

Chapter Action Updates

Council of Canadians chapters are active in 60 communities across Canada, protecting water and public health care and fighting for climate justice, fair trade and strengthened democracy. Chapter members are all volunteers who believe that by working together we all have a role to play in building a better Canada.



Chapters participate in #ClimateMarch2017

Council of Canadians chapters across the country participated in #ClimateMarch2017 to protect our right to clean air, water, land, healthy communities and a world at peace. The march was organized to “tell our Canadian political representatives that we expect them to do more: to reduce GHG emissions and curb climate change, to transition to a new clean and renewable energy economy that works for all, to respect and uphold Indigenous rights.” The events were organized in solidarity with the Peoples Climate March in Washington, DC and with immigrants, refugees, communities of colour and LGBTQ2I communities impacted by physical and political attacks and by the dislocation caused by global climate change.

North Shore talks electoral reform

Members of the Council’s North Shore chapter in Nova Scotia organized a public forum on electoral reform with MP Bill Casey. Despite promising to implement electoral reform before the next federal election, the Trudeau government has since backed down on its pledge. Forum attendees talked about ways to get the federal government to keep its promise. Although Trudeau failed to live up to his commitment in time for the October 2019 federal election, Council of Canadians chapters have not given up on the fight to see meaningful electoral reform.

Sudbury chapter questions Wynne

The Council of Canadians Sudbury chapter has written Ontario Premier Wynne to express its disappointment over her government’s new regulations on bottled water takings.

Sudbury chapter activist Glenn Murray wrote, “As you are working hard to gain favour with Ontario voters on almost the eve of the next election, the one thing your government continues to drop the ball on is protecting the absolutely most precious resource we have, water. You are putting this valuable resource at risk for the benefit of a well known greedy multinational... Plus, to top it off, you are adding to an already uncontrollable environmental situation with the saturation of our highways, byways, waterways, and landfills, with plastic, single use containers that the bottled water comes in.”

Hands Across the River

In June, Council of Canadians Saint John and Fredericton chapters took part in “Hands Across the Water” actions. Chapter members joined the Quebec-based Coule pas chez nous for an event to protect the Matapedia and Restigouche salmon rivers from the proposed Belledune oil-by-rail project. The Fredericton chapter organized a march across a river that could be damaged by the Energy East pipeline. On June 17, there was a march and picnic in Red Head, Saint John where a massive tank farm and deep water export terminal is proposed to be built to serve the Energy East project.

London chapter builds anti-pipeline snake

The Council of Canadians London chapter has sewn, built and created various banners, props and installations for protests over the years. But chapter members count their 30-foot anti pipeline snake as one of their most creative. The black snake was meant to represent the Line 9 pipeline, and has the words, “Enbridge: 800 spills so far, not worth the risk, protect our water, our land, our health. Stop line 9” stitched on its side. Recently the chapter held a “Make the Snake” workshop to restore and rebuild the eye-grabbing prop.

Cowichan Valley holds LNG forum

The Council of Canadians Cowichan Valley chapter held a public forum on the liquefied natural gas (LNG) industry in late April to talk about impact the industry will have on B.C.’s coastline and narrow ocean channels. Chapter activist Donna Cameron said there is strong concern about the danger of the terminal releasing warm chlorinated water into the long, narrow inlet. “This could be disastrous for local marine life,” she said. The discussion also focused on the reality of job numbers in the LNG industry, how many of the proposed terminals will actually ever go ahead, the fact that LNG is not a clean energy, and the vast amount of water needed and then contaminated to make LNG.

If you are interested in finding out more about Council of Canadians’ chapters please call 1-800-387-7177.