



PROTECTING

the Gulf of St. Lawrence
from oil drilling

SUMMER 2017 | ISSUE 82

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Acting on behalf of David Suzuki Foundation, SNAP-Quebec (CPAWS), Nature Quebec, Attention Fragîles and Sierra Club Canada Foundation, Ecojustice lawyers launched a lawsuit in May to protect the ecologically significant Gulf of St. Lawrence from the risk posed by offshore oil and gas drilling.

Together with your renewed and generous support, we will challenge the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board's decision to reissue an exploration licence to Corridor Resources Inc., which gives the company the exclusive option to explore for oil in an area known as the Old Harry prospect.

When Corridor's old licence was due to expire in January 2017, the Board reissued an identical replacement—effectively extending the old licence beyond the legal limit of nine years. **Exploration licence term limits are meant to ensure that companies don't sit on their rights forever — but they also play an important role in protecting the environment from rights-holders who lack the capacity or technology to drill safely.**

You and I know that offshore oil and gas exploration poses significant risks to the local environment, species and the surrounding communities. Home to more than 4,000 species, a nearly one-billion dollar tourism industry and fisheries this area also holds priceless cultural significance and food source for local First Nations.

An oil spill caused by exploring for oil would devastate marine wildlife including endangered species like blue and beluga whales and leatherback sea turtles, which already struggle to survive and thrive.

While this region borders Quebec and Newfoundland and Labrador, an oil spill here could also affect the waters of neighbouring Atlantic Provinces. We only need to look as far as the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico to understand the long lasting effects exploration errors can have — many of which are still being felt today.

Together with your support, a win would set a legal precedent limiting extensions of expired permits and protecting ecologically diverse areas across Canada from potentially harmful consequences of drilling.

- Ian Miron and Josh Ginsberg, staff lawyers

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We're stronger because we work together, which is why this spring we called on you to write government demanding it respond to serious environmental problems. We're happy to report that your overwhelming participation has helped secure a brighter environmental future for Canada.

#HelpHarrietsfield

On World Water Day, we asked you to take a stand for residents in Harrietsfield, N.S., whose water supply has been contaminated by industrial activities.

The Nova Scotia government has issued several clean-up orders for the contaminated site, but the named companies attempted to appeal them. Thanks to donors like you, our lawyers successfully argued that the orders should be upheld, and in March, the Nova Scotia Supreme Court sent a strong message that the company must pay to restore the land it polluted.

While we are pleased with the decision, we know that clean-up orders take time to implement, leaving impacted Harrietsfield residents in an unacceptable holding pattern.

So we called on you to take action.

The 3,049 letters you sent kept the pressure on Nova Scotia's Minister of Environment. You ensured that the fight for clean, safe water was at the forefront of the provincial election and persuaded government to install water filtration systems in peoples' homes.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

By choosing 100 per cent post-consumer recycled fibre instead of virgin paper for this printed material, the following natural resources will be saved or reduced this year: 41 trees; 10,698 kg of wood; 131,312 litres of water; 1,668 kg of landfill; 3,236 kg of net greenhouse emissions; 47 million Btu energy.

SOURCE: UNISOURCE.CA

#SaveOurSalmon

Wild Pacific salmon sustain entire ecosystems, local economies and cultures. That's why we are calling on you to urge the government to test B.C. farm salmon for *Piscine Reovirus* (PRV) before allowing them to be transferred to the ocean.

The federal government has long dismissed our concerns about PRV — a highly contagious virus that has infected 80 per cent of B.C. farm salmon — insisting it will not harm the wild population. Yet scientific research confirms that PRV is associated with the salmon disease

Heart and Skeletal Muscle Inflammation.

We have launched legal proceedings to force government to take a precautionary approach to protecting our precious wild salmon. Meanwhile, the Minister has received more than 5,300 letters from supporters like you, urging him to protect this iconic species.



Thank you for standing with us.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



DONOR INQUIRIES

For donor inquiries or feedback, contact Donor Relations at 1.800.926.7744 x295

or email donor@ecojustice.ca. Write to us at 390–425 Carrall Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 6E3 *New Address*

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COAL HEARING COMES TO A CLOSE

It took three years of fighting off a barrage of delay tactics from opposing counsel but last May Ecojustice lawyers were finally in court to make the case for why the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's approval of the Fraser Surrey Docks coal export facility should be struck down.

If approved, this project would bring four million tonnes of thermal coal by open-car rail from Wyoming's Powder River Basin through Vancouver's Lower Mainland each year. Communities like our clients' would be unfairly exposed to coal dust coming off the top of the open rail cars which can lead to respiratory illness such as emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

A project like this one would also pump nearly seven million tonnes of CO₂ emissions into the atmosphere each year. That's why we dedicated thousands of hours and resources into making sure we put forward the strongest possible case for our clients.



On behalf of our clients – Communities and Coal, Voters Taking Action on Climate Change and two local residents – thank you for your overwhelming encouragement and support.

Thanks to your dedicated support you've helped us prevail over unforeseen roadblocks in this case. Additionally, you've also allowed us to challenge other fossil fuel infrastructure projects — like Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline expansion and TransCanada's Energy East pipeline — that threaten our communities, environment and the climate.

Thank you for sticking with us. I'm proud of the work we've done. I hope you are too.

— Karen Campbell, program director (climate change) and staff lawyer

I'm taking action today for my son's future

“I strongly believe that working to achieve a stable climate in the future is one of the most important things we can do for our children and grandchildren. In my opinion, new fossil fuel exports are a big cause of climate change and by fighting these projects in court on behalf of clients like us, you and Ecojustice play a crucial role in this effort. Thank you! ”

— Kevin Washbrook,
Voter's Taking Action on Climate Change



Kevin is taking action for his son, Cole.

DR. DOROTHEA GODT & DR. ULRICH TEPASS



Dr. Dorothea Godt and Dr. Ulrich Tepass, Champion Community members and proud monthly donors.

Dr. Dorothea Godt discovered Ecojustice in 2002 when she was looking for ways to support the conservation of wildlife and the natural environment in Canada. She's remained a loyal supporter of Ecojustice ever since and has been strategically deepening her impact through monthly gifts.

“I have a lot of respect for Ecojustice - and its goals, work and successes give me hope for the future.”

As a kid growing up in Germany, one of Dorothea's fondest memories was spending time in nature feeling tremendous joy walking in meadows surrounded by beautiful blue cornflowers and rich red poppies. In her regular family outings, she would come across debris left by others that, unfortunately at times, contained trapped wildlife like frogs and toads which she and her sister were quick to rescue.

It was a valuable lesson for a young Dorothea who knew then how humans could impact our planet and all species who dwell on it.

“Currently, humans are responsible for driving large numbers of life forms to extinction and steal natural resources from future generations.”

She understood at a very young age how we are all interconnected.

Dorothea and her husband Ulrich are avid outdoor enthusiasts who cherish their time spent in provincial and national parks. One of their favourite pastimes include the joys of quietly observing Pikas and enjoying wildflowers in the Rocky Mountains. But they worry about these small animals and many others who are facing perils in the form of habitat loss and climate change. As scientists, Dorothea and Ulrich are well aware of the strong evidence that points to human-induced climate change and the urgent need to act against this growing threat.

Closer to home, Dorothea has already observed the disappearance of bees and butterflies in her own garden. However, it is her dream to one day see more parks in cities, see humans halt our destruction of nature and, instead, build a sustainable world that is rich in ecological diversity.

With Ecojustice's successful track record in securing legal victories that protect our environment, she is hopeful that her dream will one day be a reality.

Join Dorothea, Ulrich and more than 5,000 monthly supporters who believe in the power of the law to protect the environment. Visit www.ecojustice.ca/monthly today to learn more or contact our Donor Relations Team at 1-800-926-7744 ext 205.