



Interested in helping our campaign?
Why not Join Climate Justice London?

ClimateJustice.tk
Climate.Justice.London@gmail.com

RBC

Rank in Canada by assets: 1st

Direct fossil fuels funding: \$15.9 billion

Direct renewable energy funding:
\$1.7 billion

Total bank fossil fuel financing:
\$50.5 billion

CO2 from total financed emissions:
198 million tons

**Total financed emissions as % of
Canada's energy emissions:**
34%

Checking account carbon footprint:
1.2 tons CO2 per \$10,000

HOW SHOULD RBC ADDRESS THESE CONCERNS?

- Withdraw financing for all projects associated with the tar sands.
- Join climate justice advocates in calling for the immediate shut down of all tar sands-related projects.
- Endorse Climate Justice London's demand that reparations be paid to all affected First Nations communities – in compensation for lost income, as well as ecological, cultural, or health impacts – paid for primarily by the energy and financial corporations which have profited from tar sands projects.
- Call on the Federal Government to guarantee that any workers displaced by the shut-down of the tar sands will be re-hired, with union representation, to restore ecosystems damaged by tar sands projects and to work on building clean, renewable energy infrastructure.

WHAT CAN WE DO HERE IN LONDON ?

- Get involved in Climate Justice London, or other local groups working on climate and environmental issues.
- Stay informed — and inform others — about the danger posed by Tar Sands projects.



Is there *anything*
RBC
won't do to boost
its profits?

Why is RBC trying to profit
from environmental
destruction?



Climate Justice London

<http://climatejustice.tk>

climate.justice.london@gmail.com

RBC is trying to boost its oversized profits by bankrolling environmental destruction.
We need to make them stop.

Join Climate Justice London.

RBC's CHOICE: PROFITS FIRST

RBC is Canada's largest, most profitable bank, with a trillion dollars in assets. It is also the main financier of Tar Sands development. The Tar Sands produce the world's dirtiest oil, and development of the Tar Sands is contributing to climate change, devastating Boreal forest ecosystems, and poisoning First Nations communities downstream.

By financing further development of the Tar Sands, RBC is helping to create massive environmental destruction. But it is also helping to create massive profits for RBC. For now, it seems that RBC has decided that destroying the planet and poisoning our water is good for business. Climate Justice London (CJL) is working with other groups across North America and around the world to force RBC to stop. Now.

WHAT ARE THE TAR SANDS?

Tar Sands (or "Oil Sands") are, put simply, a particular type of oily soil. The oil is found in the ground in the form of bitumen, which is solid at normal temperatures and mixed in with sand, clay and water. The bitumen is found in two locations: when it's closer to the surface it is extracted using giant open pit mining techniques, and when it's further down, high pressure steam injection (in situ) technology is used to remove it.

Open pit mining strips away the trees from the top layers of the earth to expose the bitumen beneath it. Two tons of bitumen-rich material are extracted for every one barrel of oil produced. This process destroys the local environment and ecosystems, leaving gaping open pit mines 75 meters deep as scars on the landscape.

In situ mining, the technique needed to reach 80% of the bitumen, is not a better option. It requires injecting the bitumen with high pressure steam, to separate the oil from the sand so that it can be piped to the surface. Heating the water to produce the steam requires large quantities of natural gas.

THE IMPACT OF TAR SANDS DEVELOPMENT

Only Saudi Arabia has more oil reserves than Canada. If it were all to be extracted the effect on the climate would be devastating:

- Increased emissions from the Tar Sands is the principal reason why Canada will not meet its former Kyoto reduction commitments. By 2010, **almost half of Canada's greenhouse gas emissions** will come from the Tar Sands alone.
- Global warming **pollution from Tar Sands oil refineries** is expected to soar by as much as 40% over the next decade.
- Tar Sands oil is the **worst type of oil for the climate**, due to the amount of energy required to separate tar from sand and then convert it to oil. Enough natural gas is used every day extracting Tar Sands to heat 3.2

million Canadian homes for a year.

- **Greenhouse gas is emitted in the tar sands at 3 to 5 times the rate of conventional methods** of oil extraction.
- Huge quantities of water is used in Tar Sands production and infrastructure. It takes up to five litres of water to produce one litre of usable oil. This **water is being diverted from rivers, lakes, farms and cities** throughout Canada; the water levels in the Athabasca River have already dropped several meters.
- Much of the **water used in Tar Sands production ends up in toxic 'tailings ponds'**, so vast they are visible from space. These ponds leak toxic waste into local water supplies. A generation ago, the Athabasca River was clear and drinking from it was common. Now, those that live alongside the river consider it poison and off-limits.
- **Contamination of groundwater** has led to arsenic and other heavy metals in moose meat — a dietary staple for many First Nations peoples in the Athabasca river region — up to 300 times acceptable levels, and deformed fish have been found in nearby Lake Athabasca. **Elevated rates of cancer** have been documented by a study commissioned by the regional health authority.

This is RBC's latest 'cash cow.' **This is how they are trying to inflate their profits.** But people have begun to organize against it. Climate justice activists in Alberta First Nations communities, in the US, Europe, and across Canada, are building a growing campaign to force RBC to get out of the environmental destruction business.

Climate Justice
London

<http://ClimateJustice.tk>
Climate.Justice.London@gmail.com

