





Thank You!

Dear Wilderness Committee supporters,

It has been 35 astounding years.

From the big-tree battles of the late 1980s and early 90s, to pushing for new parks and protected areas in the late 90s, to defending our wild rivers in the early 2000s, to our work today fighting climate change – the Wilderness Committee has continuously been at the front lines of environmental defence

Thousands of people like you have been a part of this, through your generous donations, volunteer time and actions demanding that decision-makers protect wilderness and wildlife. You have made these 35 years an overwhelming success. Thank you!

Looking back, we see so many examples of what people can do when we work together to save places we value. And this past year was no exception.

We played a central role in the successful campaign to prevent crude oil from being shipped by rail through fragile northern lands to Churchill, Manitoba. We helped stop a plan to log the forests of Gambier Island, located in the heart of BC's Howe Sound. We stood strong with our allies to win the fight against the proposed Raven Coal Mine on Vancouver Island. Each year, we continue to celebrate significant

wins, guaranteeing a wild future for generations to come.

As you read this report and consider all the work we've done over the past 12 months, remember what we have been able to do over the past 35 years. Together we have built the Wilderness Committee into an extraordinary force for nature!

Thank you for your continued support. For the wild,

Joe Fov

National

Campaign Director

Beth Clarke

Development and Program Director

Gwen Barlee

National Policy Director

Matt Jong

Comptroller, CMA



Matt Jong, Beth Clarke, Joe Foy and Gwen Barlee

Board of Directors

Shannon Daub (Chair) Sage Aaron Catherine Ludgate John Calvert Stuart Mackinnon Flaine Golds Karen Palmer Mark Haddock Susan Pinkus

Our work wouldn't be possible without the 22 passionate staff members in our Toronto, Winnipeg, Victoria and Vancouver offices. Thank you for making a difference for Canada's wilderness!

Our Wild Vision





ounded in 1980 by a small group of citizens determined to preserve Canada's wild heritage, the Wilderness Committee has grown to an organization with over 60,000 members, supporters and volunteers from coast to coast to coast, and offices in Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipeg and Toronto.

Since then, we've helped achieve protection for over 60 crucial wilderness areas encompassing millions of hectares, and including critical wildlife habitats for endangered species such as caribou and grizzly bears. We are also part of a growing movement of citizens opposed to the expansion of climate-changing fossil fuel industries like tar sands and coal exports.

According to scientists, at least half of a nation's land base should be protected in order to conserve nature and provide people with a high and sustainable standard of living. Here in Canada, we still have a long way to go.



The Wilderness Committee's wild vision is to see generations of Canadians enjoying abundant clean water, fresh air, wild places and wild creatures forever. Our work to protect Canada's natural biodiversity is focused on the following priority areas:

Preserving Wilderness

The Wilderness Committee prioritizes preserving Canada's most threatened wild lands, such as remaining old-growth forests in BC, the 'pocket desert' in BC's beautiful Okanagan-Similkameen country and large sections of Canada's boreal forest. We are dedicated to ensuring better protection for our wild rivers, streams and waterways.

Campaigns: Double BC's Protected Areas, Stop Old-Growth Logging, Dasiqox Tribal Park, Manitoba Conservation Hot Spots, Clayoquot Sound, Save the Walbran Valley, Heart of the Boreal, Inland Temperate Rainforest, Okanagan-Similkameen National Park

Protecting Wildlife

Our wildlife work targets protection for Canada's most critically at-risk species, including the boreal woodland caribou, endangered populations of killer whale and the northern spotted owl. We focus particularly on habitat protection for these important

species, and are working to strengthen legislation so that protection can be assured for all endangered species across the country.

Campaigns: BC Species at Risk, Federal Species at Risk Act, Grizzly Bear, Killer Whale, Spotted Owl, Woodland Caribou, Wild Salmon, Bees and Pollinators

Defending Parks

Canada's parks are a public trust where people must be allowed to walk, hike, swim, camp, birdwatch and connect with nature. We work to defend existing parks, including advocating for better funding, more park rangers and stronger regulations to keep industrial interests from damaging our protected areas.

Campaigns: Manitoba Parks Defence, BC Parks Defence

Safeguarding Public Resources

As nearly 90 per cent of the land base in Canada is publicly owned, the government has a tremendous opportunity to manage our natural resources for sound ecological purposes and for the public good. We work to protect public lands from inappropriate industrial development, and partner with First Nations communities in defence of their lands. Wilderness Committee campaigns focus on sustainable

management of Canada's natural public resources and a fundamental respect for Aboriginal title and rights.

Campaigns: BC Rivers at Risk, BC Forestry, Stop the Site C Dam, BC Mining. Access to Information

Fighting Climate Change

Global climate disruption is already responsible for major environmental damage and economic instability. The science is clear: the unchecked use of coal, tar sands oil, fracked liquefied natural gas (LNG) and other dirty fuels cannot continue. The Wilderness Committee works to expose and oppose the environmental risks posed by the fossil fuel industry in an effort to create a world in which our wild vision can come to be.

Campaigns: Climate Solutions, Save the Salish Sea, Stop Fracking and LNG, Stop the Kinder Morgan Pipeline, Stop the Energy East Pipeline, Stop the Raven Coal Mine









Wins for Nature





ach year we work hard to achieve success in our campaigns. Here are some recent examples where the support of our members, volunteers, local groups and concerned citizens came through for nature.

Northern oil scheme goes off the rails

August 2014 – Our Manitoba office celebrated a major win when the Omnitrax shipping company announced it was shelving its plan to move crude oil by rail through the northern Manitoba port of Churchill and then by ship through Hudson Bay. Our Manitoba Campaign Director Eric Reder has led the charge to keep the oily cargo from moving into Canada's fragile north, speaking at several town hall events in communities along the rail line.



Lake drain plan cancelled

September 2014 – A plan to drain a Manitoba lake and risk an entire watershed was finally sunk for good. Mining company Tanco proposed to drain water from Bernic Lake – a lake that has been contaminated by their mine operations – into the Bird River. But after an enthusiastic campaign by the Wilderness Committee's Manitoba office, Tanco withdrew the risky plan! Now our campaign is all about getting this recreational waterway the park protection it deserves.

New park for Manitoba

October 2014 – The Wilderness Committee congratulated the Skownan First Nation and the Manitoba government when they jointly announced the protection of the new 1,003-square kilometre Chitek Lake Provincial Park. The new park on the shore of Lake Winnipegosis is home to woodland caribou, moose and a very rare herd of wood bison. The Wilderness Committee had previously delivered thousands of letters to the Manitoba government supporting the protection of the Chitek Lake region.

Gambier Island forest dodges chainsaws

November 2014 – Cheers erupted in our Vancouver office when the BC Minister of Forests decided not to grant new logging rights on Gambier Island, located in Howe Sound. The Wilderness Committee had worked with local people to turn out a huge crowd at the public meeting called to gauge opinion. For now, Gambier Island's beautiful forests are safe – and with a little luck and a lot of hard work we hope they will someday be preserved in an official protected area.

More bees please

December 2014 – The Wilderness Committee was thrilled when the Ontario government introduced a plan to greatly reduce the use of bee-killing neonicotinoid (neonic) pesticides. Our participation in the public consultation process, combined with the actions of our members, helped ensure Ontario is on track to reduce neonic use by 80 per cent on corn and soybean seeds for 2017.

Manitoba park protected and expanded

December 2014 – The Wilderness Committee's Manitoba office applauded the provincial government for both expanding Whiteshell Provincial Park and protecting more lands and waters within the cherished and popular park. The Meditation Lake area was protected, and the park expansion added part of the Whitemouth River, which is the cleanest river in southern Manitoba. The Wilderness Committee has been calling for this protection since 2009.

Coal to stay in the hole

March 2015 – Our staff in Victoria were thrilled when Compliance Energy unexpectedly withdrew its application for the controversial Raven Coal Mine in the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island. We have campaigned against the project since 2010, and it is also opposed by local environmental and community organizations, business groups and all four municipal governments in the vicinity of the mine site.





Become a monthly donor to help us defend Canada's wild!

Join the **Wilderness Committee Trailblazers** by making a monthly gift.
Monthly giving is:

- Convenient! Monthly payments let you spread your donation out across the entire year and receive a single tax receipt each spring.
- Impactful! Your gift provides predictable revenue that will help us plan campaigns, hire staff and invest in Canada's wild more confidently.
- Fun! As a Trailblazer, you'll become one the Wilderness Committee's most valued members, and you'll get perks, rewards and communications tailored just for you!

For as little as \$10 per month, you can support wilderness preservation and wildlife protection year-round.

WildernessCommittee.org/ trailblazers



Strategic Alliances



The Wilderness Committee achieves our goals by forming strategic alliances with diverse groups to create positive change on environmental conservation issues. These collaborations extend the reach of our work each year.

Opposing LNG

In May of 2014, we joined the Council of Canadians to host a public forum on opposing liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports from BC. Grand Chief Stewart Phillip of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) was the keynote speaker to a packed Vancouver crowd.





Saying NO to logging trucks in picnic areas

In June 2014 we raised the alarm about a proposal to allow logging trucks through Sasquatch Provincial Park, located near Harrison Hotsprings, BC. The plan involved BC's unfortunate Protected Area Boundary Adjustment Policy, which allows companies to apply to change park boundaries. We joined forces with the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS BC) and local people to draw attention to this terrible plan to remove land from a protected area. To date, the logging road scheme has been kept at bay.

Crossing the line for the climate

We gathered together with hundreds of people from both sides of the 49th parallel – including Tribal and First Nations representatives – in September 2014 for the "Climate Change Knows No Borders" rally at the Peace Arch border crossing between BC and Washington State. Organized by the Wilderness Committee, Georgia Strait Alliance and 350 Seattle, the groundbreaking international event sent a clear message to the fossil fuel industry: we will not allow our region to become a global fossil fuel export hub.

The fight to Keep the Peace

In December of 2014, we stood shoulder-to-shoulder with our allies to declare our strong opposition to the Site C dam project, which had just been approved by the BC government. Our partners in the battle to save the Peace River Valley from being flooded by the dam include the West Moberly First Nations, Prophet River First Nation, Sierra Club of BC, Peace Valley Environment Association, Peace Valley Landowners Association, Raven Trust, Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative and the David Suzuki Foundation. The First Nations and landowners launched court challenges, and all organizations helped to fundraise in support of the legal defence campaign.

Forestry not fracking

Also in December 2014, we joined the Pulp, Paper and Woodworkers of Canada (PPWC) union to make the case that BC's economy would benefit from a focus on value-added forestry, not fracking and LNG. We pointed out that the BC government has gradually abandoned the province's forestry heritage in pursuit of an unsustainable pipe dream: LNG exports. The better option – for a resilient economy and our climate – is to rebuild an innovative, sustainable forestry sector, constrained by strong environmental protection laws.

Defending our right to speak

The Wilderness Committee was in court defending against Taseko Mines Ltd.'s defamation case in early spring 2015. Our supporters held several courthouse rallies, including a delegation of Tsilhqot'in Nation chiefs whose territory was threatened by Taseko's proposed mine. We also had support from the leadership of the UBCIC, and representatives from Friends of Nemiah Valley, Ecojustice, BC Civil Liberties Association and Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. We were being sued for what we wrote criticizing Taseko's proposed New Prosperity mine, which was eventually rejected by the federal government. We are proud to be defending free speech in Canada and appreciative of all the support!





Give the gift of nature to future generations!

Leave a lasting gift by making the Wilderness Committee a beneficiary in your will.

The Wilderness Committee relies almost entirely on the generosity of the public in our mission to protect Canada's wilderness and the life-giving biodiversity that it supports. We receive no government funding, so your legacy gift will have a significant impact on our ability to continue protecting wilderness, defending wildlife and fighting climate change.

Your gift is a statement to the world about your belief that a wild Canada is worth standing up for!

The Wilderness Committee also accepts gifts of stocks, bonds, RRSPs and life insurance. For more information, please contact our Development & Program Director.

WildernessCommittee.org/legacy



Independent and Grassroots



The Wilderness Committee believes that campaigns are won through grassroots organizing and community engagement. That's why we work to create opportunities for people to come together face-to-face, discuss issues and take action for the environment. Nurturing our grassroots support is critical in our work to protect wild nature.

Paddling for the Peace

The summer of 2014 found us floating down BC's Peace River alongside hundreds of canoes, rafts, kayaks

and other small craft at the annual Paddle for the Peace event, designed to build support for the campaign to stop the Site C dam. The Wilderness Committee's Joe Foy was the Master of Ceremonies.

Pole raising at Fish Lake

In October of 2014, a Wilderness Committee team travelled to Fish Lake in the territory of the Tsilhqot'in Nation to help celebrate the gift of a totem pole from the Nu-chah-nulth people of the west coast of Vancouver Island. The pole was to commemorate the Tsilhqot'in's string of recent victories: winning their title and rights court case, fending off a proposal for a huge open-pit mine at Fish Lake and proposing a huge new tribal park. Several hundred people travelled to Tsilhqot'in territory to participate in an amazing event that included traditional dancing and songs from both tribal groups – as well as lots of good food and fun.





On the road to stop Kinder Morgan

In March 2015 we joined allies from ForestEthics and headed to Kamloops, BC to hold a town hall meeting about the proposed Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline. Communities along the route have expressed serious concerns around the impacts of potential leaks and oil spills – particularly in areas where the pipeline would put salmon-bearing rivers and streams at risk – as well as the climate change implications of new fossil fuel infrastructure. We strongly oppose Kinder Morgan's pipeline expansion because it's too risky for the environment and climate, and we found that a lot of people in Kamloops are worried about the same issues.

Talking tribal parks

In April 2015, we put on an event in Victoria called Tribal Parks 101 to help inform people about First Nations land governance systems. Representatives from various First Nations presented information on different tribal park projects, including tribal parks in areas of Clayoquot Sound on the west coast of Vancouver Island and on the Chilcotin Plateau, located west of Williams Lake, BC.





Stand with us to protect Canada's wilderness!

For over 35 years, we've relied on concerned citizens across the country to support our work. You can get involved by:

- Contacting your local Wilderness Committee office to become a volunteer
- Signing up for our action e-alerts to stay up-to-date on our campaigns and learn about opportunities to take action
- Becoming a member of our Grassroots Distribution Team to circulate our educational publications in your community

Join us and add your voice to the growing number of citizens working together to defend wilderness in Canada!

WildernessCommittee.org/ takeaction



On the Ground



The Wilderness Committee's campaigns are grounded in our research and field work. Getting out on the land to study, map, photograph, video and experience wilderness areas and wildlife habitats – as well as places affected by industrial damage – enables us to inform people about the state of Canada's environment

Big tree battle brewing

In July 2014, WC's Vancouver Island Campaigner Torrance Coste went out in the field with a team of volunteers to one of his favourite places: the Walbran Valley. Sixty-five kilometres on logging roads southwest of Lake Cowichan on Vancouver Island, the Walbran is remote – but not inaccessible. Twenty years ago we worked hard to protect a portion of the Walbran and the neighbouring Carmanah Valley in a provincial park. However, some of the largest and most ecologically important forest groves were excluded from the park boundary. This expedition resulted in valuable photos and video clips – the raw material needed to expand the fight to save the Walbran's giant trees.

Meares Island trail work

In the summer of 2014, the Wilderness Committee's Victoria office organized multiple trail clearing expeditions into the big-tree forests of Meares Island in Clayoquot Sound, within the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation's tribal park area. Under the supervision of the Tla-o-qui-aht Tribal Parks team, our volunteers have helped make a hike on Meares Island an unforgettable experience.

Mapping the conflict zone on Burnaby Mountain

In November of 2014, the Wilderness Committee's mapping expert Geoff Senichenko led an expedition to the Burnaby Mountain Conservation Area, where protests had broken out over Kinder Morgan's tree clearing activities for its Trans Mountain pipeline proposal. Geoff and the team took photos and gathered GPS coordinates, then helped produce maps and reports so citizens could learn what was going on. Kinder Morgan eventually walked away from the tree clearing work in the face of the increasing protest. In a strange twist of events, it was revealed that the company's own GPS mapping coordinates on Burnaby Mountain were incorrect.

Evidence-based Activism

Turning up new information and then spreading the word is critical in capturing public attention and moving us closer to a more just and environmentally secure world.

Keeping BC forests in public hands

In May of 2014, the Wilderness Committee made a submission in Vancouver to the panel headed by former BC Chief Forester Jim Snetsinger regarding the BC government's proposed expansion of area-based forest management. These area-based tenures, also known as Tree Farm Licences or TFLs, would essentially give corporate logging interests more control over BC's public forest lands. We strongly opposed the designation of new TFLs – and after hearing from many people and organizations that oppose them too, the BC government quietly stepped back from their TFL expansion plans.

Time to ban raw log exports

In February 2015, we blew the whistle on extremely high levels of raw log exports from BC. If the logs exported in 2014 alone were loaded onto logging trucks and those trucks were lined up end to

end, they would cover the distance from Vancouver to Thunder Bay, Ontario. The controversial practice of raw log exports – shipping unprocessed tree trunks overseas without adding any value in BC – has reached all-time record levels in the last few years. We have joined with forest workers to call for a BC-wide ban on the practice, which hurts both the environment and local jobs.

Tree-huggers in training

In February of 2015, we produced *Conservation in Action: An Educator's Guide to Species at Risk in BC for Grades 8-12.* In partnership with teachers, wildlife biologists and curriculum specialists, the Wilderness Committee developed this inquiry-based curriculum resource to provide a way for teachers to work together across a variety of disciplines, and to introduce endangered species-related issues to BC secondary school students. *Conservation in Action* also contains information and links to valuable multimedia resources, as well as ideas to help facilitate community connections for local schools. It's a great opportunity to connect students with nature

Thanks so much to all of our supporters for making our work possible.

The foundations on this list are committed to environmental defence and play an important role in our continued success:

- Glasswaters Foundation
- Grayross Foundation
- Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation
- Laura L. Tiberti Charitable Foundation
- Leon Judah Blackmore Foundation
- Patagonia Environmental Grants
- · Vancouver Foundation
- · Victoria Foundation
- · Winnipeg Foundation



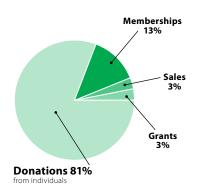
Financial Statement

2014-2015 Auditor

Dale Matheson Carr-Hilton LaBonte LLP Chartered Accountants

Revenues

Our organization is committed to remaining grassroots and independent. Only the continued support of individual donors and members allows us to speak the truth and stand up for the environment when decision-makers and industry endanger Canada's wilderness. Donations accounted for 81% of our revenues in 2014-2015. Thank you for helping to ensure that the Wilderness Committee remains an autonomous voice for the wild!

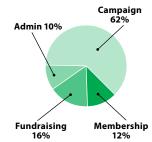


Members' equity, end of year	747,402	686,728
Members' equity, beginning of year	686,728	724,953
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over Expenses for the year	60,674	(38,225)
	-	-
Gain on disposal of assets	-	
Rental income	-	-
OTHER INCOME		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over Expenses from operations	60,674	(38,225)
	1,973,924	1,815,149
Sales costs	88,380	92,498
Membership costs	224,160	205,489
Canvass costs	228,239	226,471
Campaign & grant project costs	1,202,135	1,048,449
Amortization	27,053	24,679
EXPENSES Administration costs	203,957	217,563
	2,034,598	1,776,924
Unreceipted donations	25,368	29,713
Sales of educational material	49,273	60,308
Grant revenue	60,616	87,715
Donations	1,628,928	1,297,072
Membership dues	270,413	302,116
REVENUE	2015	2014

ASSETS	2015	2014
Current		
Cash and equivalent	51,567	130,711
Restricted funds	32,457	44,033
Short term investments	339,683	165,631
Accounts receivable	19,904	19,115
Inventory	12,585	15,645
Prepaid expenses	28,333	31,532
	484,529	406,667
Capital assets	48,496	63,147
Restricted cash reserve	310,570	307,952
	843,595	777,766
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		

Current

	843,595	777,766
NET ASSETS	747,402	686,728
	96,193	91,038
Accounts payable + accrued liabilities	96,193	91,038
Current		



Program Costs

Despite increased revenues this year, our administration and fundraising costs have dropped. This is because we are consistently dedicated to using your funds efficiently and effectively. We pledge to continue directing as much as possible to our campaign work, the impacts of which are highlighted in this report.

Auditors' Report for the year ended 30 April 2015

To the Members of Western Canada Wilderness Committee

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Western Canada Wilderness Committee, which comprise the statement of financial position as at April 30, 2015 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, Western Canada Wilderness Committee derives a portion of its revenue from unreceipted fundraising activities the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of Western Canada Wilderness Committee. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraising revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the year ended April 30, 2015, current assets and net assets as at April 30, 2015.

Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary had we been able to satisfy ourselves concerning the completeness of the contributions referred to in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Western Canada Wilderness Committee as at April 30, 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit Organizations.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Society Act of British Columbia, we report that in our opinion, the accounting policies applied in preparing and presenting the financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

DALE MATHESON CARR-HILTON LABONTE LLP CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Vancouver, BC

August 26, 2015







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The Wilderness Committee is Canada's largest membership-based wilderness preservation group with 60,000 members, supporters and volunteers. Founded in 1980, we've helped gain protection for over 60 major wilderness areas in Canada, including millions of hectares of critical wildlife habitats and some of the world's last large tracts of old-growth temperate rainforest and boreal forest.

But much remains to be done.

Join us. Your support makes a world of difference!
WildernessCommittee.org/support

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