

News release

GREENPEACE

Civil disobedience training is Greenpeace's response to pipeline panel report

03 November 2016 (Vancouver) – In response to the release of the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project Ministerial Panel report, Greenpeace is inviting the public to learn how to responsibly engage in civil disobedience at a workshop on November 12 in Vancouver.

“Trudeau’s election platform promised that while governments hand out permits, only communities can grant permission”, said Earyn Wheatley, a mobilization campaigner with Greenpeace Canada. “Building on the lessons of the civil rights and peace movements, this workshop will show how you can withdraw your consent in ways that the government can’t ignore.”

The workshop, which will take place on at SFU Harbour Centre on the unceded and traditional territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples, will focus on peaceful direct action principles and strategies. Greenpeace is organizing similar trainings across the country over the coming months to share skills and build connections against tar sands expansion.

The panel’s report acknowledged that the issues raised by this pipeline proposal “are among the most controversial in the country, perhaps in the world, today: the rights of Indigenous peoples, the future of fossil fuel development in the face of climate change, and the health of a marine environment already burdened by a century of cumulative effects.”

The key question that is ultimately posed by the panel report and seconded by Greenpeace is: Which side of history does the Trudeau government wants to come down on?

“Climate leaders don’t build pipelines,” said Wheatley. “If our governments won’t protect our water, our climate and our communities from tar sands expansion, then the only responsible to do is to step up. This workshop will give them the tools necessary to take action that is safe, responsible and impossible to ignore.”

For more information:

Charles Latimer, Greenpeace Canada spokesperson

Tel. 514-206-0671

Email: charles.latimer@greenpeace.org