

Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

JULY 2019



130 letters in two days!

Last month, when Canadian Premium Sand was granted an environmental act licence for a dangerous frack sand mine in Hollow Water First Nation, M.B., you sprung to action. More than 130 supporters like you sent in appeal letters to provincial and federal leaders in just two days! **Combined with over 300 letters you previously submitted opposing the mine your voice is loud and clear** — stop this threat to public health and our climate.

Canadian Premium Sand is putting the local community at risk with shoddy safety plans to deal with silica dust from the mine. And the mined silica sand will be used for hydraulic fracturing for oil and gas in Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C. It's putting water at risk and devastating an ecosystem at the heart of Canada's boreal forest.

You know fighting climate change means **stopping fossil fuel expansion and protecting nature**, so there's no room for projects like this one in our future. Thanks for standing up with us to protect the healthy community, the boreal forest and our climate!



Building Unique Connections

One of the most exciting initiatives your support makes possible is our trail building program! It's a collaboration between Indigenous leadership and Wilderness Committee field staff and volunteers. This program includes multi-day trips into key areas you take action to raise awareness for and protect.

This year your gifts will make eight trips to three different rainforests on Vancouver Island possible!

Your gifts allow us to mobilize 75 to 100 program volunteers, fostering lifelong connections with these areas and a love for the wilderness. Building new trails and upgrading old ones, you enable us to work in support of First Nations and community groups to champion alternative visions in the forests and highlight the value of these ecosystems beyond timber products.

You make us unique — **no other organizations are doing this work right now!** This hands-on program is part of what positions the Wilderness Committee as leaders in the campaign to protect old-growth forests. *Thank you.*



From Despair to Defiance

In the face of your opposition, and less than 24 hours after declaring a climate emergency in Parliament, the federal government approved the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion June 18. This was expected. But what could have been a demoralizing moment instead left us more ready than ever to fight onwards.

Our extensive media reach is made possible by your gifts and on June 18 our phones were ringing off the hook! We nailed it. Your message got out everywhere: the sheer hypocrisy of the federal government giving the green light to a 20 per cent increase in emissions from Alberta's tar sands just hours after acknowledging the urgency of the climate crisis.

In between fielding media calls our climate campaigner, with the support of allies and volunteers, called a snap rally in response to the decision. You couldn't let this betrayal go unchallenged and over 500 of you protested in the streets of Vancouver with almost no notice!

It was magical. That's how we know we're winning this fight even if the government refuses to abandon its support for the pipeline. **We're only able to be this nimble because of supporters like you.**



DONOR PROFILE

Wilderness Committee is "doing the work"

– Denise MacKean

From a very young age, my heart has been drawn to plants and animals occurring in nature. This was reinforced by a like-minded family. Since 1970 I have been actively involved in conservation efforts in British Columbia — first in the East Kootenays and then on Denman Island.

After visiting the "Western Canada Wilderness Committee" — **aka WC2 at the time** — on a top floor in Gastown, I was smitten!

I have gladly supported their work for about 30 years. It seems cost-effective and has a "down to earth" attitude I admire and we have shared concerns and values.

It feels like the Wilderness Committee is "doing the work for me" (and at my age, that means a lot!)

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

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