

Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

APRIL 2022



We're suing Kenney for defamation

Alberta Premier Jason Kenney accused us and our allies of spreading misinformation following his public inquiry into foreign funding of environmental groups — even though his own final report found **no such thing**. After much thought we decided **we couldn't let him lie to Albertans about the findings of this pseudo-judicial process without us pushing back**. So we're taking him to court. Earlier this year, we joined our allies in a lawsuit against Kenney for defamatory remarks against us.

Thank you for making legal challenges like this possible. This whole exercise began as a self-serving witch hunt for the premier to attack his political opponents and smear the climate justice movement as un-Canadian.

Millions of dollars and several years later, it stated the obvious — we had indeed participated in campaigns targeting Alberta's tar sands — but found no wrongdoing. When Kenney did not get the result he wanted, he made one up.

Now his response (or more accurately his lawyer's) is that he was not talking about us at all. Even though we're among the groups named in the report, he claims no reasonable person could think he was referring to us. I'm sorry, what? **With you backing us we're going to win this lawsuit and set the record straight.**



Win for Ontario old-growth

You persevered and secured a moratorium on logging in Catchacoma Forest! Two years of research, public engagement, government advocacy and blood, sweat and tears to protect this old-growth eastern hemlock ecosystem in Peterborough County paid off. **The one-year moratorium, granted last year, was recently extended until 2023.** We cannot thank you enough for your support.

The fight's not over yet! This reprieve from imminent cutting will allow time to apply for what's known as a "Crown land-use amendment" to give permanent protection to Catchacoma Forest.

Your support makes it possible to continue working with Williams Treaties First Nations, local residents, and old-growth ecologists, and advocating to government ministries. Rare remaining old-growth in southern Ontario is no place for private logging profits.



Nuchatlaht solidarity work heats up!

Last month our friends at Nuchatlaht First Nation kicked off their historic land title case in the BC Supreme Court. This legal effort comes after decades of overfishing and clearcut logging of their territory on the legendary Nootka Island. **Nuchatlaht are seeking to regain control to manage their lands and waters with more stewardship and care.**

The Wilderness Committee unequivocally supports the Nuchatlaht. **We're working to raise awareness of this small and mighty nation's stance against the provincial and federal governments and its exciting alternatives like salmon parks.**

Your support makes it possible! In the weeks leading up to the court case we organized a webinar with leaders and lawyers from the Nuchatlaht to highlight what's at stake and what this Nation is fighting for. We launched an in-depth media campaign to grab public attention and helped host a public townhall and rally outside the courthouse for the launch of the case.

Thank you for making it possible to continue to stand with this brave nation in the weeks and months ahead. Together let's call on the BC government to stop fighting against the Nuchatlaht.

photo credit: Camil Dumont



DONOR PROFILE

Passion for wilderness

— *Stuart Mackinnon*

I'm a city boy, born and raised in Vancouver. I grew up near Pacific Spirit Park, and played in the forest from a young age, but really the closest I got to real wilderness was at cub camp.

However, in my early thirties, I had the opportunity to teach in the James Bay region of northern Quebec in the tiny Cree village Nemaska, 1000 km north of Montreal. Here I learned to love natural spaces and the importance of protecting and preserving them. **The curriculum was short of relevant materials, so I started using the mailings from the Wilderness Committee**, first to supplement but later as my primary sources. I eventually returned to Vancouver, where I made a commitment to ensure every young person had access to natural spaces, even if they never left the city. I became a parks and natural spaces advocate, eventually being elected for 11 years as a Park Board Commissioner, including three years as Chair.

The Wilderness Committee has been an invaluable part of my journey, educating me and encouraging me to do better by nature. Being a monthly donor is part of the way I give back, but more importantly, as a legacy donor, I know that when my time is finished my estate will ensure the future of the Wilderness Committee is a little more secure. Thank you for all you do to educate, advocate and protect.



Michelle Johnson,
Donor Relations Manager

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

P.S. Talk to me! Would you share the gift of your story with me?

Share your passion for wilderness and wildlife. Why do you choose the Wilderness Committee? Call or write me:

Phone: 1-800-661-9453

Email: 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