



AGENDA

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Council of Canadians' Chapter Caucus Day***

*For Council chapter reps only

Location: Pearson/Laurier/Benett Rooms, Capital Hill Hotel and Suites,
88 Albert Street

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Registration for Saturday plenary panels

Location: Jean Pigott Hall, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue W.

7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Public Forum**
Groundswell 2018: Awareness to Action!

Location: Jean Pigott Hall, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue W.

Admission by donation (\$20 suggested) All are welcome.

**Free with conference registration*

Public forum [keynote speakers](#)

- **Maude Barlow**, Honorary Chairperson, The Council of Canadians
- **Linda McQuaig**, Journalist and Author
- **Anjali Appadurai**, Communications and Engagement Specialist, West Coast Environmental Law
- **Elaine Bernard**, Executive Director, Harvard University Labour and Worklife Program

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Conference**

Groundswell 2018: Awareness to Action!

Join us for a day of interactive workshops and plenary panel discussions that will inform, inspire and motivate you to take action!

If you are attending the Chapter Caucus Day as your chapter's representative you must register using the early registration form that was mailed to your chapter contact in March.

Location: Jean Pigott Hall, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Ave. W.

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Plenary Panel**

CLIMATE CHANGE AND A JUST TRANSITION

“The best way to get out of a climate hole is to stop digging.” These are the words of the Lofoten Declaration, which recognizes the urgent responsibility and moral obligation of wealthy fossil fuel producers like Canada to lead in ending fossil fuel expansion and planning a just transition off of fossil fuels reliance. Canada is not on track to meet our Paris Climate Agreement commitments and has approved new fossil fuel projects, including the Kinder Morgan export pipeline and BP exploratory drilling offshore Nova Scotia. More than \$66 billion of federal infrastructure is at risk due to climate change. We must work together to resist more climate pollution, adapt to climate change that is already happening, and make just transition real for impacted workers and communities.

Panelists

- Hannah McKinnon, Energy Futures and Transitions Director, Oil Change International
- Anjali Appadurai, Communications and Engagement Specialist, West Coast Environmental Law
- Marion Moore, South Shore Chapter Activist, The Council of Canadians
- Anjali Appadurai, Communications and Engagement Specialist, West Coast Environmental Law

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Plenary Panel**

NEO-LIBERALISM AND ELECTION MOBILIZING

By the time of the Council of Canadians' annual conference in June 2018, the provincial election in Ontario will have been decided, the G7 will have just taken place, and we will be a year and a half away from the October 21, 2019 federal election. Beyond the confines of municipal, provincial, and federal elections, how can social movements effectively organize to challenge neoliberalism in our communities? The panel will discuss the spectrum of impacts of and resistance to neoliberalism, from P3s to policing. This plenary session will focus on the political moment, provide critical commentary to help us understand this moment, and help shape a narrative for activists to take back into their communities for ongoing grassroots organizing and mobilizing.

Panelists

- Martin Lukacs, journalist
- John Clarke, Ontario Coalition Against Poverty
- Beze and Vanessa Gray, Aamjiwnaang and Sarnia Against Pipelines
- Karen Cocq, Fight For \$15 and Fairness (TBC)

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch and group photo action**

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. [Workshop Sessions](#)

Location: Pearson/Laurier/Bennett Rooms, Capital Hill Hotel and Suites, 88 Albert St.

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **Break**

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. [Workshop Sessions](#)

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. **Celebratory reception** With live music and food (cash bar)

Location: Jean Pigott Hall, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Ave. W.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

1. We Need to be Fossil-Fuel Free

Climate change is already happening. Our governments need to stop subsidizing the fossil fuel industry \$3.3 billion a year and pushing new Big Oil projects and instead invest in climate solutions. How can we collectively mobilize across the country for a just transition that supports affected workers and communities? How can we achieve a 100 per cent clean energy economy by 2050? Join us for a conversation with people engaged in campaigns towards this better future to explore how we can work together to achieve it.

2. Resisting Big Oil's Agenda from Coast-to-Coast-to-Coast

The Council of Canadians is part of effective campaigns on the west and east coasts to challenge Kinder Morgan's pipeline and BP's drilling offshore Nova Scotia. Join us to hear directly from people engaged in these campaigns on opposite coasts that are connected by Big Oil's political influence, respecting Indigenous rights, water and climate protection. We will share and learn from our experiences and identify what actions we can all take to help.

3. Beyond Bill C-69: New Legislation to Protect the Human Right to Water

In spite of strong voices calling for water protection and Justin Trudeau's election promises, the Trudeau government's new Canadian Navigable Waters Act, buried in Bill C-69, fails to protect lakes, rivers or watersheds from pipelines, fracking and Site C type-dams. This interactive workshop will consider efforts to legislate water protection as well as actions that we can take to get federal legislation that serves the human right to water and the health of ecosystems. Please bring your knowledge about efforts to protect water in your region and your wisdom to guide work toward creating new water legislation that implements the UN-recognized human right to water, upholds Indigenous rights, and protects water for generations to come.

4. Fair Trade Not Corporate Deals

Years of globalization have resulted in an uneven shift in trade agreements so they benefit large multinational corporations at the expense of workers, the environment and indigenous rights. In this workshop, we will examine the latest updates on NAFTA and its unfair investor-state dispute settlement provisions. We will strategize on how we can work together to stop the ratification of the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Even more importantly, we will talk about what would a truly fair trade agreement would look like and discuss how it can be achieved.

5. A Fair Vote for All

The Liberals promised in the last election to repeal the unfair and undemocratic provisions in Harper's Fair Elections Act, they even introduced Bill C-33 to do just that, but since then the legislation has stalled – why? Learn more about the latest updates on the Charter Challenge of the so-called “Fair” Elections Act. What can we do together to ensure that democratic reforms are enacted before the October 2019 federal election?

6. It's Time for Pharmacare

Now that the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health has recommended a single-payer universal pharmacare plan, and the Trudeau government has appointed Dr. Eric Hoskins to an advisory

committee that will issue a report in the spring of 2019, what can we do to come together in communities across the country to ensure everyone has access to the medications they need without financial barrier? Join the discussion and share ideas on how we can push our government to implement a major piece of Tommy Douglas' vision for comprehensive medicare – a vision that includes pharmacare.

7. Turn Your Community Blue!

Municipalities, unions, faith-based groups and other associations across this country and around the world have been declaring themselves “blue communities” by committing to three important resolutions: promoting public water, upholding the right to water, and banning the sale of bottled water at in municipal facilities and at municipal events. Be a part of this workshop and help plan how we can continue the momentum behind this initiative. What are your experiences calling for a blue community

before your city council? What lessons can be drawn globally? How does the Blue Communities initiative strengthen our defence and build an offence against private water companies? Let's turn all communities blue!

8. The Ontario Election: After the Vote

The Council of Canadians worked hard to mobilize in the lead-up to the Ontario election this year. How do we build on this work, influence the newly elected government, and keep organizing for the change we need? What strategies and tactics can be adapted for elections in other provinces and federally in 2019? Join Ontario regional organizers and chapters to discuss what worked, what still needs to be done, and what comes next.