

Chapter Action Updates

Chapter members from around the Atlantic region met in October to talk about upcoming campaigns and actions.



Council of Canadians chapters are active in more than 50 communities across Canada, protecting water and public health care and fighting for climate justice, fair trade and strengthened democracy. Chapter members are volunteers who believe that by working together, we all have a role to play in building a better Canada and fairer world.

Celebrating the end of Energy East

Council of Canadians chapters from Alberta to Nova Scotia celebrated Trans-Canada's decision to dump the Energy East pipeline, which would have moved more than 1 million barrels of tar sands crude per day to the East Coast to be shipped overseas. Since the project was first announced four years ago, Council chapters have helped organize town halls, marches, and actions to raise awareness of the dangers the pipeline would pose to waterways and our climate. Chapter activists joined with First Nations and environmental groups to build a grassroots-based wall of opposition that raised serious concerns about this pipeline project, and ultimately helped to defeat it.

Campbell River chapter fights hospital fees

The Council of Canadians Campbell River chapter is celebrating the recent decision by the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health) to scrap their

plan to charge for parking at the newly opened Campbell River and Comox Valley hospitals. Chapter activist Rich Hagensen said the chapter worked locally on the issue for more than two years, writing letters, attending town halls and speaking out at meetings.

Talking to MPs about Canada's "Boiling Point"

Through the summer and fall, Council of Canadians chapter representatives from across the country have been meeting with Members of Parliament to talk about Canada's growing water crisis. Over-extractions, pollution and large pipeline and industrial projects are threatening waterways and drinking water sources. The Trudeau government has also not fulfilled its promise to reinstate water protections after the former Harper government gutted legislation, leaving 99 per cent of all lakes and rivers in Canada vulnerable to abuse. Chapter members gave each MP they visited a copy of Maude Barlow's latest book, *Boiling Point: Government Neglect, Corporate Abuse, and Canada's Water Crisis*.

Speaking out against Line 10

The Hamilton, South Niagara and Guelph chapters of the Council of Canadians took part in protests against Enbridge's Line 10 pipeline. The company wants to expand the 143-kilometre pipeline to send 63,000 barrels per day of heavy tar sands crude from Hamilton, Ontario

to Buffalo, New York. The company is reportedly doing the pipeline expansion in segments since projects less than 40 kilometres in length are exempted from a federal environmental assessment. The overall route would cross more than 60 waterways and impact 13 wetlands. Tar sands crude has been proven very difficult to clean up – a spill would devastate any water or land it touches.

Atlantic chapters call out Alton Gas project

Nova Scotia-based chapters have been hosting town halls and raising awareness about the impacts a proposed natural gas storage project will have on water, Indigenous rights and the climate. Alton Natural Gas Storage LP, a subsidiary of Calgary-based AltaGas Ltd., wants to build underground caverns to store natural gas near the Shubenacadie River on Sipekne'katik territory near the rural communities of Alton and Stewiacke, which are situated about 75 kilometres north of Halifax. The Council of Canadians has joined a coalition of groups that are trying to stop the project.

If you are interested in joining a Council of Canadians chapter near you, or learning more about the good work our chapters are doing in communities across the country, please call us toll-free at **1-800-387-7177** or visit our website at: **www.canadians.org/chapters**.