

Wild Impact

YOU MAKE THIS POSSIBLE

APRIL 2025



A hallowed old forest under threat



Photo: Lemay Forest Women's Walk (Michael Yellowwing Kannon).

Over the last few months, you brought overwhelming support to the Lemay Forest in south Winnipeg, Manitoba. The hallowed old forest is under threat from a developer despite its importance to protected species and community. When we rang an alarm bell on the urgent need to preserve these trees, **you joined us in droves with your actions and donations.**

The forest is an Indigenous sacred site, where ceremonial lodges have operated for more than 25 years. It's steeped with Metis history, tied to Louis Riel and the formation of the province a century and a half ago. But the hard history to absorb is the story of the orphanage and home for women that operated here. **The details are hard to write and hard to read, so please be warned.** Newly uncovered documents show the passing of more than 3,000 women and children here, with their remains buried in the forest.

Because you didn't hesitate in your support, we sprung to action helping folks defend this forest. We hosted a town hall meeting supported by 12 organizations that brought the stories of this sacred site to the public. Your gifts made it possible to help keep the Indigenous ceremonial fire burning at the forest and to support walks led by the Metis and First Nations community members. **You've put us in a strategic position at multiple meetings with elected officials** so we can familiarize them with the reasons to support the Indigenous community and save this forest.

The support from folks like you, through donations and letter-writing to the government, has been massive. Thank you! We'll continue this enormous push together until the province of Manitoba, with support from the City of Winnipeg, acts to designate this a Heritage site.

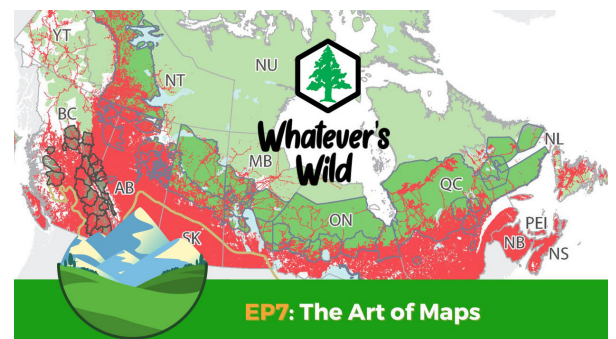
Meet your mapping wizard "GIS Geoff"

Most of you know our campaigners — they're the ones sending you reports and ways to take action on issues you care about. You're hearing from them in the news, on social media and when they reach out to thank you for your donations or answer your questions about the campaign work you make possible.

Working alongside these campaigners is an amazing team of experts who supercharge our projects. And *Whatever's Wild* — our video series hosted by Campaign Assistant Cedar George-Parker — offers a direct line to these experts. Cedar's interviews feature compelling conversations with our team, who are out on the land and in communities year round. The latest episode takes a closer look at some of the vital behind-the-scenes work when Cedar dives into the world of mapping with our incredibly talented Research and Mapping Coordinator Geoff Senichenko!

A veteran staff member of more than 20 years, "GIS Geoff" is the wizard behind every map and mapping analysis included in our campaigns. From logging in old-growth forests to risky mining proposals to cross-province pipeline routes, **if it threatens local ecosystems, chances are Geoff has mapped it!**

In this episode, Geoff's passion for using maps as informative and powerful tools to tell the story about what's really happening on the land shines through. **Just like our unique original mapping, the *Whatever's Wild* video series is made possible by your support.** Thank you.



Watch *The Art of Maps* at: [Bit.ly/3YmRT4A](https://bit.ly/3YmRT4A)

Stop waffling on old-growth



Photo: Stop Waffling on Old-Growth rally (Agathe Bernard).

Last month your gifts were put to work on the ground making our "Stop Waffling on Old-Growth" rally in Victoria, B.C. a massive success! Supporters like you flooded the Minister of Forests' constituency office parking lot and we gained coverage from both print and television media as passing cars honked their support.

We know you're exhausted by the lack of action on old-growth from the province, and rightly so! **This event brought new energy to the grassroots movement and rebuilt pressure on the new forest minister, Ravi Parmar.** And you guessed it — we brought the waffles too.

Your donations amplify First Nations calling for protection of old-growth. Ma'amtagila Hereditary Chief and founder of the Awin'akola foundation, Rande Cook, spoke at the event alongside other allies and our Forest Campaigner, Tobyn Neame. Their words resonated with the crowd, sparking further momentum.

The theme of the event — and the waffles — provided a fun and symbolic reminder to "stop the waffling" on old-growth protection. **We love a chance to get creative with you and attendees joined us in keeping spirits high with signs, art and a community vibe.**

Together, we're making a difference in the fight for old-growth protection. The momentum generated at this event would not have been possible without your commitment to preserving these vital forests. Our gratitude is overflowing.

A bright torch of activism

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I've spent my entire adult life as a passionate environmentalist and conservationist, been booed, hissed at and called a kook countless times in my early adulthood for wanting people to recycle and consume less. That didn't stop me! I'm 74 now and still carry the same bright torch and at every opportunity try to impart my bit of wisdom to younger folk, who don't laugh or ridicule. There is hope with these good people.

Continue on with your noble work. May fortune and responsible governments listen and act accordingly.

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Yours in solidarity,
Susan Morgan, Wilderness Committee Donor



Photo: Susan Morgan's garden (Susan Morgan).



QUESTIONS?

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.

Contact Dena Ellery Annual Giving Manager:
by ✉ Dena@wildernesscommittee.org

Legal Name: Western Canada Wilderness Committee
Charitable Registration# 11929-3009-RR0001

Thank you

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