

SIERRA LEGAL is now
ecojustice



ecojustice

2007
Victories Report

A word from the executive director

Dear Friend,

After 16 successful years fighting for environmental justice under the name Sierra Legal Defence Fund, in September of 2007 we officially became Ecojustice Canada.

While we changed our name, our work remains the same. We are still Canada's foremost legal champions, dedicated to defending Canadians' fundamental right to a healthy environment. Our strategic lawsuits and advocacy continue to expose law breakers and hold our governments accountable. And, most importantly, our long run of impressive victories for the environment will continue.

In these pages, you will see a glimpse of some of the highlights from 2007, including landmark lawsuits over inaction on global warming and the exploitation of Alberta's dirty tar sands, and precedent-setting victories that will protect our precious natural spaces and endangered plant and animal species.

To find out more about how your support is put to good work and the remarkable personalities that make it all happen, I invite you to read your 2007 Victories Report. And if and when you are on-line, please take some time to check our new website at www.ecojustice.ca



ROBERT MITCHELL
Executive Director



global warming



Ecojustice champions sustainable energy solutions and fights global warming

GLOBAL WARMING LITIGATION: Launched the first ever lawsuit against the government of Canada for abandoning its binding international commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, flouting domestic and international laws

TAKING TAR SANDS TO COURT: Challenged Imperial Oil's Kearl Tar Sands mine – a project that would strip-mine 200 square kilometers of Alberta's Boreal Forest to extract dirty fossil fuels



FIGHTING THE PIPELINE: Presented crucial arguments and evidence during the epic hearings related to the controversial Mackenzie Gas Pipeline Project, which would include a 1,200 km pipeline from the Arctic Ocean to Alberta



TRASH PLAN APPEALED: Won the right to appeal a controversial proposal by the world's largest cement company to burn thousands of tonnes of tires and trash in an antiquated cement kiln near Kingston, Ontario

ALBERT KOEHL

As the battle to combat global warming continues to heat up, lawyer Albert Koehl has stepped up to become one of Canada's leading advocates for action. After joining Ecojustice six years ago, Albert has campaigned tirelessly to end the billions in tax subsidies for oil and gas companies and has argued against dirty coal plants in Canada and south of the border.





natural spaces

Ecojustice defends parks, natural spaces and wildlife

SAVING ONTARIO SPECIES: Successfully advocated for Ontario to pass the strongest endangered species legislation in Canada – ensuring the survival of the province’s more than 200 endangered species as well as their natural habitats

GREAT NEWS FOR ORCAS: Successfully halted controversial plans to conduct seismic testing off the coast of BC that would have posed significant risks to marine mammals, including endangered Orca whales



PLOVER PROTECTED: Won a reprieve for the Piping Plover, an endangered bird found in Canada from Alberta to Ontario, by forcing the federal government to revise its strategy to protect the bird’s habitat

VICTORY FOR THE BIRDS: Spurred an investigation by the NAFTA Commission for Environmental Cooperation, exposing the destruction of 45,000 migratory bird nests each year by logging companies in Ontario’s public forests

SUSAN PINKUS

Susan Pinkus provides the scientific insight and analysis necessary to launch our cases to protect threatened species and natural spaces across the country. Since joining the Vancouver office in 2007, Susan’s work has been instrumental in securing victories for species big and small, from tiny endangered minnows in BC to piping plovers on the east coast.





clean water

Ecojustice protects lakes, rivers, oceans, and drinking water

WATER BOTTLER PERMIT SHRINKS: Successfully challenged a 10-year water-taking permit granted to one of Canada's largest water bottling companies, reducing the length of the permit and ensuring far greater oversight and scrutiny of the company's activities

BLUEPRINT FOR THE LAKES: Collaborated on a widely praised report that charts a visionary course for protecting the fragile but vital Great Lakes ecosystem for future generations



PULPING THE LAW: Prompted an international investigation that confirmed Canadian pulp mills frequently violate Canada's water pollution laws by dumping toxic chemicals into local waterways with impunity



SEWAGE BATTLE: On the heels of the federal government shutting down our private prosecution for ongoing pollution violations from Vancouver's sewage treatment plants, the region announced plans to speed up its timelines for upgrading inadequate sewage treatment facilities – an important first step in halting this unacceptable practice

MARGOT VENTON

For more than a decade Ecojustice lawyer Margot Venton has been a leading advocate for better protection of our fragile marine ecosystems and the magnificent creatures they contain.

Much of Margot's work is now focused on developing innovative new legislation that will provide all Canadians with a fundamental right to a healthy environment.





healthy
communities

Ecojustice advocates for healthy, sustainable communities

VICTORY HALTS MINE: Won a precedent-setting decision that upheld the right of Canadians to be consulted during environmental assessments, putting the future of the Red Chris Mine in northwestern BC in doubt

POWER TO THE PEOPLE: Published the landmark Municipal Powers Report, an empowering primer for citizens throughout the country wishing to green their communities



PROTECTING CLASS ACTION LAW SUITS: Won the right to intervene at Canada's top court, challenging a controversial Quebec Court of Appeal decision that could impair the rights of citizens to launch class action lawsuits over environmental harm



EXPOSING CHEMICAL VALLEY: Released a scathing investigative report, documenting for the first time the staggering amount of toxic air pollution released from industrial facilities surrounding Sarnia, Ontario

LINDA MCCAFFREY

As one of the most experienced environmental lawyers in the country, Linda McCaffrey added considerable clout to our new Environmental Law and Policy Clinic at the University of Ottawa. As Director of the Clinic, Linda has shared her wealth of experience with the next generation of public interest lawyers while helping the students directly apply their legal skills to cases such as the local battle to save the 9,000 year old Leitrim Wetland.



financials

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS | Fiscal year ended October 31, 2007

	2007	2006
REVENUES		
Foundation grants	922,248	1,169,470
Contributions from other community groups	52,000	56,317
Cost awards and recoveries	82,267	136,314
Recoveries – University of Ottawa law clinic	183,507	-
Donations		
– Public appeals	1,909,293	1,834,235
– Other donations and bequests	833,548	527,621
Investment income	66,072	34,622
	<u>4,048,935</u>	<u>3,758,579</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Salaries and compensation	2,158,386	1,903,715
Public education	490,354	465,603
Facilities and office	420,508	341,898
Litigation and program support	211,493	318,598
Fundraising	254,433	266,908
Travel	101,457	102,322
Human resources	104,641	89,981
Science and research	10,141	5,441
Amortization	35,422	29,699
	<u>3,786,835</u>	<u>3,524,165</u>
OTHER INCOME		
* Gain on sale of long term investments	85,000	-
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 347,100</u>	<u>\$ 234,414</u>

* Gain on sale of long term investments has not been included in the Sources of Support figure on the opposite page. (See Note 9 on audited financial statements, available on-line or by phone.)

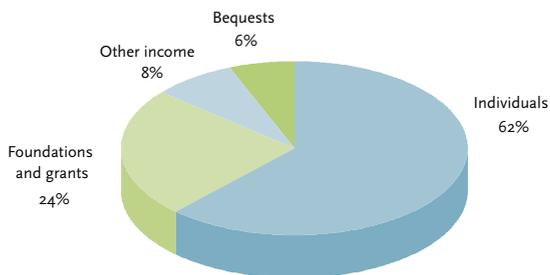
This statement has not been specifically reported by our auditors and should be read in conjunction with our audited financial statements. Download the full 2007 audited financial statements at www.ecojustice.ca or call 1-800-926-7744 X 230 to request them by mail.

ETHICAL FUNDRAISING

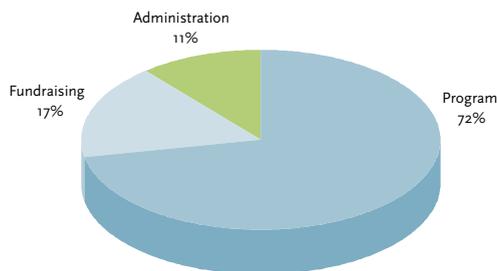
Where our donations come from and where your donations go

Ecojustice is always mindful of our ethical responsibility to spend donor dollars wisely. Our strict accountability and transparency policies ensure that our operations are efficient and effective, and that each and every dollar we raise is directed toward fulfilling our mandate. The figures below provide a snapshot of where our funding comes from and where your money goes in support of our programs. Thank you.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT



ALLOCATION OF EXPENDITURES



Note: Allocation of Expenditures figure is based on data submitted to Revenue Canada Agency on our T30-10 Registered Charity Information Return; fiscal year ended October 31, 2007.

Our complete audited financial statements are available on line at www.ecojustice.ca.

Charitable Business Number: BN 13474 8474 RR0001.



board + staff

John Swaigen, President and Chair

Brenda McLuhan, Vice Chair

John E. S. Briggs, Secretary

Peter Day, Treasurer

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Dr. Elizabeth Christie

Jennifer J. Klimek

Tamara Lorincz

Judge William A. Newsom

Buck Parker

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Sandy Treagus

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Toronto Office Staff

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Jode Roberts

Suzana Stos

Hugh Wilkins

Ottawa Environmental Law Clinic Staff

Will Amos

Linda McCaffrey

Joel Theriault

Sara Van Stiphout



Help win future cases

- Sign up online for email updates – Hear about our work while helping keep administrative cost low.
- Join the Defenders Club – Choosing to give monthly is the most effective way to support our ongoing case work.
- Leave your legacy – Choose to remember Ecojustice in your Will.



Vancouver Office Staff

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www.handsonpublications.com



Ecojustice is committed to the use of environmentally responsible papers. By choosing 100 per cent post-consumer recycled fiber 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

SOURCE: WWW.UNISOURCE.CA



SIERRA LEGAL is now
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