

2021



Green Guardians

GREENPEACE

SHARING OUR GRATITUDE

Dear Green Guardian,

As 2021 draws to a close, we have a lot to reflect on, and we imagine you do too. Another year of navigating a world facing so much uncertainty often feels overwhelming. There is so much to keep up with, to be wary of, and to factor into our collective work for a green and peaceful world.

But thanks to you, Greenpeace has taken action, and we have many things to celebrate. We've prepared this Gratitude Report to highlight the incredible strides your support has made possible, to remind you of the good being done by people like you around the world and the power we have when we act together. We see these victories as signs of a changing tide. Each day, more people are making positive changes and ensuring our collective voice is heard.

As you may know, this September marked fifty years since Greenpeace was founded by a small group of people, who believed that together they could make a difference. Out of this courageous, creative, and collective act, we've grown into a global movement for change, doing whatever it takes to protect our planet.

Fifty years of activism. Fifty years of bearing witness. Fifty years of exposing wrongdoing. Fifty years of advocating for what's right. Fifty years of taking risks.

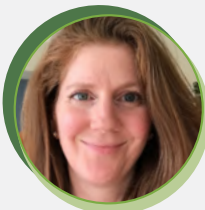
We've had a long and exciting life, and we're not done yet.

We hope that you enjoy reading through this report, and that it fills you with hope and determination. Your generosity has made this work possible. And as our Executive Director Christy Ferguson said earlier this year "In times like these, it can feel like we have to choose between staying informed and staying optimistic. But as environmental advocates, we're at our best when we do both."

We are looking forward to all we will achieve together in 2022. Here's to the next 50 years of hope in action.

Wishing you a green and peaceful holiday season!

Jackie & Tristan



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A SPECIAL GIFT FOR YOU

Thank you for being a valued member of our Green Guardian community. As a token of our appreciation, we would like to offer you a free gift — **a beautiful 2022 Greenpeace Wall Calendar.**

If you would like to receive a calendar, please notify our Supporter Care team by emailing supporter.ca@greenpeace.org or by calling **1-800-320-7183 (toll-free)**. Thank you!



Sharing Stories, Making Connections

In the face of the countless global issues our world is facing, it can be difficult to stay positive. But together, we have strength in numbers. We've interviewed two individuals within the Greenpeace community who are working hard to make our collective vision of a greener, more peaceful future a reality.



SHAWN-PATRICK STENSIL

We spoke with Shawn-Patrick Stensil, the Director of Programs at Greenpeace Canada. Shawn-Patrick grew up in southwestern Ontario and spent most of his university years skipping classes to organize protests in Toronto and Quebec City. He loves cats, beer, biking, dark humour, 80s heavy metal, Canadian history, and reading.

Q: How long have you worked at Greenpeace Canada and what have you focused on during this time?

A: I started at Greenpeace in 2005. For the first fourteen years I was an energy campaigner focused on promoting renewable energy and stopping attempts to resuscitate Canada's nuclear industry.

The work was challenging to say the least, but I learned a lot. Back in 2005, I remember being told by people in government and even the environmental movement that fighting nuclear power was futile. They said the industry was too powerful and alternatives like renewable energy just couldn't cut it. They don't say that anymore. Nuclear power energy is now fading away, and the world is turning to renewables.

About three years ago I shifted into the role of Program Director. In short, I support our teams and oversee the direction and focus of our campaigns and communications. I also work within an international community of Program Directors to help shape the face of our global work.

Q: How did you become an activist/environmentalist?

A: It's cliché, but my mum was a big influence on me. Most obviously, she was a Greenpeace supporter and we'd get Greenpeace magazines in the mail.

But I think what instilled an activist spirit in me was learning from what she did when exposed to chemicals. When I was little she worked at a factory making carpets for cars. At some point, she started coming home from work with incapacitating headaches. I just remember her going to bed in pain right after work.

She realized that the onset of her headaches coincided with the factory switching to a new glue used on the carpets. She did some research — remember this is before the internet! — and found out that there was a chemical in the glue that was toxic.

She raised it with management but they just dismissed her. She raised it with her union, but they didn't want to rock the boat. Everyone made her feel like she was the crazy one. She finally called the Ministry of Labour. They looked into it and my mum was right. They shut the plant down for a few days and then required workers to wear respirators until the company changed to a non-toxic glue.

My mum was obviously more sensitive to this toxin than her co-workers. She was the canary in the coal mine.

Seeing her do all this taught me a lot. It's given me a lot of courage when industry or government try to dismiss us. Change doesn't come easy, but persistence can win the day.

Q: What are some highlights from your time at Greenpeace?

A: On December 31, 2012, Quebec shut down its only nuclear reactor, Gentilly-2. We'd campaigned to close that plant for years. The Quebec government had actually approved rebuilding the plant and already spent almost a billion dollars on it. Then, as we had warned, cost overruns and Fukushima happened, and they changed their mind. I remember walking the streets of Toronto and grinning ear to ear.

I'm not sure this is a highlight in the positive sense, but I've been trained as a Radiation Protection Advisor with Greenpeace International. This has taken me to both Chernobyl and Fukushima to do radiation monitoring and support local communities. Witnessing these disasters firsthand, and how they've displaced hundreds of thousands of people, has stayed with me.

Q: How do you stay positive as an activist and manage eco-anxiety in the face of the climate crisis?

A: You live where your attention is. I've witnessed a lot of activists become paralyzed by focusing

on the negatives, the amount of work needing to be done, or the lack of one clear solution to what seems to be an insurmountable problem. I've tried to learn from this and look through the darkness for the positive, the people helping in a disaster, and the overshadowed progress.

And this leads me to often find inspiration in what previous generations have overcome.

We didn't have the word "eco-anxiety" when I was a kid growing up during the Cold War, but I think I felt something similar — the dread of nuclear war. I grew up near a factory producing military goods and remember being acutely aware as a child that our house would probably be part of ground zero. I had nightmares.

Kids don't have nightmares about nuclear war any more because a generation of activists around the world fought for both peace and disarmament. Yes, there's still work to do, but I never expected I'd grow up to live in a world where the threat of nuclear war *isn't* news every day.

Q: Can you tell us a bit about your team's work this past year?

A: In the first half of 2021, we focused on mobilizing our supporters to push the Trudeau government to follow through on its commitments for a green and just recovery. This culminated in the spring budget, which set the stage for the election in the fall. In the spring we saw the government allocate 30 billion dollars more for spending for climate action, increase their greenhouse gas emission targets, and commit to new social infrastructure like a new pan-Canadian daycare system.

But we saw a whole line of other successes born from our work: Quebec rejected a proposal to build a pipeline to export natural gas, and then announced it would ban all new oil and gas development; the federal government categorized some plastics as "toxic" under federal law; an Ontario judge agreed with us that the Ford government had acted unlawfully in amending provincial legislation. And after five years of pushing, Quebec's pension fund announced it would start divesting from oil.

Of course, all these successes happened while we were still living in a pandemic and for many months under lockdown. Our activists, volunteers, and staff all want to be out on the street mobilizing and taking direct action, but can't. It's been challenging at times, but the team has been wonderful, and we've done our best to take care of one another.

Q: What are the most pressing issues you and your team plan to tackle in 2022?

A: I think, like for most people, the climate and biodiversity crises are top of mind for me. Heat

waves killed hundreds in BC this past summer, and over a hundred died due to extreme flooding in Europe. Who knows what extreme weather events we'll see next year, but it underlines why we need a radical shift away from fossil fuels.

During this year's election, we heard the Trudeau government commit for the first time to "cap and reduce" emissions from the oil and gas industry in Canada. We need to turn these words into action.

And I'm quite excited by the campaign we're launching to expose the major role Canadian banks play in bankrolling the climate crisis. To stop climate change, we need to not only target fossil fuel companies, but the companies that profit from climate change from behind closed doors.

We're taking on Canadian banks here while other global Greenpeace offices are targeting the advertising companies hired to greenwash for fossil fuel companies. We're seeking to expose and change the system that allows them to operate.

Q: What gives you the most hope for the future of the planet?

A: I'll only be able to confirm this in a few years, but my feeling is our work over the past few years has brought us to an inflection point in Canada — the fossil fuel industry in Canada is shifting from growth to decline.

Look what happened in 2021: Quebec rejected a pipeline because it would hinder the energy transition, then the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association decided to disband, and Trudeau promised for the first time to "cap and reduce" fossil fuel production.

This is a big shift and it wouldn't have happened without people holding governments accountable and standing up to polluting companies. In short, people give me hope.



October 2021: In Toronto over a hundred people blocked busy Wellington Street traffic to paint this striking street mural whose design came from Wet'suwet'en land defenders. The design powerfully depicts a bear preventing the RBC lion from destroying a burning world. By preventing the development of pipelines, land defenders are fighting for the land that sustains them.



TREVOR CLUTHÉ

We spoke with Trevor Cluthé, the lead of our Toronto Local Volunteer Group. Trevor lives in Whitby, a suburb of Toronto, and is still trying to find his purpose in this weird world. He loves to watch late night comedy shows where he can get information about world events while laughing — John Oliver's show is his favourite. Trevor also loves eating dessert and is happy to drive people and materials to and from Greenpeace actions.

Q: What is your role in the Greenpeace Toronto Local Group and what does it entail?

A: I started volunteering with the Toronto Local Group in March 2020, so it has been about a year and a half. I just recently became the leader of the group as a result of our wonderful former leader, Sarah Barthel, starting a new chapter in her life. I'm going to miss her so much!! As leader, I pass along information from staff to our volunteers about Greenpeace campaigns and ways for us to get involved. I host our regular meetings and help with organizing and planning actions.

Q: How did you become an activist/environmentalist?

A: About two years ago, I had just gone through a rough patch in my life and was looking to start volunteering for organizations I thought were doing good work. This was around the time that Greta Thunberg was making the news for her activism. She inspired me to get involved with the environmental movement. I attended the global climate strike in Toronto in September 2019. I loved it! It was so cool to see so many marches and rallies across the globe on that day. I also saw the Toronto Greenpeace contingent's street mural and booth at the strike, which made me think about joining them. I was welcomed with kindness from staff and volunteers which made me decide to give Greenpeace my time and effort.

Q: What have the highlights of your volunteer experience with Greenpeace been?

A: I love offline actions. So the marches, rallies,

protests, and street art actions have been my favourite so far! I also really love attending Indigenous-led rallies to show my support for Indigenous peoples' fight to defend their rights. But by far my favourite part about volunteering with Greenpeace is hanging out with and talking to like-minded people who care so deeply about the environment.

Q: How do you stay positive as an activist and manage eco-anxiety in the face of the climate crisis?

A: I guess knowing there are others fighting with me helps me stay positive. I'm not sure if I have been an activist for long enough to experience activist burnout. Thankfully, Greenpeace staff regularly encourage us volunteers to take care of ourselves.

Q: Can you tell us a bit about the group's work this year?

A: Members of our local group attended a stencil training via Zoom from Greenpeace trainers in the US. We then used spray chalk to paint images and messages on the sidewalk outside of MP offices encouraging them to #BuildBackFossilFree. We have participated in a number of online days of action put on by Greenpeace Canada and other environmental groups. We have attended Indigenous-led events to show our solidarity with Indigenous peoples. Our work on Instagram and TikTok has been ongoing throughout the year. The top challenge has been trying to make an impact with our online actions. I think our top successes are continuing to keep the climate crisis on people's minds and bringing more people on board with the environmental movement.

Q: What are the most pressing issues the group plans to tackle in 2022?

A: In 2022, our group will focus on Greenpeace Canada's *Fossil Banks — No Thanks!* campaign. We will take part in planned actions from Greenpeace staff and look for creative ways of bringing attention to the Canadian banks' role in fueling the climate crisis. We will also continue to push for a more comprehensive single-use plastics ban in Canada. Plastic pollution remains a gigantic problem around the world. We will continue to encourage people to reduce the amount of single use plastic they use, and to choose a reusable option instead.

Q: What gives you the most hope for the future of the planet?

A: Seeing all of the younger people getting involved with the environmental movement and standing in solidarity with Indigenous peoples gives me hope.

NOTHING CHANGES WITHOUT YOU

So many times and in so many ways over the past 50 years, you've helped protect our precious planet.



© Robert Keziere / Greenpeace



© Roger Grace / Greenpeace



© Peter Thompson / Greenpeace

Shell ditches its toxic plans

After Shell threatens to dump its Brent Spar Oil Rig — and 11,000 tonnes of oil — in the North Sea, Greenpeace supporters roar into action, heaping pressure on politicians and on Shell. Our activists occupy the rig for three weeks, and Shell agrees to tow Brent Spar to shore and recycle it. Even the biggest companies are no match for you.

1971

Greenpeace is born — with a victory against nuclear testing

Our first ever action sees a crew of 12 set sail from Vancouver, Canada, to stop nuclear testing off Alaska. Although the voyage failed to stop the test itself, it sparked a storm of publicity that ultimately turned the tide. Five months later, the US stop the entire Amchitka nuclear test program and the resulting movement leads to the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty in 1996.

1989

Ending the use of deadly driftnets

Driftnets — which hang vertically behind boats — trap everything in their path, from fish to seabirds to porpoises. So we take direct action at sea to stop boats from using them, and we produce a documentary exposing the devastation they create. The result? In 1992, large driftnets are banned worldwide.

1995

1982

Commercial whaling is banned worldwide.

Over many decades, whaling companies have pushed some species to the brink of extinction. But these profit-obsessed businesses are no match for people power — and commercial whaling is banned after seven years of unstoppable public pressure.

1991

Protecting the Antarctic from mining

With a 1950s agreement to stop Antarctic mining about to expire, greedy oil companies are circling. So we set up a base in Antarctica while Greenpeace supporters worldwide campaign to protect this pristine region. The pressure tells, and a new 50-year ban on mineral exploitation is agreed upon.

2004

Supporting Amazon communities

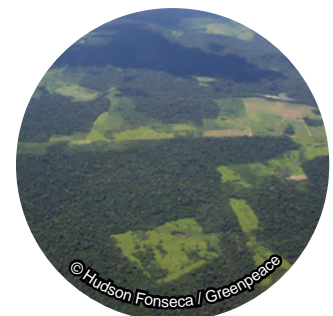
The Deni, an Indigenous group in Brazil, contact Greenpeace after their land is illegally sold to a logging company. We support the community to record the boundaries of their land, and the government finally recognises their ownership rights.



© Jean Paul Ferrero / Greenpeace



© James Perez / Greenpeace



© Hudson Fonseca / Greenpeace



© Greg King / Greenpeace

Safeguarding the Great Bear rainforest

After a ten-year campaign alongside First Nations communities, we secure protection for two million hectares of Canada's stunning Great Bear rainforest. Campaigners are sued, arrested, and beaten for fighting powerful logging companies — but we stand firm, and together we win.



© Jason White / Greenpeace

Victory for the Arctic

After years of campaigning, oil giant Shell finally gives up on plans to get its dirty hands on oil in the Alaskan Arctic. The company admits that worldwide protests have damaged its reputation. Progress often takes time, but your generous support makes these victories possible.



© Greenpeace

Tar Sands Pipeline Cancelled

After more than five years of campaigning by Greenpeace, community groups, allies, and environmental organizations, TransCanada cancels the Energy East tar sands pipeline.



© Toma Iczkovits / Greenpeace

People Power Defeats Proposed Gas Plant

The first protest against the project was organized by Innu land and water protectors in 2017. After people power defeated the Energy East pipeline in 2017, and sent the company behind Goldboro LNG back to the drawing board in 2021, Quebec premier Legault's announced that the GNL Quebec plant will not go ahead.

2006

2015

2017

2021

2011

2016

2020

2022
and Beyond

Kicking Hazardous Chemical to the Curb

After the release of Greenpeace's Dirty Laundry report, major clothing brands commit to eliminate discharges of hazardous chemicals from across their entire supply chains and products within 10 years.



© Gerard Till / Greenpeace

Clyde River Inuit Demands the Stop of Seismic Blasting

After three years of tireless legal action, Clyde River Inuit — with the support of Greenpeace Canada — stops seismic blasting, a dangerous oil exploration project that threatens the Canadian Arctic.



© Shari Fox/Gearheard

Antarctic Fishing Area Becomes Ocean Sanctuary

An NGO-industry collaboration which includes Greenpeace, WWF, Pew, and Oceanites to protect the Antarctic Ocean announced a big step forward with a year-round closure of a 4500km² area of ocean around Hope Bay in the northern Antarctic Peninsula.



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What will the next 50 years hold?

Your support allows us to keep on defending our precious planet — and to keep on winning.



© Alana Holmberg / Greenpeace

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE GREENPEACE CANADA EDUCATION FUND?

Established in 2020, the Greenpeace Canada Education Fund is a new registered environmental charity. Separate from Greenpeace Canada, the Greenpeace Canada Education Fund works to increase public awareness of environmental problems and to highlight solutions through research and education.

Both Greenpeace Canada and the Greenpeace Canada Education Fund are part of the same global movement working to protect the health of our shared planet and the life that exists on it, in all its forms.

Unlike donations to Greenpeace Canada, donations made to the Greenpeace Canada Education Fund are eligible for a tax receipt.

You can learn more by visiting gcef.ca, calling Jackie Gallagher at 1-416-276-8165 or by emailing gcef.ca@greenpeace.org.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A GREEN GUARDIAN

Green Guardians are an international community of Greenpeace supporters who have gone above and beyond to ensure the planet is protected.

Our deepest thanks to you for being one of them!
We couldn't do it without you.

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