

# Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

JAN 2019



## Toad People Honoured with Panda Award

Back in early 2016, you contributed more than \$17,000 to complete the documentary *Toad People* — a heartwarming story of local communities taking action to save endangered species in their own backyards. You also wrote letters to the government telling them to stop logging plans that threaten this film's featured species — the western toad — and its habitat near Nakusp, B.C.

The film launched later that year and **those tiny western toadlets won hearts and minds at screenings and film festivals across Canada and the US.**

But in November 2018, your dedication really paid off. **The film won a coveted Panda Award at the renowned Wildscreen Festival, an international wildlife film festival in Bristol, U.K.**

The *Terra Mater Factual Studios Impact Award* honours the individuals, families and communities that work hard to make a difference for at-risk wildlife big and small.

We are thrilled about this award — thank you for making it possible!



Photo: Maxine's tree in Carmanah Walbran

### DONOR PROFILE

## A Friendly Competition

— Kegan Pepper-Smith and Cori Creba

As avid outdoors people from Vancouver Island, we've spent a lot of time in places the Wilderness Committee has fought to protect. Attending the Annual Open House this year reaffirmed our belief that **this organization continues to be at the forefront of efforts to combat climate change and preserve culturally and ecologically significant areas.**

After asking each other what we could do to help — and mixing in a bit of friendly spousal competition — we both decided to become monthly donors.

It's clear to us that we're at an ecological tipping point. We couldn't be more proud and inspired to now be direct supporters of the Wilderness Committee's ongoing efforts to protect species, spaces and the climate so future generations can visit the same awe-inspiring places we have.



## Climate Action Rising in Manitoba

Since a November 2017 jam-packed public town hall on Manitoba's Climate and Green Discussion Paper, that your support made possible, the iron has been hot for real climate action.

But a year later Premier Pallister took the opposite of climate action and introduced a sham climate bill, killing the carbon tax and removing any semblance of real action.

However, this climate inaction is not the end of the story. Manitoba is uniquely positioned to act on climate by protecting country-sized expanses of natural forest, while increasingly eliminating fossil fuel use and selling existing hydroelectricity to regions currently powered by fossil fuels.

**Thanks to your support people from diverse communities, from school-aged kids to businesses and environmental organizations, have formed an alliance, the Climate Action Team** — to coordinate action we can take in the province. The alliance has just begun their work and we look forward to what is possible in 2019.



## Building Bridges Across Communities

Last fall, your support meant our Vancouver Island campaign staff could hit the road for two weeks in northern Island forest communities and the forest itself to learn, document and build connections.

Where past trips focused on public community meetings, our priority was to meet with local First Nations and municipal governments and conduct field expeditions. Our third tour in 18 months, connecting with and hearing concerns of Indigenous Nations was invaluable. **The foundations we built will strengthen partnerships and effective collaboration on future campaigns and projects.**

The one public meeting in Port McNeill saw passionate discussion from people of all different beliefs and walks of life. It was widely acknowledged, **we are the only ones providing open forums for a public dialogue about the future of conservation and forestry on the West Coast.**

We are proud of this challenging work and none of it could happen without your support.

Your commitment to protect nature and ensure a wild Canada drives each of our campaigns. Since the Wilderness Committee is funded almost entirely by individual donors like you, your gifts have a huge impact.

*Thank you*



Please consider honouring your passion for wilderness and wildlife by transferring a gift of securities or by including the Wilderness Committee in your will or estate plans. To learn more contact Michelle Johnson, donor relations manager at 778-708-9179 or [michelle@wildernesscommittee.org](mailto:michelle@wildernesscommittee.org)

*Wild Impact* is a quarterly update about the Wilderness Committee and our work you make possible. For more information on any of our campaigns please visit [WildernessCommittee.org](http://WildernessCommittee.org)