



PROPAGATING POLLINATOR PASSION

PHOTO: TARA MAGEE

Pollinators ensure reproduction for more than 85 per cent of the world's flowering plants and more than two-thirds of the world's crop species. But they're struggling worldwide due to habitat degradation and destruction, toxic pesticides and climate disruption.

You're making a BIG difference for these tiny creatures!

THE BUTTERFLYWAY PROJECT/L'EFFET PAPILLON

Since 2017, we've recruited and trained thousands of volunteers from all over Canada to plant corridors of pollinator habitat. These innovative native plant and gardening ambassadors come from all walks of life. They're rewilding their communities in creative, fun ways — from rooftop gardens to local park adoptions to native seed and plant swaps.

In 2020, the project won the Canadian Museum of Nature's Nature Inspiration Award. Learn more:

dsfdn.org/butterflyway-story

THE BIMBY PROJECT

Starting in 2022, hundreds of community volunteers have been working with University of British Columbia scientists to observe and track butterfly species in B.C. through the iNaturalist app. Dozens of participants

also documented the plants butterflies interacted with, providing a unique data set on why certain species are only found on specific plants. Another cohort of Seekers focused on tracking butterflies along hundreds of transects — prescribed walking routes.

The project is going national this year. Learn more:

dsfdn.org/bimby

SEED SITTERS

Native plants can be expensive, hard to come by and a mystery to many people. This project provides guidance for anyone wanting to grow them for personal use or to share in their communities. Learn how from a step-by-step infographic, instruction sheet, webinar and video (and more): dsfdn.org/seed-sitters

MONARCHS NOW OFFICIALLY AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

In December, the federal government reclassified monarch butterflies as endangered. It also proposed increased protection for two western bumblebee subspecies. These critical changes could bring more protections for pollinator habitat in general — and could even lead to further benefits, such as much-needed pesticide bans.

WINNING VICTORIES LARGE AND SMALL

You power thousands of people throughout Canada connecting through our two online mobilizing hubs — **Future Ground Network** and **Réseau Demain le Québec**. Together, they're transforming their neighbourhoods, defending nature and accelerating transformational climate action.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THEIR RECENT WINS:



PHOTO: COALITION TERRAINS DE GOLF EN TRANSITION

Coalition Terrains de Golf en Transition is a coalition of citizen groups from different cities in southern Quebec working to preserve golf course green space threatened by real estate development. It's pushing government to reform the Expropriation Act and provide municipalities with money (including a \$100 million payment to the Montreal Metropolitan Community) and legal tools to create more urban parks.



PHOTO: MOBILISATION 6600 PARC-NATURE MHM

Mobilization 6600 Parc-Nature MHM helped convince the federal government to create a green corridor on the lands beside the Ray-Mont Logistiques container terminal. Up to \$8 million will be invested to protect green spaces and, if necessary, acquire land.



PHOTO: AMBRE GIOVANNI

Last May, **Technoparc Oiseaux** helped safeguard a 20-hectare monarch butterfly habitat near Montreal's Trudeau International Airport. The airport had destroyed its 4,000 milkweed plants — which endangered monarchs depend on — in summer 2022.



PHOTO: MATHIEU B. MORIN

Mères au front – Québec helped push the province to prohibit, beginning this year, the sale of products for domestic use that contain glyphosate and neonicotinoids. It also co-created Chair of Generations — intended for the National Assembly and unveiled on October 11 — with artist Marc Séguin and high school students, to remind elected officials about urgent environmental crises that threaten future generations.



PHOTO: @GASP4CHANGE ON INSTAGRAM

Many FGN groups — notably **Biodiversity and Climate Action Niagara, Community Climate Council, EcoCaledon, GASP, Halton Hills Climate Action, Nith Valley EcoBoosters** and **Shake up the Establishment** — have campaigned against development on the Ontario Greenbelt. On September 21, Premier Doug Ford reversed a scheme to build homes there. It was a huge victory for everyone in Ontario — including Indigenous Peoples, local climate groups and farmers — and a massive testament to the power of collective action!



PHOTO: TREVOR LEACH

With the Foundation, **Future Ground Network** supported 10 of its member groups — from Halifax to Victoria — as part of nationwide, coordinated climate and migrant strikes in September.



PHOTO: WILLIAMS NOURRY

Member groups **Mères au front de Rouyn-Noranda, Comité Arrêt des Rejets et Émissions Toxiques de Rouyn-Noranda, Mères au front, Mobilisation 6600 Parc-Nature MHM** and **L'Écothèque** were part of a coalition that mobilized nearly 1,000 people on August 26 in Rouyn-Noranda. Together, they demanded environmental rights and standards on contaminants. Industry currently emits 25 times more arsenic into the air than allowed!



PHOTO: SUNSHINE COAST SUE BIG OIL

The Sunshine Coast branch of Sue Big Oil celebrated a huge win in May when council voted unanimously for the town to work with other local governments in British Columbia to file a class action lawsuit to recover costs from global fossil fuel companies! The Vancouver arm of the lawsuit is also continuing to gather community and municipal support.



PHOTO: SHAKE UP THE ESTABLISHMENT

In October, **Shake Up the Establishment** published *Practicing Rest, Recovery, Resistance: An Interactive Dreaming Journal* for climate activists, community organizers and other engaged people. Designed to counter eco-grief by creating opportunities for joy, reflection and learning, the book features more interactive activities.

TAKING GOVERNMENTS TO COURT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

Starting in 2019, you helped 15 youth from seven provinces and one territory sue the federal government for violating their rights to life, liberty and security of the person under Section 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and their right to equality under Section 15.

At first, the Federal Court threw the case out. **In December, the three Federal Court of Appeals justices unanimously ruled in favour of the plaintiffs.** This allows the case to proceed to trial — probably in 2025.



PHOTO: ROBIN LOZNAK

Climate litigation is now recognized as a key tool in delivering climate justice. Cases are steadily increasing worldwide:

- In November 2019, seven young people sued the Ontario government for weakening the province's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target — and won.
- Last August, 16 young people successfully sued the State of Montana for violating their right to a clean and healthful environment.
- In September, six young people from Portugal launched an unprecedented suit in the European Court of Human Rights against 32 governments for failing to protect them from the climate crisis.
- Cases have also been brought by and on behalf of children and youth in Pakistan and India.

Write a letter to support the *La Rose* youth climate lawsuit plaintiffs: dsfdn.org/youth-plaintiffs

PUSHING OIL AND GAS TO CLEAN UP ITS POLLUTION

You’re helping convince Canada to end fossil fuel industry methane emissions — one of the fastest and cheapest ways to slow climate change over the short term. You’re also improving the odds that we’ll land a much-needed cap on all of the industry’s greenhouse gas emissions, which currently have NO LIMIT!

In December, the federal government drafted regulations requiring the oil and gas industry to eliminate more than 75 per cent of methane emissions by 2030. It committed \$30 million to a Centre of Excellence to improve methane measurements, which will improve independent verification of progress, such as by the Foundation. And it set out a framework intended to cover all of the sector’s emissions.

WHY METHANE REDUCTION MATTERS

Methane has more than 80 times the climate warming impact of carbon dioxide over 20 years in the atmosphere. When burned in kitchen stoves and furnaces, it generates harmful pollutants that are linked to asthma in children, other lung

and heart diseases, stroke, dementia, hospitalizations in the elderly, premature birth risks in pregnant women and premature deaths.

Canada’s environment commissioner found oil and gas industry methane emissions — currently based on industry-reported data — are underestimated by 25 to 90 per cent. In Saskatchewan, heavy oil facilities were releasing 3.9 times as much methane as reported. In British Columbia, oil and gas sector methane pollution is at least 2.5 times greater than reported by industry and government. A cloud of methane pollution over the Alberta and Saskatchewan border last year was only discovered because of a European satellite.

Much of the technology needed to eliminate methane emissions altogether is readily available.

CLOSING LOOPHOLES

Greenhouse gas emissions have reached record highs worldwide. Canada is one of the largest oil and gas producers and greatest historical emitters.



PHOTO: BRIAN SAMSON VIA FLICKR

The fossil fuel industry is driving the climate *and* affordability crises. Corporations continue to rake in obscene profits, give out bonuses and buy back shares while increasing inflation and fuel prices.

A cap helps government clamp down on emissions. But the rules need to be tighter, to prevent industry from buying its way out of compliance through offsets and a decarbonization fund.

Want to help?

Hold Big Oil accountable for its climate pollution:

dsfdn.org/emissions-cap

Stop fracked “natural” gas in B.C.:

dsfdn.org/no-more-lng



PHOTO: LINNY MALIN

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS LAND AND WATER DEFENDERS

In 1997, we provided strategic advice leading up to a historic Supreme Court case between the Wet’suwet’en and Gitxsan First Nations and the Province of British Columbia, in which judges ruled that Indigenous Peoples have ancestral land rights but refused to affirm title. We also supported publication and distribution of *Delgamuukw*, a book about the case.

Decades later, the fight continues.

In August, you made it possible for our team to attend the Peace and Unity Summit on Wet’suwet’en and Gitxsan territories (Smithers, British Columbia), to build relationships and support land defenders upholding Indigenous law in the face of police violence and Coastal Gas-Link’s fracked gas pipeline.

Learn more here: peaceandunitysummit.com

STANDING AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

You helped push decision-makers to pass Bill C-226, the National Strategy Respecting Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice Act, in the House of Commons in March 2023 and advance it to the Senate.

If approved by both chambers of Parliament, it will become law.

This is long overdue. Environmental racism — environmental degradation, pollution and climate change that disproportionately harms Indigenous and other racialized people in Canada — is a historic and ongoing injustice that requires deliberate action.

Examples include:

- Siting polluting industrial sites and other environmentally hazardous projects near racialized communities.

- Greater harm from climate change and persistent organic pollutants in Inuit communities.
- Higher levels of exposure to toxic chemicals in certain consumer products marketed to racialized people in Canada.
- Higher levels of occupational exposure to toxic chemicals in workplaces dominated by racialized workers.
- Inadequate environmental standards or enforcement for polluting industries/companies operating near racialized communities.

Learn more:

dsfdn.org/environmental-racism

Call on the Senate to pass Bill C-26:

dsfdn.org/passC-26



PHOTO: DIVA PLAVALAGUNA VIA PEXELS

GROWING MORE HEALING FORESTS

“It is the nature of a forest to heal. Reconciliation is best respected in outdoor natural spaces where people can be connected to nature and each other in meaningful ways.”

PETER CROAL, CO-FOUNDER, NATIONAL HEALING FOREST INITIATIVE

You’ve nurtured our partnership with the National Healing Forest Initiative. This year, you helped support 33 groups establishing Healing Forests throughout



PHOTO: JANINA CARLSTAD

Canada — from British Columbia to Newfoundland — transforming green spaces into places that foster reconciliation and wellbeing.

Healing Forests provide places to heal colonial traumas while embracing the natural world. They involve local Indigenous communities and highlight trees, plants and biodiversity. Many also feature traditional healing gardens, walking trails, seating for reflection and signage showcasing Indigenous knowledge.

Each project has its own unique story, rooted in the surrounding community’s history and culture. From urban green spaces in major cities to remote wilderness areas accessible only by rugged trails, they represent a wide range of natural landscapes.

Last fall, we hosted Healing Forest groups in a series of networking workshops. They connected with each other and learned from those that had already established Healing Forests in their communities.

Learn more and check out the map of Healing Forests:

dsfdn.org/healing-forests

ADVANCING CLIMATE EQUITY

Indigenous and marginalized communities in Canada frequently bear the brunt of climate change effects such as urban heat islands, flooding and pollution, without reaping the benefits of climate action. But most community climate plans don't consider equity in their decision-making.



Now — thanks to you — the *Equity Strategy for Municipal Climate Action Planning* helps municipalities tailor their climate action plans to their specific needs and circumstances.

Awareness about cities' roles and responsibilities in setting and achieving targets to address current and future climate challenges is increasing. But how to incorporate equity and justice at a local scale remains unclear.

The guide addresses this gap. It provides guidance for:

- Incorporating equity into climate action plans.
- Taking local disparities into account.
- Ensuring climate policies reduce, not worsen, social issues.
- Centring marginalized communities' voices.

By adopting its adaptable recommendations, municipalities can lead on creating a sustainable, just and resilient future for all.

Download the guide here: dsfdn.org/climate-equity

EXPANDING A JUST ENERGY TRANSITION

"When we think about the climate crisis, we're thinking about our families, the people that we love and care about. Instead of looking down, to extract the last drop of oil, we're looking up and starting to utilize the solar potential that exists in our homelands."

MELINA LABOUCAN-MASSIMO

You supported a collaborative, multi-year project that offers a path for communities that want to address the climate crisis on their own terms.

Launched in November, the *Just Transition Guide* — Indigenous-led pathways toward equitable climate solutions and resiliency in the climate crisis is the brainchild of Foundation board member Melina Laboucan-Massimo.

It includes case studies and knowledge from Indigenous communities that have already transformed their energy sovereignty through renewable energy. Outside of utilities, Indigenous nations are the largest renewable energy asset owners in Canada.

It's also a how-to guide for all communities to follow suit, to "move beyond just talking about climate action and being the tangible implementation of climate solutions

— before it's too late," Massimo said.

Download the *Just Transition Guide* here: dsfdn.org/transition-guide

Watch the video, of Melina Laboucan-Massimo and David Suzuki's January 31 virtual fireside chat, hosted by Severn Cullis-Suzuki: dsfdn.org/fireside-chat



Finding Solutions

A publication of the David Suzuki Foundation, a registered Canadian charity working to protect the diversity of nature and our quality of life, now and for the future.

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ANSWERING COMMUNITY ECO-QUESTIONS

More and more people understand that their everyday choices support the transformational change needed to solve the related climate and biodiversity crises.

Thanks to you, Living Green has been helping people make a difference at home, school and work since 2008 — 16 years!

In October, Living Green started inviting the now 50,000-strong community to send in questions and tips. One question is answered in every edition of the Living Green monthly digest.

Here's an example of what you can expect:

Q: "Living Green provides a few DIY eco-friendly laundry detergent recipes that contain baking and washing soda. I have read conflicting information about their potential impact on the ocean. Can you please clarify why you believe these products are safe for our environment and the oceans because I would like to make my own detergent at home. I want to be assured that I will not be harming the earth in any way." — Elise

A: Hi Elise! Thanks for your thoughtful question and intention to limit your impact.

We dug into your concern and couldn't find any scientific evidence that suggests washing soda (sodium carbonate) and baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) have a significant impact on the health of water bodies and the environment.

However, *any* substance if released in large quantities or inappropriately disposed of can have negative environmental effects. Washing soda or baking soda dumped directly into water bodies could contribute to changes in pH levels and potentially harm aquatic life.

To minimize any potential impact, always use these as directed, dispose of household products and waste properly and avoid direct release into water bodies or elsewhere in the environment. We hope you enjoy creating your own laundry soap at home!

Do you have a burning question on how to live green? Send your questions and tips to contact@davidssuzuki.org. Our team will dig in and get back to you with a solution!

Sign up for the Living Green digest: dsfdn.org/living-green

LET'S LEAVE FOSSIL FUELS IN THE GROUND!

The fossil fuel industry has spawned car and consumer culture, plastic proliferation and poisonous pollution. It's captured governments, media and educational institutions. It's controlled global economies and sparked conflict and wars. In many ways, it also made life immeasurably better for a lot of people — over the short term.

Now, when we can clearly see how to create a better, less polluted world, with greater equity and opportunity, the industry and its allies have stepped up their efforts to promote their deadly fuels and downplay the dangers.

As with any profitable enterprise that's been found to cause more harm than good (think Big Tobacco), the fossil fuel pushers are continuing their decades-long practices of hiding information, sowing doubt and confusion about the scientific evidence and promoting their products as indispensable.

Although the industry has long known that using its products as intended could spell disaster for humanity — its own scientists said so! — it's campaigning harder than ever against any measures that threaten its obscene profits.

In the U.S., the oil lobby launched an eight-figure media campaign to convince people that their products are “vital” to global energy security. In Canada, we've seen everything from campaigns disingenuously promoting fossil gas as a climate solution to provincial governments fighting against practical, effective, affordable climate solutions.

Even the annual UN climate summits appear to have been hijacked by the industry, with oil executives presiding over the conferences and hordes of industry lobbyists and government supporters overshadowing those most affected by the climate crisis.

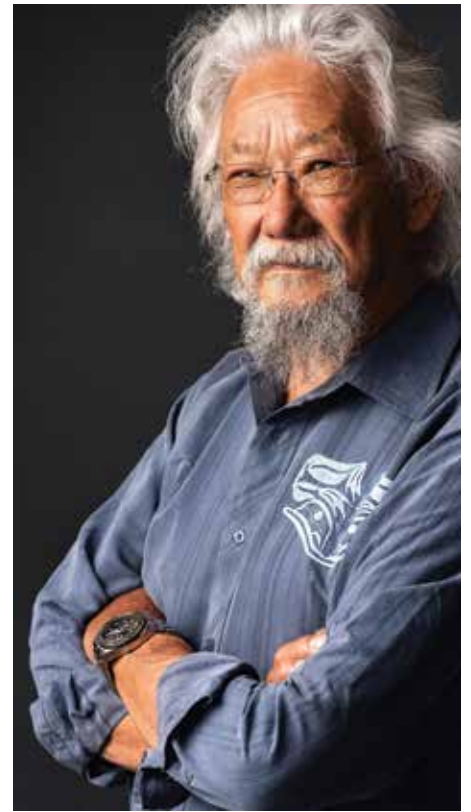


PHOTO: JENNIFER ROESSLER

For the sake of our species and all others who will inherit this beautiful planet, we need to say enough is enough. It's time to leave fossil fuels in the ground. Let's move on to a brighter future!



WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

“Much of what we've dedicated this work to requires enduring vigilance. That's why David and I are Foundation legacy donors — for our children and grandchildren. They are our conscience and our inspiration.”

TARA CULLIS

Want to make a lasting impact on what you care about? A legacy gift in your will can provide hope for future generations. You'll safeguard species, habitat — entire ecosystems. You'll fight for every person in Canada's right to breathe clean air, drink safe water and eat toxic-free food. You'll support urgent, innovative solutions to the greatest threat to life as we know it: climate chaos.

When you include us in your estate plans, you're safeguarding Earth's life-support systems for people today, tomorrow and into the future.

Contact Siobhan Aspinall to learn more: legacy@davidsuzuki.org