

Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

JULY 2022



On the ground with caribou

In a remote valley nestled within the mountains where the Peace River flows, a baby caribou takes its first wobbly steps while Mom watches nearby.

Last month, we had the privilege to witness conservation in action during our visit to the maternity pen.

Starr Gauthier of the Saulteau First Nation, a caribou guardian living and working at the pen, calls the place sacred. Stepping through the gate, there's a feeling of magic and gravity. In just a few months, the babies and mothers, free of danger during the most sensitive time in their lives, will be released back into the wild to join the herd — bigger, stronger and more able to avoid predators.

You've been with us every step of the way as we support the Saulteau and West Moberly First Nations' dedication to recover this herd of caribou through extensive habitat protection, restoration and a maternity pen. And it's working — the herd size has increased from just 16 to over 100!

The importance of this work cannot be overstated. The ability to go on the land and visit the pen is essential in telling the story of what it takes to save a species. Thank you for making it possible to share this story and the hope it brings us as we advocate for the same elsewhere.



Expanded Manitoba office

We opened a new office in Winnipeg! You and I know urgency is needed to counter the lagging environmental protections of the current provincial government. **We are thrilled your support increased our capacity for grassroots advocacy to tackle the biodiversity and climate crises in Manitoba.** Our Wilderness and Water Campaigner Eric says it best, "The need for a watchdog on environmental policies is now greater than ever. Manitobans both want and deserve to grow our parks and to have protections for water and wildlife."

Our grand opening celebration for our new office at 553 St Mary's Road was a blast. We chatted with folks about the upcoming campaigns and showed off our new work spaces while sharing snacks and drinks. A live music performance by Micah Braun got us ready for more outdoor meetups at our new location. Several MLAs attended the opening, taking the opportunity to chat about what good environmental policy we need to enact going forward. And we got some great media from the Winnipeg Free Press, who covered our move and expansion.

Thank you for making this growth possible — we look forward to a visit from you! **Our publicly accessible storefront is open three days a week for you to browse our greeting cards, calendars and wild gifts.** And if you're just passing by, check out the large display windows with our campaign actions advertised loud and clear.



Shining a light on fracking greenwash

We've done some pretty cool things together in the fight to save the planet, but this one was particularly fun. In the wee hours of the morning, we gathered with some allies outside the Vancouver Convention Centre. We were there to send a message to the attendees of a liquified natural gas (LNG) conference opening that day with a speech from BC's minister of energy, mines and "low-carbon innovation."

We put your donations to work to rent an industrial projector to shine the words "Clean LNG is a dirty lie" next to the iconic sails on the waterfront. Hours later, the government told BC's most polluting companies there is a "key role" for their gas in decarbonization. However, LNG isn't the solution. **Together, we must keep calling out the gas industry greenwashing.** Thanks to you, our message was there to challenge him and referenced every hour throughout the day on CBC radio.

We're always finding new tactics and new technologies to help us spread the word about what needs to be done to maintain a safe climate. We couldn't do this work without you. This year, we're ramping up our efforts to end fracking in British Columbia so stay tuned for more creative grassroots actions to rally community support.



Bradford Bypass legal challenge

In April we teamed up once again with our friends at Ecojustice to launch a legal challenge against the federal environment ministry for refusing to do an impact assessment of Doug Ford's proposed Bradford Bypass highway in southern Ontario. The destructive highway would cut through the Greenbelt, the Holland Marsh — a provincially significant wetland — and the headwater rivers at the south end of the Lake Simcoe watershed.

A proper review of the proposed highway is needed to understand the full impact of the proposed project on vital habitats, wildlife and watersheds in the area. The federal minister has done this before for another of Doug Ford's government highway projects, the 413. It seems clear that the Bradford Bypass project deserves the same scrutiny.

The federal government says it's committed to mitigating climate change and halting the accelerating loss of biodiversity. They can and should intervene when provincial governments fail to do so. **Donors like you back our commitment and hold their feet to the fire.** We'll be sure to report on the impact of your support as this case goes forward!



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