

A woman's hands are shown touching the rough, textured bark of a large tree trunk. The scene is set in a forest with soft, natural light filtering through the trees. The woman's face is partially visible on the right side of the frame, looking towards the tree.

# GUARDIANS OF NATURE

*Guardians*

ecojustice

Leave the legacy of a better earth

# GROWING OUR VISION

In March 1989, the Exxon Valdez oil tanker ran aground spilling more than 40 million litres of crude oil into Prince William Sound. At the time, Stewart Elgie was working in Alaska with the American Sierra Club Legal Defence Fund. The disaster threw the young Canadian lawyer into a series of high-profile lawsuits which successfully held the polluters to account, prompting government and industry to dramatically improve their oil spill response regimes.

Stewart's experience demonstrated how the law can be a powerful catalyst for environmental protection and it inspired the creation of the Sierra Legal Defence Fund. Thanks to our early supporters who rallied behind Stewart's vision for

environmental justice, the Sierra Legal Defence Fund — now Ecojustice — set up shop in Vancouver in 1990.

Ecojustice's first major lawsuit fought a proposed mega-dam on Alberta's Oldman River and won. The Supreme Court's groundbreaking decision set a sweeping precedent requiring a federal environmental assessment for most major industrial projects across the country. Environmental groups discovered that the courts could support them, and that they were places you could find justice for the environment.

Thanks to our supporters, nearly 30 years later, Ecojustice continues to use the law to defend nature, combat climate change,

and fight for a healthy environment for all and has transformed environmental law in Canada. Together, we have protected pollinators from bee-killing pesticides, stood up for Pacific wild salmon under threat from disease, and put the brakes on dirty pipeline projects.

And, while we've grown to become a national organization with sixty staff working across five locations, the demand for our work keeps growing too. We've reached a critical moment in the history of the planet. Human-caused climate change is impacting communities worldwide, and scientists have warned us of what's ahead. Courageous action is needed to prevent disaster, and Ecojustice is gearing up for legal action that will safeguard the climate for future generations.

That's why I invite you to consider joining us as a Guardian of Nature by leaving a gift in your will to Ecojustice. A safe climate is the most important gift we can give the next generation, and we're counting on the support of our donors to help us take bold actions.

Together, we can leave the earth a better place.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Devon Page".

Devon Page,  
Executive Director

# BE AN ENDURING VOICE FOR NATURE

*Legacy gifts are vital to Ecojustice's work. Whether small or large, they contribute to secure funding that ensures nature has a voice in court. Your generosity will unleash the power of the law to defend nature, combat climate change, and fight for a healthy environment for all.*

## Climate Change

The science tells us that every megaton of carbon we keep in the ground is a gift of hope to future generations for a habitable earth.

Thanks to supporters like you, Ecojustice has leveraged the law to halt risky pipeline projects that pose unacceptable climate and environmental risks — including Enbridge's Northern Gateway, TransCanada's Energy East, and Trans Mountain. These victories have kept 11,199 million tonnes of additional greenhouse gas emissions out of the atmosphere, signaling the start of a clean energy era.

## Healthy Communities

Together, we empower communities with legal tools to reduce pollution and keep toxic chemicals out of our homes and the environment.

Did you know that one of our early victories at the Supreme Court of Canada established a Canada-wide precedent for municipal pesticide control? In 2000, the country's highest court ruled that the Town of Hudson, Québec had the right to regulate pesticide use in order to protect the health of local residents. The impact was far reaching: municipalities across the country subsequently introduced pesticide by-laws.

## Nature

You can use a gift in your will to protect wilderness and wildlife — a priority for Ecojustice since we opened our doors nearly 30 years ago.

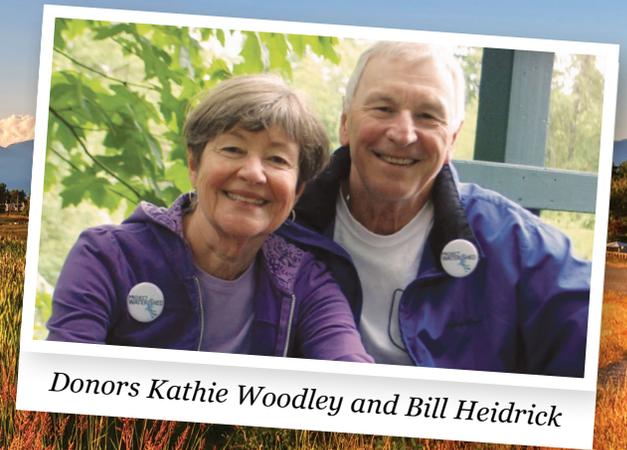
In 2002, we celebrated the introduction of the federal Species at Risk Act, for which we had been advocating for a decade. Since then, we have ensured that recovery strategies for endangered species are created and enforced. We also obtained court-ordered emergency protections for the endangered Greater sage-grouse in 2016. Today, this remarkable prairie bird is enjoying a baby boom in Alberta and Saskatchewan.



When you leave a legacy gift to Ecojustice, you help us ensure the law reaches beyond courtroom walls to secure a healthy earth. Every one of our hard-earned victories is possible thanks to people like you.

# A COUPLE'S WISH FOR THE FUTURE

# Future



*Donors Kathie Woodley and Bill Heidrick*

Like so many of us, when Ecojustice donors Kathie Woodley and Bill Heidrick think about what inspires their love of nature, fond childhood memories come to mind. For Bill, the sounds of the owls, larks, and hawks near his Winnipeg home inspired him to become an avid young birdwatcher. Kathie spent her childhood living in many parts of Canada, including Ottawa, Richmond, and Vancouver. She remembers playing in the tall, swampy grasses behind her family home, and walking along the dikes on Richmond's Lulu Island. "So many of those wonderful wild places I enjoyed as a child are gone now," she notes.

Reflecting on these memories, Bill and Kathie worry about the effects of environmental destruction. "I feel concerned and wonder what will be left for future generations to enjoy. This is what drives my passion," says Bill.

The couple has loyally supported Ecojustice since 1991. "We like knowing that Ecojustice is there holding government and corporations to account. We feel strongly about our personal responsibility to conserve and protect our environment. For us, supporting Ecojustice is our way of doing that," Kathie explains.

Kathie and Bill decided to further their impact through a gift in their will. "It is a win-win situation to give through our will because we can take care of our favourite charities and our loved ones too. For us, it's a way to demonstrate our values. Hopefully, it will inspire others to be good stewards of the environment."

**"I feel concerned and wonder what will be left for future generations to enjoy. This is what drives my passion."**

# YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK



Going through the courts to fight for environmental protection takes time and enormous effort from our legal teams. We put your investment to good use by picking cases that collectively serve our strategic priorities: Climate change. Species loss. Air and water pollution.

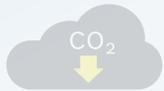
Your support helps us seize opportunities to strengthen the law to protect our communities and restore the environment.

By selecting cases that set legal precedents and redefine how environmental laws are applied in Canada, we make sure your investment in Ecojustice provides environmental protections for future cases, setting new benchmarks in the defence of people and our planet.

## ↓ YOUR IMPACT ↓

You have the opportunity to leave the earth a better place by making the gift of a lifetime to your loved ones and future generations.

**Reduce  
Canada's  
greenhouse gas  
emissions**



**Accelerate the shift  
to a clean  
energy future**



**Reverse  
the decline  
of wilderness  
and wildlife**



**Protect  
ecosystems and  
biodiversity**



**Hold polluters  
to account**



**Keep toxic  
substances out  
of the environment**



**Help communities  
access  
environmental  
justice**



# A GIFT THAT TRANSCENDS GENERATIONS

*Generations*



*Kathleen with her daughter Jennifer*

Reflecting on Ecojustice’s nearly 30 years of victories, Ecojustice donor Kathleen Kingsley is grateful for each and every one. “Even the small victories bring hope and have a positive impact on our future.”

Kathleen’s passion for nature is deeply connected to family history and values. As a child, she visited her family cottage on a small island in Ontario where she enjoyed time spent in wilderness, stoking campfires, and exploring the island by canoe with her parents.

Kathleen’s first gift to Ecojustice was inspired by her mother Margaret and father Roy who were two of Ecojustice’s founding supporters and passionate defenders of nature. Kathleen remembers her mother saying just before her death in 1998 that if Kathleen ever wanted to support a charity that does real work

for the environment that she should support Sierra Legal Defence Fund – Ecojustice’s name from 1990-2007.

“My parents believed in the work of Ecojustice, and now I’m glad to know and support Ecojustice too. I want to help keep large energy projects in check and protect what’s left of the boreal forest.”

Today Kathleen is inspired by her daughter Jennifer (pictured above), a naturalist who wrote the epic novel *Paddlenorth* and now travels extensively as a field correspondent for National Geographic.

“I give to Ecojustice because I believe in the longevity and integrity of the organization. I have also chosen to leave a gift to Ecojustice in my will as a way to leave a legacy that reflects my deepest passions.”

# HOW TO BECOME A GUARDIAN OF NATURE

Thank you for your interest in creating a legacy for nature with a gift in your will to Ecojustice.

We're available to answer any questions you have about your future investment in Ecojustice. When you're ready to write your will, we recommend meeting with a legal professional to ensure your wishes are clear and easy for your executor to understand and carry out.

There are many ways in which you can structure your will so your loved ones and favourite charities are all taken care of. Below is some sample wording you may wish to use if you would like to leave either a residual or specific gift to Ecojustice:

## Residual gift:

You can give all or a percentage of what is left of your estate to Ecojustice, after all other gifts have been made to your loved ones.

Sample legal wording: "I give to Ecojustice Canada Society, charitable registration number 13474 8474 RR0001, \_\_\_\_\_% of the residue of my estate, to be used at the discretion of the organization."

## Specific gift:

You can donate a specific dollar amount or specific assets, such as publicly traded securities, to Ecojustice.

Sample legal wording: "I give to Ecojustice Canada Society, charitable registration number 13474 8474 RR0001, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_, to be used at the discretion of the organization."

In addition to leaving a gift in your will, there are many other tax-effective ways that you can plan your legacy. These include giving through your life insurance policy, your RRSP/RRIF, or a charitable gift annuity. If you'd like to learn more about these types of gifts, please give us a call and we'd be happy to work with you and your financial advisor to explore the different options.

However you choose to leave a gift to Ecojustice, please note the following:

**Legal name: Ecojustice Canada Society**

**Address: Suite 390, 425 Carrall Street, Vancouver BC V6B 6E3**

**Charitable registration number: 13474 8474 RR0001**

*Thank you*  
**THANK YOU**



## We're here to help

If you're considering leaving a gift in your will to Ecojustice, please contact Tess Conrad to discuss any questions you might have.



**Tess Conrad**  
*Legacy Donor Support*  
**1-800-926-7744 ext. 293**  
**tconrad@ecojustice.ca**

**ecojustice.ca**

Suite 390, 425 Carrall Street, Vancouver BC V6B 6E3

VANCOUVER

CALGARY

TORONTO

OTTAWA

HALIFAX

*The information provided in this booklet is not legal or tax advice. We can help you create your environmental legacy by working with you and your financial and legal advisors.*

**Printed on 100 per cent post-consumer recycled fibre.**

Charitable business number: BN 13474 8474 RR0001