking a stand for Ontario's species



In July, we called on supporters like you to sign an open letter asking Ontario's Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry to move on recommending appointments to the independent committee of scientists responsible for determining which species need protection under the province's *Endangered Species Act*. Thanks to you, government officials got a loud reminder that we expect them to live up to their promise to defend endangered wildlife.

Protecting wild salmon



This year, we will head back to court to protect wild salmon populations on both sides of the country. In the east, we will be fighting to overturn a ruling that upheld the federal government's approval of an application to manufacture genetically-modified salmon eggs in P.E.I. And in the west, we'll be going to court to defend a hard-fought legal precedent that struck down aquaculture licence conditions that allowed private companies to transfer fish infected with viruses to open-pen farms in the ocean. You helped us launch these important cases and we hope that you'll continue to support us as we strive to protect wild salmon populations on both coasts.

TESTIMONIAL

“ MEC proudly supports Ecojustice's work to ensure that habitat for southern resident killer whales is protected from a trio of threats — noise, pollution, and reduced prey. We value the work that Ecojustice does and we are inspired by their efforts to protect the wild animals and wild spaces that enrich our lives and sustain the planet. Their landmark cases to secure legal protections for the environment give us hope for a better earth.





With your support, we continued the fight against fossil fuel infrastructure that takes us in the wrong direction on climate change and puts people and the environment at unacceptable risk.

Arctic drilling plans shelved



For years, your support has enabled Ecojustice to give voice to the concerns of local communities in the Arctic, where offshore oil drilling proposals pose a serious environmental risks. Imperial Oil finally announced in June that it has put its Arctic offshore drilling plans on hold indefinitely. This is an important — if perhaps temporary — win for the Arctic environment, where a major oil spill would have catastrophic impacts on local communities, wildlife, and ecosystems.

Standing strong against pipelines



The United States' rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline sent a clear message: Tar sands pipelines are not the way of the future. If anything, they are relics of the outdated, broken system that stands between us and the transition to the clean, low-carbon energy future we need. On this side of the border, the support of donors like you meant we had the resources we needed to work around the clock to ensure Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline and Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain expansion meet the same fate. You're the reason we've been able to tackle projects of this magnitude and help our clients stand strong against the likes of Enbridge and Kinder Morgan. There is still work to be done, but we're optimistic that we can chart a new path forward. After all, our future depends on it.



Making good on Paris promises

Calling for an honest conversation about climate solutions



In December, thousands of Ecojustice supporters signed onto an open letter alongside prominent Canadians like Stephen Lewis and Tzeporah Berman. You called on Canada’s Commissioner of Competition to clear the air in the public square by investigating denier groups’ false and misleading advertisements about climate change. And thanks to your continued support, Ecojustice will continue to hold those that attempt to undermine climate action to account.

The Paris Agreement contains important principles for guiding global action on climate change, but it will require all signatory nations to fulfill their commitments in order to be meaningful. To make good on its Paris promises, Canada’s federal and provincial governments will need to work together to produce and implement a credible climate plan – one that includes saying no to new fossil fuel infrastructure. In the meantime, Ecojustice will continue to stand strong against projects that come with unacceptable climate impacts and pollute the air we all breathe, and we hope that you will continue to stand alongside us.

CCBY2.0 / GARY BEMBRIDGE

TESTIMONIAL

“Ecojustice is an incredible team of highly skilled and passionate professionals who make a positive difference for our country and for the planet. We hope supporters will stay with Ecojustice for the ‘long haul’ to help bring about meaningful and lasting change for the benefit of our environment and avoid discouragement about the state of the environment by celebrating the victories and spending time in nature.”



— DARALIS AND NELSON COLLINS



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Thanks to you, we've made incredible progress that protects Canadians and the environment from harmful substances and advances the concept of the human right to a healthy environment.

Stopping the flood of microbeads



After getting the ball rolling by submitting a formal request for a review of the toxicity of microbeads, we were thrilled to see the federal government take notice and move toward a ban on these tiny plastic pellets. Thanks to you, we had the resources to push for measures that will keep our waterways free from unnecessary plastic pollution. It still remains to be seen whether the proposed ban will restrict all microbeads, or exclude ones that are supposedly biodegradable — but your ongoing support will help us ensure that these pesky microbeads are banned once and for all.

Ontario neonic ban



This past year we saw the Ontario government make a laudable first step towards protecting important pollinator species when it became the first province to announce that it will reduce the use of seeds treated with neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides in the province. Donors like you aided our joint efforts with the Canadian Environmental Law Association to urge for restrictions on the use of neonics, and your continued support will help us push for a nation-wide ban on these bee-killing pesticides.



Protecting our drinking water



For more than a decade, groundwater in Harrietsfield, N.S., has been impacted by toxic chemicals from a now-defunct recycling facility. And for more than a decade, some residents — including our client Marlene Brown — have been afraid to drink the water in their homes. That’s why in addition to helping them in the courtroom, we called on you to pressure government officials to take action. You answered the call and sent a strong message to all three levels of government, telling them to work together to ensure that Harrietsfield residents have access to drinking water that is clean, safe, and of an acceptable quality. Thank you.



Environmental rights revolution gains momentum

Thousands of Canadians from coast to coast to coast have mobilized in support of the right to a healthy environment. They’ve urged their local governments to recognize one simple truth: Environmental rights are human rights. More than 130 municipalities have now passed declarations in support of their residents’ right to a healthy environment, and the momentum continues to build. Your continued support will help us continue to build a powerful case for the legal recognition of every person in Canada’s right to a healthy environment — including clean air, safe drinking water, and a stable climate.



TESTIMONIAL



“ *I want to ensure my loved ones don’t grow up in a compromised environment, which is why I support Ecojustice yearly and through a gift in my will, to protect the environment that so generously sustains us.* ”

— JOHN HARRISON



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Fiscal year ended October 31, 2015

REVENUE

| | 2015 | 2014 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Cost awards and recoveries | 27,085 | 97,072 |
| Cost recoveries – University of Ottawa law clinic | 234,000 | 252,693 |
| Donations | | |
| – Other donations and bequests | 1,965,250 | 2,498,120 |
| – Public appeals | 1,871,090 | 1,927,460 |
| Grants | 1,003,614 | 988,129 |
| Investment income | 131,434 | 78,019 |
| | 5,232,473 | 5,841,493 |

EXPENDITURES

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Amortization | 52,778 | 41,871 |
| Facilities and office | 672,584 | 620,636 |
| Fundraising | 378,928 | 375,397 |
| Human resources | 210,207 | 132,483 |
| Litigation and program support | 148,146 | 148,086 |
| Public education | 148,264 | 136,706 |
| Salaries and compensation | 3,639,475 | 3,337,621 |
| Science and research | 9,955 | 63,463 |
| Travel | 149,994 | 79,948 |
| | 5,410,331 | 4,936,211 |

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Net assets at beginning of year | 3,617,620 | 2,712,338 |
| Net assets at end of year | 3,419,762 | 3,617,620 |

Ecojustice maintains internally restricted funds to safeguard the Society's ability to continue as a going concern and to ensure the completion of current cases. Our full audited financial statements are available on our website at ecojustice.ca.

ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURES

70% PROGRAM
19% FUNDRAISING
11% ADMINISTRATION

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

66% INDIVIDUALS
24% FOUNDATIONS
7% BEQUESTS
3% OTHER
1% COST AWARDS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tricia Barry, Ian Burgess, Martha Butterfield*, Deborah Curran,
Won J. Kim, Murray McCaig, Sayo Nickerson, Ronald H. Pearson*,
Doug Rae*, Madeleine Redfern, Dr. Anna Reid,
Ruth Richardson, Will Roush, Stuart Rush, Q.C.,
Leonard Schein, Trip Van Noppen, Cathy Wilkinson

*outgoing April 2016

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Margaret Atwood, Robert Bateman,
Honourable Claire L'Heureux-Dubé,
Gregory J. McDade Q.C., Judge William A. Newsom, Buck Parker,
John Rich, Clayton Ruby, C.M., Dr. David Suzuki,
Terri-Lynn Williams-Davidson, Doug Chapman (in memoriam)

Notes: Allocation of Expenditures is based on data submitted to Revenue Canada Agency on our T3010 Registered Charity Information Return; figures may not total 100 due to rounding. Fundraising costs remain below the charitable sector standard of 23 per cent of total operating expenses. Our complete audited financial statements are available online at ecojustice.ca. Charitable Business Number: BN 13474 8474 RR0001.

Report design by Christa Ledding | www.ChristaLedding.com

Ecojustice is committed to the use of environmentally responsible papers. By choosing 100 per cent post-consumer recycled fibre instead of virgin paper for this printed material the following savings to our natural resources will be realized this year.

Trees saved: 41
Wood reduced: 10,698 kgs
Water reduced: 131,312 litres
Landfill reduced: 1,668 kgs
Net Greenhouse emissions: 3,236 kgs
Energy reduced: 46,948,000 Btu

SOURCE: WWW.UNISOURCE.CA

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