



WEST COAST ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

2013 IMPACT REPORT

Message from Executive

As citizens begin to come to terms with the on-the-ground impacts of last year's shredding of Canada's safety net of federal environmental laws, the essential role of West Coast Environmental Law has never been clearer.

To give just one example: environmental assessments of over 3,000 projects (approximately 500 of which were in BC) were almost immediately cancelled outright following the whole-scale repeal and replacement of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* with a new and weaker act, eliminating citizens' voices in whether federal approvals should be granted. Going forward only a limited set of projects specified by regulation will receive federal assessments, such that in many cases citizens will not even be notified about the development. Furthermore, even when federal environmental assessments do occur, concerned citizens who do not meet strict tests for being an "interested party" will no longer have the opportunity to participate in environmental assessment hearings, and in the case of pipeline development may not have the right to be heard at all, even by writing a letter.

In the wake of these and similar draconian changes to federal environmental laws, in early 2013 West Coast conducted an extensive environmental legal needs survey to better understand the needs of the people and organisations we serve.

Over 90 percent of the more than 1,000 respondents from every region of BC who participated in the survey were of the opinion that recent federal environmental law changes had increased the need for free legal services on environmental matters in BC.

The good news is that survey also confirmed that West Coast is providing the types of services British Columbians feel are most required to address increased legal needs associated with recent federal environmental law changes, including:

- legal advice and representation;
- law reform initiatives to rebuild and strengthen federal environmental laws;



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Clogg'.

Jessica Clogg, Executive Director and Senior Counsel

Director and President

- law reform initiatives to strengthen provincial law to address gaps left by changes to federal laws; and,
- public legal education resources to increase understanding of changes to federal environmental laws and their impacts.

Asked how important environmental legal aid to protect our land, water, air and health is, compared to other areas in which free legal services could be provided to those in need (e.g., criminal defence or family law), 97% of respondents were of the opinion that environmental legal aid services are as important as (55%) or more important than (42%) other areas in which legal aid could be provided.

Finally you told us that without access to West Coast Environmental Law's services and resources it would be very (46%) or relatively (50%) difficult to have your environmental law needs addressed.

For close to 40 years West Coast has worked to strengthen Canada and BC's environmental laws and ensure that citizens' voices are heard with respect to development projects that affect them, their families and communities. We remain here for you now. Together, we will not be silenced.



Cheryl Sharvit, President

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Access to Justice

West Coast Environmental Law works to make the legal system available and accessible to all, so that when people need to use the law to protect our environment, they are able to. Through our access to justice programs we provide direct legal assistance to citizens, invest in the network of environmental lawyers in the province, and act as an environmental law watchdog.

A HELPING LEGAL HAND FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES

Through direct legal advice and funding to hire lawyers at a legal aid rate, West Coast Environmental Law's Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund (EDRF) and Summary Advice program puts the power of the law in the hands of ordinary British Columbians who want to protect their environment.

YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW WATCHDOG

The Environmental Law Alert program serves as your environmental law watchdog; we provide legal information and analysis to the public on breaking environmental law stories and changes to BC's environmental laws, and share our analysis with decision-makers.

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Building the Environmental Law Bar helps train tomorrow's great public interest environmental lawyers – through professional development webinars for lawyers, student internships and the world's first Twitter Moot for law students.



When our local logging giant announced a plan to spray our community watershed with pesticides, ... [w]e searched out environmental help and West Coast Environmental Law stepped up. Andrew Gage and his associates provided us with free counseling and did an extensive review of the pesticide plan looking for weak spots. For a grassroots bunch like ourselves, it was an amazing boost to know SOMEONE was on our side. ... On behalf of the community of Cherryville and the Cherryville Water Stewards, I would like to sincerely thank West Coast Environmental Law of Vancouver for reaching out from their law offices in the city to kitchen tables in the country. Hats off.



Tim Staker, Cherryville Water Stewards

Environmental Legal Aid

Every community in BC is fiercely protective of its environment – of parks and recreation spaces, of the water they drink, and the air they breathe. So many of our milestones this year are about giving communities the legal tools that they need to protect their local environment.

We're helping (among many others) the Tsilhqot'in Nation protect Fish Lake from destruction by a mining company, the Friends of Pioneer Forest (in Nanaimo) concerned about the possible development of a park property and the West Kootenay EcoSociety (in Nelson) seeking to prevent the development of a resort municipality on the spectacular Jumbo Glacier.



Village of Tofino, BC.
Credit: Picture BC website picturebc.ca.

Fish Lake (Teztan Biny)

MILESTONES

August 2013: A letter from West Coast Environmental Law on behalf of home owners located near the site of the Lemon Creek Jet Fuel spill in the Slocan Valley convinced the BC Government and Interior Health to release the results of water testing related to the spill.

August 2013: West Coast Environmental Law, on behalf of the T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation, convinced the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to reopen public consultation periods for its assessment of the Pacific Northwest LNG plant after it was found that maps used by the Agency (and provided by the company) had removed the nearby Skeena River.

July 2013: The BC Environmental Assessment Office declined to proceed with the environmental assessment of the controversial Raven Coal Project. CoalWatch Comox Valley, with legal representation funded through the EDRF, had pressed for this result.

January-August 2013: EDRF grants to the Heiltsuk Nation and the Northwest Institute for Bioregional Research enable both to have legal and expert assistance in participating in Joint Review Panel hearings for the proposed Enbridge pipelines and tankers project.

December 2012: The City of Nanaimo signed an agreement to reacquire the Pioneer Forest for parkland, rather than (as originally proposed) rezoning it for development. The Friends of Pioneer Forests' lawyer had pointed out that the lands were dedicated for park purposes and should have been retained by the City.

Environmental Law Alert



By responding quickly with strong analysis to emerging environmental law issues and opportunities, the Environmental Law Alert achieves results. The ELA criticized the inadequate notice given to people who were signed up to present before the Joint Review Panel assessing the proposed Enbridge pipelines and tankers project; subsequent notices were much clearer.

Fisheries Biologist Alexandra Morton indicated that a letter sent by the ELA asking the government to clarify controversial provisions of a proposed Animal Health Act was “key to the freedom I now enjoy to pursue my work on viruses.”

And the ELA recently explained to the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (and to Canadians in stories about our submissions carried in papers across the country) why Canada’s weakening of its environmental laws violates its commitments under the NAFTA side-agreement on the environment.

MILESTONES

- **August 2013:** Environmental Law Alert argued in submissions to the Commission for Environmental Cooperation that Canada’s gutting of environmental laws violates the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (the NAFTA side-agreement on the environment). Our submissions were covered in the *Globe and Mail*, the *Vancouver Sun* and in papers across the country.
- **January 2013:** *The Smoking Gun: Who was the real author of the 2012 Omnibus Bill?* was published on the ELA blog, and quickly became our most read post ever – with almost 5,000 readers to date.
- **October 2012:** Environmental Law Alert notified the federal government of its obligations to consult Canada’s First Nations prior to entering into the Canada-China Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA). Publicly, the ELA speculated on the possibility of a legal challenge to the FIPA by a First Nation. Just such a challenge was later brought by the Hupacasath First Nation, with support from the EDRF.
- **August 2012:** Environmental Law Alert notifies the Enbridge Joint Review Panel that its notice to people registered to speak is inadequate, and argued that the notice (which did not clearly provide information necessary to register) played a role in the cancellation of hearings in Calgary and elsewhere. Subsequent notices by the JRP contained the required information.
- **April-June 2012:** Environmental Law Alert authors a series of Alerts on the impact of Omnibus Bill C-38 on the environment and on the ability of Canadians to be heard in environmental decisions. These Alerts included analysis of the impacts of the Bill on Canada’s *Fisheries Act*, preferential treatment for the oil and gas industry, and a series of questions for Canadians to ask their MPs about Bill C-38.
- **April-May 2012:** Environmental Law Alert asks BC’s Agriculture Minister to amend his proposed Bill 37, the *Animal Health Act*, to ensure that it does not criminalize members of the public who speak out about disease on land and fish farms. The Minister, having previously insisted that there was no problem with the Bill, quickly promised an amendment, and the Bill was subsequently dropped.

Building the Environmental Law Bar

Lawyers who take on public interest environmental work face a lot of unique challenges, from how to fund their work to how to fit broad public interest concerns into a system that has traditionally favoured private rights. By ensuring that law students have access to a range of practical and innovative experiences, and by providing continuing professional development training for lawyers and students, West Coast plays a role in building the next generation of environmental lawyers and expanding the network and expertise of environmental lawyers.



2013 Summer legal interns: (left to right) Nivedhya (Nivi) Ramaswamy, Mathieu Poirier, Paloma Corrin, and Sarah Ure

MILESTONES

- **May-August 2013:** Law students from across Canada joined West Coast as interns, working closely with our lawyers on a range of ground-breaking environmental law research and outreach.
- **April 2013:** West Coast hosted our first international Continuing Professional Development webinar, on the topic of legal opportunities and barriers facing local governments seeking to adapt to climate change. Lawyers from Canada, Australia and the United States participated.
- **November 2012:** Our webinar on the professional and ethical issues faced by public interest lawyers, with speakers from (in addition to West Coast) Community Legal Assistance Society and BC Public Interest Advocacy Centre, was well attended.
- **November 2012:** Students from five law schools across Canada participated in the world's second ever Twitter Moot, hosted by West Coast Environmental Law. A Twitter Moot – a mock court argument conducted over Twitter – allows the students to hone their skills at argument (in a format that favours Twitter brevity of 140 characters per statement) while allowing an international audience to observe. The 2nd Twitter Moot welcomed students from the new Thompson Rivers University Law School for the first time. The University of Alberta team was the Twitter Moot winner.

Managing Canada's Carbon Legacy

The law has never had to deal with a problem quite like climate change; it's not just an "environmental issue", but a fundamental challenge that goes to how we organize our society. West Coast Environmental Law works for laws and institutions that will ensure that climate change science is integrated into public and private decisions related to climate change: Changes that incorporate the reality of climate change into a wide range of decisions have the potential to fundamentally shift how British Columbia and Canada plan for the future.

MILESTONES

August 2012: West Coast Environmental Law appeared before the BC Carbon Tax Review to discuss the strengths of BC's carbon tax and ways to improve it.

November 2012: Students from 5 law schools across Canada debated whether Canadians have a right to a healthy atmosphere in the world's second ever "Twitter Moot" – a mock court experience held on Twitter.

December 2012: The Journal of Environmental Law and Practice accepts for publication an article on the public right to a healthy atmosphere, and the implications for lawsuits against large-scale GHG emitters, written by West Coast lawyer, Andrew Gage. (The article was subsequently published in August 2013.)

January 2012: West Coast co-hosted (with the BC Government's Climate Action Secretariat) a meeting between representatives of several BC professional associations to examine how climate change relates to their mandates and the responsibilities of their members.



The Association's Climate Change work is delivered collaboratively with the Research Foundation.

Law Reform Advocacy

West Coast Environmental Law advocates for strong federal and provincial environmental laws and involves citizens in law reform efforts.

SAVE CANADA'S ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

2012 saw the whole-scale repeal or substantial amendment of most of Canada's foundational environmental laws. This shredding of Canada's environmental safety net impacts every facet of our lives, from the water we drink, to the air we breathe, to the health of our families and communities. But few elements of this wave of deregulation were more controversial than amendments to the *Fisheries Act* that would substantially weaken protection for fish habitat—a move that four former federal fisheries ministers characterized as threatening the survival of BC's iconic wild salmon and steelhead.

Thanks to concerted efforts by citizens of all walks of life, alongside First Nations and civil society groups—from hunting and fishing organizations to West Coast Environmental Law—as of Fall 2013 these changes have never been brought into force.

With the most recent federal government deadline to implement the *Fisheries Act* changes looming in summer 2013, over a period of just a few days thousands of people wrote letters to the federal government urging it to scrap the controversial amendments in response to West Coast Environmental Law's 'No Habitat=No Fish' social media campaign.

It has become increasingly apparent that for legal solutions to be enduring, they must be backstopped by a network of informed, mobilized and connected citizens who are ready to hold elected officials and decision-makers accountable for their environmental track record, and the environmental laws they pass, amend or repeal. The West Coast Environmental Law Association is working hard to make this a reality.



“

You guys really do make a difference. By making a protection effort law, the effort has clout, can be upheld and elicits respect. I am grateful you do what you do.

”

West Coast Supporter

Strong Environmental Laws

West Coast Environmental Law invests in the long-term well-being of our environment by working for strong environmental laws that are based on rigorous scientific research, are the result of democratic processes, and that honourably address Aboriginal Title and Rights; by educating the public about environmental law issues; and by advocating on behalf of individuals and communities to protect the environment through law.

KEEPING BC OIL SPILL FREE

West Coast helps communities, First Nations, and individuals to understand and use their legal rights to protect their communities and the environment from the threat of proposed tar sands supertankers and oil pipelines.

MANAGING CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

West Coast works with communities all across BC to foster dialogue and solutions to meet the challenge of managing the cumulative impacts of past, present and future human activities on BC's ecosystems and communities.

PREPARING COMMUNITIES FOR THE REALITY OF CLIMATE CHANGE

The Liveable and Sustainable Communities program uses the law to strengthen local government environmental policies and practices while enhancing community resilience and liveability.



British Columbians believe we must have strong laws to protect our environment – history has proven that we cannot rely on industry to act in our best interest. With West Coast Environmental Law's vast expertise in virtually all areas of municipal, provincial, and federal environmental law, no other organization is better positioned to safeguard our environment through law.



Thomas Berger QC, Honourary Board Member

Keeping BC Oil Spill Free

As new CEO Al Monaco took up the reins at Enbridge, West Coast partnered with ForestEthics Advocacy to bring a delegation of people from Northern communities who are directly affected by the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline to Enbridge's Annual General Meeting in Calgary in May. The group, composed of First Nations members, concerned landowners, fishers, environmental advocates and union representatives, reflected the broad-based opposition to the Enbridge proposal across the North and across all of BC. Our delegation dominated the meeting for an hour and a half, posing pointed questions of Mr. Monaco about his responsibility to convey to shareholders the financial risk associated with a project that has garnered so little support and has so much opposition. In addition to the attention inside, we received considerable media coverage after the event. Despite West Coast's diligence in obtaining proxies for all our delegation members to attend the AGM, two from our group were turned away at the door, and reporters gathered outside were eager to hear (and tell) their stories.



Kandace Kerr from Fort St. James addresses media outside the 2013 Enbridge AGM.

MILESTONES

Ongoing: West Coast continues to provide legal representation and advice to First Nations, non-governmental organizations and citizens impacted by proposed tar sands pipelines and tankers projects in BC.

January 2013: West Coast joined co-authors Georgia Straight Alliance, Living Oceans Society and Wilderness Committee for the release of the report *Financial Liability for Kinder Morgan*, which exposes the risks associated with tanker traffic in the Salish Sea.

November-December 2012: To help people prepare for their oral statements at the Enbridge Joint Review Panel, West Coast and allies hosted a series of free public seminars and webinars in which hundreds of concerned citizens participated.

Managing Cumulative Impacts

There are over 250,000 active permits authorizing land use activities across BC, but the cumulative impacts of these activities “remain unknown and unmanaged” according to BC’s Forest Practices Board. While each form of development may be subject to regulatory approvals and in some cases project-specific environmental assessment, there is currently no provincial legal mechanism that requires coordinated assessment of cumulative impacts at a geographic scale beyond the footprint of an individual project, and perhaps more importantly no legal requirement to integrate the outcomes into decision-making. Add to this mix the compounding impacts of climate change and there is a real and urgent threat to the many values British Columbians hold dear.

West Coast is involved in a multi-year project to research and analyze best practices from around the world to develop options for better managing cumulative impacts in BC, including identifying and removing legal barriers, integrating best available science and Indigenous knowledge, and enabling new governance structures for planning and decision-making at a regional/watershed scale that uphold First Nations title and rights and provide robust opportunities for public participation.

MILESTONES

February 2013: West Coast released our groundbreaking report *Land Use Planning for Nature, Climate and Communities: Taking Stock and Moving Forward*, which concluded that BC’s laws and policies are “hardwired for failure” when it comes to managing the cumulative impacts of development to sustain resilient communities and ecosystems.

February 2013: West Coast hosted Beyond Pipelines: Managing the Cumulative Impacts of Resource Development in BC a forum that convened opinion leaders and decision-makers representing business, government, First Nations, and environmental groups in a dialogue about the challenge of cumulative impacts management. The event was “sold out” with a lengthy waitlist (it was free) to an audience of about 150 people.



Sold out crowd at West Coast’s 2013 Dialogue event

Liveable, Sustainable Communities

Communities in BC are on the frontlines of a changing climate, and face impacts such as extreme precipitation events, sea level rise, increased wildfire risks, water shortages and heat waves. Responding to these impacts creates challenges at the local level, but also opportunities to deploy green solutions with multiple benefits. Building on our decade-long experience developing key legal resources to support sustainable communities, in 2012 West Coast released *Preparing for Climate Change: An Implementation Guide for Local Governments in British Columbia*. Through collaboration with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, and consultation with local government and community groups from around the province, West Coast prepared this guide to illustrate how law and policy tools can be used to support strategic responses to climate change and at the same time increase overall resilience. The guide has already been downloaded more than 1,300 times, cited as a key source in other publications, and received a 2013 Award for Excellence from the Planning Institute of BC. It is available at www.wcel.org/adaptation.



Village of Tofino

MILESTONES

- **May 2013:** West Coast Environmental Law was the co-recipient of a 2013 Award for Excellence from the Planning Institute of BC for our guide *Preparing for Climate Change: An Implementation Guide for Local Governments in British Columbia*.
- **February 2013:** West Coast was an invited participant to the Columbia Basin Trust's "Thinktank" workshops in the Kootenays to provide input into Phase 3 of the Trust's innovative and effective "Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative."
- **November 2012:** In partnership with Adaptation to Climate Change Team at Simon Fraser University (ACT-SFU), West Coast hosted a workshop with representatives from eight Lower Mainland local governments to discuss climate change adaptation needs and priorities. The group identified sea level rise as a critical issue needing new approaches to regional collaboration, and agreed to work together on next steps. The resulting Sea Level Rise Collaboration is facilitated by West Coast and ACT-SFU.
- **October 2012:** West Coast Environmental Law released *Preparing for Climate Change: An Implementation Guide for Local Governments in British Columbia* in collaboration with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.
- **May 2011:** Planning Institute of BC Annual Conference - West Coast was a panelist at a day-long workshop on climate change adaptation for local government planners and consultants.

Select Publications

West Coast Environmental Law Research Foundation



PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE: AN IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN BC

Local governments have a critical role to play in ensuring our communities will be resilient and sustainable in light of the challenges posed by climate change. *Preparing for Climate Change: An Implementation Guide for Local Governments in BC* is a resource developed by West Coast Environmental Law that looks at the tools available, and highlights useful experiences and good practices from around the province and elsewhere in Canada.

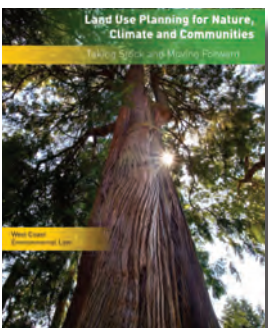
Our publication received a 2013 Gold Award for Excellence in Planning from the Planning Institute of British Columbia. It was a project of the British Columbia Regional Adaptation Initiative, with funding from NRCAN, the BC Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and the Fraser Basin Council.



FINANCIAL LIABILITY FOR KINDER MORGAN

Residents of the Salish Sea region—Vancouver, Victoria, the Gulf Islands and northern Washington State—could see a four-fold increase in the number of oil tankers traveling from the Port of Metro Vancouver through Juan de Fuca Strait, if Kinder Morgan is permitted to build a new pipeline to carry oil from the tar sands to markets in Asia. Such a dramatic increase signals exponentially higher risk of oil spills and raises many questions about what is at risk, how the oil is “cleaned up”, and who pays for oil spill response.

This report provides a brief assessment of each of those questions and focuses on who pays for responding to an oil spill from a tanker. This publication was jointly produced by West Coast Environmental Law, Living Oceans Society, Georgia Strait Alliance, and Wilderness Committee.



LAND USE PLANNING FOR NATURE, CLIMATE AND COMMUNITIES: TAKING STOCK AND MOVING FORWARD

In this report West Coast Environmental Law analyzes the resource management direction provided by twenty years of strategic land use planning in BC to address three related questions: (1) How well do existing land designations and related resource management objectives manage the effects of cumulative environmental change from resource management and other human activities?; (2) Do BC's existing land designations and resource management objectives provide for resilience and adaptability of ecological systems and human communities in the face of climate change?; (3) How could existing or new land designations be used to enable a 'greener' BC economy while safeguarding our natural life support systems?



West Coast Environmental Law is one of the best environmental sources on the web... [S]o thrilled to know that West Coast Environmental Law exists, we so need you all. Thank you.



West Coast Environmental Law Facebook fan



UNDERMINING OUR FUTURE: MINING'S PRIVILEGED ACCESS TO LAND — A FREE ENTRY BACKGROUNDER

What is free entry? The free entry system was historically the dominant means of granting mineral rights in Canada, and persists in BC today. It gives mining companies the ability to stake claims and acquire the exclusive right to mineral substances from the surface of their claim to an unlimited extension downwards on most of BC's landbase, including private property. This backgrounder produced by West Coast Environmental Law provides a snapshot of what free entry is, how it works, and the debilitating effect it has on British Columbians.

West Coast Environmental Law Association



LIVING DEMOCRACY FROM THE GROUND UP

A video project produced by West Coast Environmental Law's Save Canada's Environmental Laws campaign called *Living Democracy from the Ground Up* takes an up close and personal view of what is at stake if the federal government continues its rollbacks of Canada's environmental laws, including the exclusion of concerned citizens from environmental assessment hearings. In this series of three videos, we hear from members of the Tsilhqot'in First Nation who are fighting to save Fish Lake/Teztan Biny from the threat of a potentially destructive mine, a land owner worried about the future of his home and small business, and Tom Berger, O.C., Q.C., in his role as Commissioner of the historic Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry that he led in the 1970s. The entire series can be viewed at www.envirolawsmatter.ca/videos.



BILL C-45 PUBLICATIONS

In October 2012, the federal government introduced Bill C-45, the second omnibus bill to attack Canada's environmental laws (the first being Bill C-38, passed in June 2012). In response, West Coast Environmental Law Association, First Nations and environmental, recreation and grassroots groups supported by more than half a million Canadians issued an open letter opposing Bill C-45. This massive bill further undermines Canadian democracy and environment the groups say in the open letter. In addition, West Coast Environmental Law Association made an official submission to the Standing Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources about certain sections of Bill C-45.

West Coast People

STAFF TEAM

Back row left to right: Todd Monge, EDRF Coordinator and Communications Manager (until January 2013); Andrew Gage, Staff Counsel; Deborah Carlson, Staff Counsel; Josh Paterson, Staff Counsel (until January 2013).

Front row left to right: Jeanette Ageson, Communications and Development Manager; Ceciline Goh, Office Administrator; Jessica Clogg, Executive Director and Senior Counsel; Lucy Hough, Director of Development; Rachel Forbes, Staff Counsel (until April 2013).



RECENT ADDITIONS

Left to right: Anna Johston, Staff Counsel; Gavin Smith, Staff Counsel; Barbara Everdene, EDRF Project Manager; Brenda Belak, Staff Counsel; Ashley Webster, Communications Assistant and Database Manager.



2013 VOLUNTEERS AND INTERNS

Nicole Bakker
Aubrie Chaylt
Paloma Corrin
Tanner Doerges

Taylor Hunt
Bryan Joe, Jr.
Meg Lamb
Sarah McCalla

Mathieu Poirier
Nivedya (Nivi) Ramaswamy
Kaitlin Ritchie
Erik Thorsteinsson

Sarah Ure
Mailis Valenius
Daniel Wiseman
David Wu

Passionate and knowledgeable lawyers representing equally passionate clients are the backbone of the Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund (EDRF). These dedicated advocates work for partial pro-bono fees on behalf of clients throughout the province, to stop environmental injustices and to give citizens a voice in protecting their communities and wild places. West Coast salutes the consummate professionals who worked on EDRF cases in 2012-2013:

David Aaron
Bill Andrews
Glen Bell
Jenny Biem
Cathie Boies Parker
Murray Browne
Tom Buri
Patrick Canning
Derek Alexander Christ

Randy Christensen
Jo-Anna Cowen
Joseph Deuling
Chris Devlin
Lisa Fong
Robin Gage
Sean George
Lani Gibson
Peter Grant

Jason Gratl
Mark Haddock
Judah Harrison
Tim Howard
Nathan Hume
Anna Johnston
Jeffrey Jones
Ethan Krindle
Denelle Lambert

Heather Mahony
Ava Murphy
Jay Nelson
John Nelson
Richard Overstall
David Perry
Benjamin Ralston
John Rich
Krista Robertson

Debra Rusnak
Joseph Spears
James Straith
David Sutherland
James Tate
Tim Thielmann
Mark Underhill

Our Supporters



SUSTAINING PARTNER:

THE LAW FOUNDATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Law Foundation of BC has been West Coast Environmental Law's Sustaining Partner since 1974. The Law Foundation's funding enables us to work on our priority environmental law objectives, helps us to achieve success in all program areas, and most importantly, allows us to leverage additional funds from other granting agencies, companies and individuals.

FOUNDATIONS

Program support from private, community and family foundations remains a crucial component of our overall funding. West Coast is honoured by the long-standing and diverse partnerships of our foundation funders. This past year, we were supported by foundations from across Canada and the United States.

Bullitt Foundation
Catherine Donnelly Foundation
The Conservation Alliance
Eden Conservation Trust
Gencon Foundation
glasswaters foundation
The McLean Foundation
North Growth Foundation
Real Estate Foundation

Schein Foundation
Simon Fraser University Centre
for Dialogue
Swift Foundation
Vancouver Foundation (Stewart
Fund)
Tides Canada Foundation (Fossil
Fuel Development Mitigation
Fund)

Tides Canada Foundation (Patagonia
Environmental Grants Fund)
Tides Canada Foundation (Wild Salmon
Ecosystem Fund)
Tides Foundation
Vancity Foundation
WestWind Foundation
Wilburforce Foundation

COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Arc'teryx

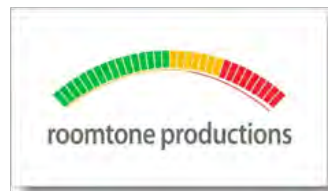
CNC Repair & Sales Inc.

The Van Dolls Burlesque

1% FOR THE PLANET CONTRIBUTORS



West Coast Environmental Law is a 1% For the Planet recipient, a program through which environmentally-conscious companies pledge 1% of their sales to environmental initiatives. Thanks to the companies who have pledged their support for the environment by donating to West Coast through the 1% For the Planet program:



Our business is dependent on a healthy and intact ecosystem, so West Coast Environmental Law helps protect and defend the environment in various ways, and in turn they're protecting our business.

Spirit of the West Adventures, 1% for the Planet member



Financials

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, GRANTS AND EXPENSES

REVENUES

	For year ended April 30, 2013				For year ended April 30, 2012
	Association	Foundation	EDRF	Total	Total
Law Foundation Grants	627,600	–	–	627,600	578,000
Allocation to EDRF	(200,000)	–	200,000	–	–
Donations	7,428	200,550	–	207,978	146,487
Grants & Contracts Earned	22,827	450,138	–	472,965	432,407
Other Income	113,056	20,729	37	133,822	117,640
Total Revenue	570,911	671,417	200,037	1,442,365	1,274,534

GRANTS AND EXPENSES

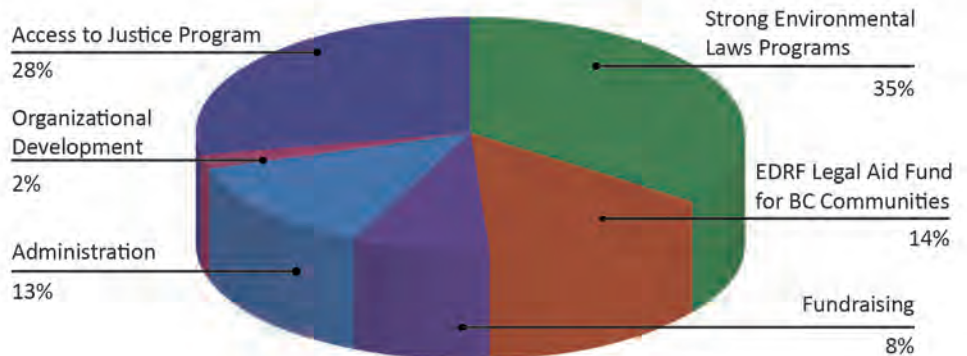
Personnel Related	372,319	322,692	–	695,011	645,584
Professional Services	16,531	8,817	–	25,348	22,845
Office Expenses	117,554	53,412	–	170,966	156,683
Amortization	14,843	8,798	–	23,641	21,346
EDRF Grants	–	–	200,000	200,000	200,000
Program Expenses	43,739	136,688	37	180,464	136,322
Fundraising	–	42,300	–	42,300	18,153
Thompson Award Costs	–	–	–	–	–
Administration Fee	–	89,547	–	89,547	67,915
Total Grants and Expenses	564,986	662,254	200,037	1,427,277	1,268,848
Excess of revenue (expenses) for the year	5,925	9,163	–	15,088	5,686

Excerpt from the audited financial statements of West Coast Environmental Law Association, West Coast Environmental Law Research Foundation, and West Coast Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund Society. Full audited financial statements available upon request.

Your Support Makes a Difference

WHERE YOUR DONATION GOES:

79% to programs
13% to administration
8% to fundraising



SUPPORT NATURE AND DEMOCRACY

Every single individual donation to West Coast Environmental Law makes a world of difference. We achieve victories for British Columbians because of our strong community of support – because one donor at a time has made a commitment to be part of the solution.

We are not funded by government, which means your individual donation really does make a fundamental difference in allowing West Coast to provide British Columbians with environmental legal aid, environmental law research, representation and education services to promote protection of the environment and public participation in environmental decision-making.

At West Coast Environmental Law, your gift today, or in the future, is a significant source of support for our critical work, and is fundamental to preserving the environment now and in years to come. There are a number of ways you can support West Coast, and in so doing, make a lasting commitment to the environment and your community:

- **Become a West Coast Protector.** Monthly donors are the backbone of our organization. This way of giving provides consistent, reliable support to West Coast’s programs with minimal effort. Even \$10 a month makes a big impact.
- **An Environmental Legacy - Yours to Give.** Protect the environment through the law ... for generations. By leaving a gift to West Coast Environmental Law in your will you are making a significant contribution to the future sustainability of an organization working to protect what you value most. Legal Name: West Coast Environmental Law Research Foundation. Address: 200 – 2006 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6J 2B3. Registered Charity #11929 2415 RR0001.
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- **Gifts of Stocks or Securities:** Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds) enable you to make a big difference to ensuring that environmental protection is enshrined in law; at the same time, you will realize great tax savings.

Donations can be made online at <https://wcel.org/donate-west-coast-environmental-law>. Or, call 604-601-2511 for more information and other giving options.

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West Coast Environmental Law is a non-profit group of environmental law strategists and analysts dedicated to safeguarding the environment through law. We believe in a just and sustainable society where people are empowered to protect the environment and where environmental protection is law. For almost 40 years we have played a role in shaping BC and Canada's most significant environmental laws, and have provided legal support to citizens, First Nations, and communities on practically every environmental issue imaginable.



West Coast Environmental Law
200-2006 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC Canada V6J 2B3
phone: 604 684 7378 or 1 800 330 WCEL
fax: 604 684 1312
email: admin@wcel.org
www.wcel.org
Charitable Registration #11929 2415 RR0001

