



BUILDING THE CASE FOR A BETTER EARTH

2017

VICTORIES REPORT

ecojustice



Our thanks to you



Dear Ecojustice supporter,

The victories we share with you in this annual report are a testament to what we can achieve when we work together.

During the last 27 years, your dedicated support has made Ecojustice the largest environmental law charity in Canada. Thanks to you, we are able to give it our all each and every time we launch a case, stand up in court and everything in-between. This year, your generosity helped us stand strong against short-sighted fossil fuel infrastructure like pipelines, oil-by-rail and coal terminals, share our legal expertise with communities fighting to protect their health, give nature a voice in the courtroom – and much more.

But despite these victories, we know that there is much more work ahead.

Last year's pipeline approvals combined with political developments south of the border, mean it is now more important than ever to

enforce Canada's environmental laws – and in many cases advocate to make them stronger.

We have been around long enough to know the road ahead will be challenging, but having passionate supporters like you inspires us to forge ahead nonetheless. Your support helps Ecojustice's team of experts advance our shared mission to use the law to protect nature, combat climate change, and fight for a healthy environment for all.

Thanks to you, Ecojustice can continue to build the case for a better earth. Our victories are your victories.

Sincerely,



Devon Page,
Executive Director



Leonard Schein,
Chair, Board of Directors

Our staff



Vancouver

Huda Al-Saedy, Jocelyn Anderson,
Emma Billard, Shauna Blair, Karen Campbell,
Emily Chan, Randy Christensen, Mythu Chung,
Virginia Cristin, Sarah Doty, Mark Dunphy,
Marion Greene, Andrea Gutierrez,
Allison Jones, John Keller, Zoran Komljenovic,
Lisa Luky, Suzie MacMillan, Carol McDonald,
Sean Nixon, Devon Page, Jineane Payne Eason,
Kegan Pepper-Smith, Kimberly Shearon,
Jordano Valenzuela, Maggie Valenzuela,
Margot Venton, Vicki Vishniakoff, Ally Wold,
Carolyn Wong, Harry Wruck

Toronto

Laura Bowman, Julia Croome, Sandra Gamboias,
Charles Hatt, Charlotte Ireland, Elaine MacDonald,
Sarah MacDonald, Ian Miron, Kaitlyn Mitchell,
Jessica Molnar, Jennifer O'Connor, Liat Podolsky,
John Swaigen, Aaron Ward, Avery Zingel

Ottawa

Amir Attaran, Venetia Bodanis, Joshua Ginsberg,
Scott McAnsh, Celine Perret

Alberta

Betty Gabel, Melissa Gorrie, Barry Robinson,
Fraser Thomson, Dyna Tuytel



Climate change



Your support allows us to put our hearts and souls into the fight to protect our communities and the environment from the impacts of climate change.

Standing strong for our communities

With your help this past year, we stood strong in the face of destructive corporate interests and held government bodies to account, ensuring that community and environmental concerns were front and centre during project reviews.

We need to look no further than the demise of Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline project to see the difference your support has made.

You stood with us and made sure we had the necessary resources to go to court and stop this project for good.

The end of Northern Gateway was a tremendous victory, but it was not our only cause for celebration this year. When the National Energy Board's review of TransCanada's Energy East pipeline began we were one of the first groups to call out the project's review panel for holding closed door meetings with interested stakeholders – one of whom was a TransCanada consultant.

Your support of the Ecojustice team helped set into motion a domino effect that resulted in the entire panel stepping down and the National Energy Board (NEB) later declaring any decision made by the former panel, void. In other words, our legal experts forced the NEB to hit the reset button on the flawed Energy East review and start the process again from scratch. Thanks to your support, this critical legal victory will help ensure the people, waterways and wildlife that live along the proposed pipeline's route get a fair, impartial project review.

Protecting communities from risky oil-by-rail

The victories do not stop there. This year, Ecojustice supporters like you also took action to draw the federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change's attention to the importance of protecting communities across Canada from risky oil-by-rail projects and expansions.

Despite these wins for the environment, we know there is still much work to be done — but your continued support will make sure the job gets done.

Up next

We're committed to continuing to stand strong against projects that take us in the wrong

direction on climate change, and put our communities and environment in danger.

That's why when Cabinet handed down its approval of the Kinder Morgan pipeline project, we threw down the gauntlet and filed a lawsuit challenging the decision. Not only will this project increase climate change-inducing greenhouse gas emissions, but it will further endanger the iconic Southern Resident killer whales that make their home in British Columbia's coastal waters. We cannot sit idle and let that happen.

Thanks for standing with us as we work to safeguard our communities and the environment from the impacts of climate change.



MARIAN WHITE
Author, Educator and
Climate Activist

“My late husband Robin and I explored Alberta's natural regions for years, he photographing, I writing, for our book on wild Alberta. We lived in our truck-camper, took aerial photos, and spent hours hiding to get wildlife close-ups. And we noted environmental issues. That's why since 1993 we've supported Ecojustice, which defends nature in court, helps strengthen environmental policy, and holds polluters to account; and why I continue so with monthly gifts and a bequest in my will.”

Healthy communities



Harmful chemicals and pollution have no place in our communities or the environment — that's the message you sent, loud and clear, this year.



The weight of scientific evidence tells us that certain pesticides pose a risk to pollinator species, the environment, and human health. That is why we are grateful for your support and are committed to doing all that we can to get harmful pesticides off store shelves and out of our homes.

Last year we celebrated Ontario's restrictions on the use of neonicotinoid (neonics) pesticides — known for their harmful effects on pollinators, including mass bee die-offs. Your continued support helped us launch a case this year that takes aim at these same deadly pesticides.

#HelpHarrietsfield

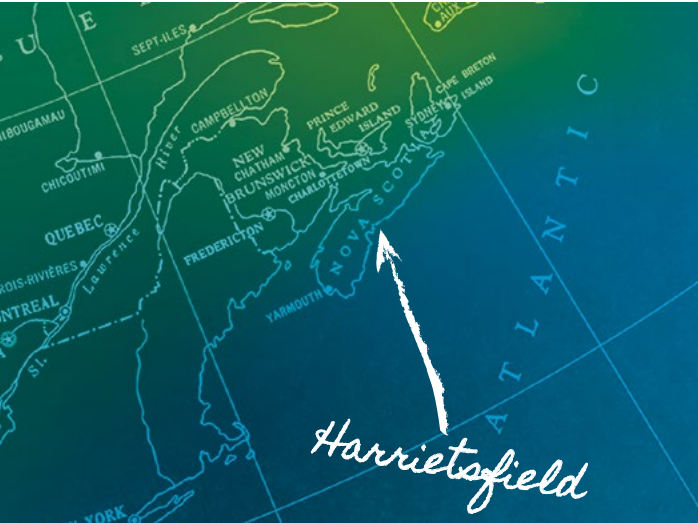
Much like our efforts to keep toxic pesticides out of our communities and the environment,

we're also committed to ensuring polluters are held accountable for their actions — especially when it puts human health at risk.

As you might remember, we have been working closely with East Coast Environmental Law and residents of Harrietsfield, Nova Scotia, to fight for their right to clean, safe drinking water. We're happy to report that we continue to make important progress on the ground.

In the fall, we went to court on behalf of Harrietsfield residents and helped uphold clean-up orders for the industrial site that has contaminated their drinking water. This legal victory confirmed that the companies responsible for the contamination must fix the mess they left behind.

And that's not all: Thanks to Ecojustice supporters



like you taking action, the provincial government promised to install water treatment systems in the homes of impacted residents, which will go a long way to easing the burden on our clients. While the government still needs to enforce its clean-up order and ensure the contaminated site is remediated, this second piece of good news gives us hope.

Thank you for standing with us — and stay tuned for more on our efforts to #HelpHarrietsfield.

Up next

At Ecojustice, we believe that there is a direct connection between the strength of our laws and the health of our environment. That's why we are working hard to capitalize on the once

in a generation opportunity before us to improve Canada's environmental laws.

We made appearances across Canada to advocate for strengthening environmental assessment law, and have made key recommendations on how the federal government can improve the *Fisheries Act*, *Navigation Protection Act*, *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* and the *National Energy Board Act*.

It's been a busy year of knocking on doors, researching the law, and thinking big, but we knew we could not let this opportunity slip us by: Now is our chance to get it right.

With your support, we'll continue to advocate for stronger laws that will help us protect nature, combat climate change, and fight for a healthy environment for all.



VIRGINIA EVANS

As a resident of British Columbia since 1979, Virginia 'Ginny' Evans has been stunned by the destructiveness of clear-cut logging practices and awe-struck by the life cycle of the Pacific salmon. One of Sierra Legal

Defence Fund's earliest supporters, Ginny feels she is helping hold to account those responsible for the management of our precious resources to ensure their availability for generations to come.

Nature



*You helped win
another year of
legal victories
for nature*



Since 2013 we've worked with independent biologist Alexandra Morton to protect wild Pacific salmon.

We teamed up after learning that the federal government was letting the fox guard the henhouse — in short, the Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans was offloading its regulatory duties to the same fish farm companies it was supposed to

regulate. We took the government to court and won a precedent-setting victory, which the government quickly appealed.

We were set to return to the Federal Court of Appeal last May to defend our victory, when the government suddenly asked to delay hearing. The appeal has since been dropped, which means our victory — won with your support — will stand.

This is important, because our work to protect wild salmon is not over yet. In early 2017, a study confirmed that a deadly disease called heart and skeletal muscle inflammation is present on multiple B.C. salmon farms located along wild salmon migration routes.

This year, we'll be going to court again to force the government to prove that farm fish are free of viruses that threaten wild fish before putting them in the ocean. Your continued support will make all the difference as we prepare to go to court to

vancouver
foundation

The Vancouver Foundation proudly supports Ecojustice's work to protect marine habitat in the Salish Sea, home to Southern Resident orcas. "We value Ecojustice's systemic approach, which shines a light on threats to BC's biodiversity and builds momentum for strong action to safeguard our environment."



defend the wild salmon populations that sustain coastal ecosystems, cultures, and economies.

Defending the Arctic

The west coast wasn't the only area where we were able to protect some of our nation's most treasured species. Sitting at the eastern entrance of the Northwest Passage, Lancaster Sound is home to narwhals, belugas, ringed and harp seals, and walrus. The area also boasts one of the highest densities of polar bears in the Arctic!

But despite this abundance of wildlife, these waters have long been threatened by the possibility of exploratory drilling for oil and gas.

That's why last spring, we asked the court to require the government to remove Shell Canada's expired oil and gas permits from a registry of active permits. We didn't need to wait long to see this victory come to fruition. Within months, Shell released the expired

permits and the government announced a five-year plan to develop new National Parks and National Marine Conservation Areas, including the long-awaited Lancaster Sound National Marine Conservation Area.

Your support helped secure this win and mark an important step towards preserving Lancaster Sound's bountiful biodiversity. Thank you!

Up next

We're headed to the east coast to protect the Gulf of St. Lawrence from risks posed by offshore oil and gas drilling. Much like Lancaster Sound, the Gulf of St. Lawrence is biologically-rich, and provides habitat for more than 4,000 species — including blue and beluga whales, and the leatherback sea turtle. It also serves as a migration route for wild Atlantic salmon. We hope we'll be able to count on you to ensure we are as successful protecting the Gulf of St. Lawrence as we were Lancaster Sound.

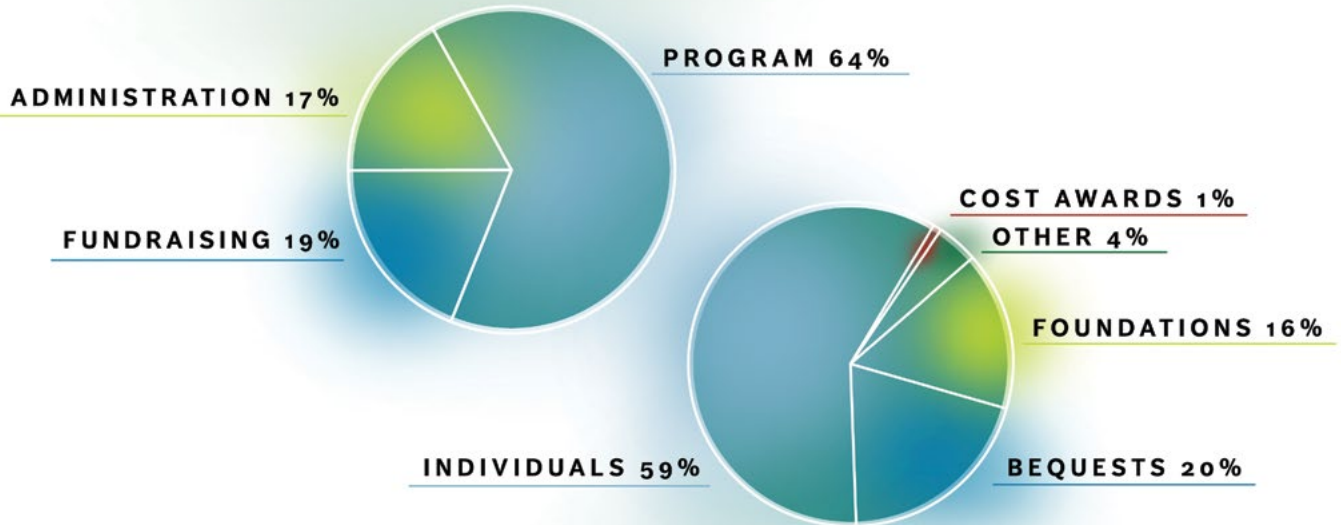
Financials

Statement of Operations Fiscal year ended October 31, 2016

<u>Revenue</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Donations	3,531,186	3,464,751
Bequests	1,200,454	371,589
Grants	936,363	1,003,614
Contribution from University of Ottawa	118,499	234,000
Investment Income	109,496	131,434
Cost awards and recoveries	78,271	27,085
	\$ 5,974,269	\$ 5,232,473
<u>Expenses</u>		
Amortization of property and equipment	73,912	52,778
Contracts	214,095	270,759
Facilities and Office	765,873	672,584
Fundraising	361,414	378,928
Human Resources	110,463	158,557
Litigation program and support	186,134	199,796
Public education	171,398	148,264
Salaries and compensation	3,335,518	3,368,716
Science and research	4,438	9,955
Travel	136,398	149,994
	\$ 5,359,643	\$ 5,410,331
<u>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenses</u>	\$ 614,626	(177,858)
<u>Other Items</u>		
Loss on Sale of Property held for sale	(19,327)	
Impairment of Property held for sale		(20,000)
excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 595,299	(197,858)
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 3,419,762	\$ 3,617,620
Net assets at end of year	\$ 4,015,061	\$ 3,419,762

Ecojustice maintains internally restricted funds to safeguard the Society's ability to continue as a going concern and to ensure the completion of current cases. Our full audited financial statements are available on our website at ecojustice.ca.

ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURES



SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Board of Directors

Tricia Barry, Ian Burgess, Deborah Curran*, Won J. Kim, Murray Duncan McCaig*, Sayo Nickerson, Madeleine Redfern, Dr. Anna Reid, David Rosenberg, Will Roush, Stuart Rush, Q.C.*, Leonard Schein, Richard Secord, Hugo Séguin, Trip Van Noppen, Lori Williams

*outgoing April 2017

Honorary Directors

Margaret Atwood, Robert Bateman, Doug Chapman (In Memoriam), Honourable Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, Gregory J. McDade, Q.C., Buck Parker, John Rich, Clayton Ruby, Dr. David Suzuki, Terri-Lynn Williams-Davidson

Notes: Allocation of Expenditures is based on data submitted to Revenue Canada Agency on our T3010 Registered Charity Information Return. Fundraising costs remain below the charitable sector standard of 23 per cent of total operating expenses. Our complete audited financial statements are available online at ecojustice.ca. Charitable Business Number: BN 13474 8474 RR0001.

Report design by Christa Ledding | www.ChristaLedding.com

Ecojustice is committed to the use of environmentally responsible papers. By choosing 100 per cent post-consumer recycled fibre instead of virgin paper for this printed material the following savings to our natural resources will be realized this year.

Trees saved: 41	Wood reduced: 10,698 kgs
Water reduced: 131,312 litres	Landfill reduced: 1,668 kgs
Net Greenhouse emissions: 3,236 kgs	Energy reduced: 46,948,000 Btu

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