



BALACLAVA!

the daily newspaper of the 2010 anti-olympic convergence, a project of the Vancouver Media Co-op

FEBRUARY 15, 2010 • ISSUE SIX • UNCEDED COAST SALISH TERRITORY

FINAL ISSUE! VANCOUVER.MEDIACOOP.CA • 2010.MEDIACOOP.CA



Golden Ears Bridge Blockaded by members of the Katzie First Nation

Bridge linked to the desecration of sacred sites and traditional fishing grounds

On Feb 13, as part of the No 2010 Convergence, members of the Katzie First Nations and supporters blocked the Golden Ears Bridge, which spans the Fraser River between Katzie One in Pitt Meadows and Katzie Two in Langley.

Katzie is one of the two local First Nations that has refused to take part in the celebrations. Last summer, a sacred burial site was discovered that was 3,000 years old. The bridge was built on top of it.

The bridge construction and pilings disrupt the salmon run for fishers at Katzie and affects fishing for Indigenous People up the entire Fraser into the interior.

According to one person at the blockade, "The bridge affects my family in many ways. For thousands of years my family has been fishing on the Fraser River. The exact same spot where they built the Golden Ears Bridge is where my father, my grandfather and so on, is where we were taught to fish."

Members of the Katzie First Nation were hired to work on the bridge and the sacred site. According to one archeologist worker, who asked to be anonymous due to fear that they would lose their job, "We dug up history of our ancestors - human remains, arrow heads and beads. They gave us a choice: either we dig up our peoples history or they were going to send non-native people to do it. We were forced and no options from our community!"

After the remains were found, members of Katzie First Nations people were paid to build tiny coffins and bury the bones where they were found. Many of the workers thought this meant they wouldnt build the bridge at that spot.

According to another anonymous worker, "So many bones were found, in fetal position, and scattered bones were found These are my people; these bones are my grandfathers and grandmothers. After we had a ceremony to bury the bones in small coffins we made, they went ahead and built the bridge anyway right over top

THAT BRIDGE HAS CAUSED HURT AND PAIN WITH ME AND MY FAMILY.

THE BRIDGE IS BUILT ON MY PEOPLES SACRED BURIAL GROUNDS.

THAT BRIDGE HAS DESTROYED THE RIVER FAR BEYOND KATZIES BOUNDARIES

BECAUSE OF THE BRIDGE IM FORCED TO CHANGE MY TEACHINGS AND WAYS OF FISHING.

THAT BRIDGE HAS DESTROYED THE NATURAL PATH FOR THE SALMON TO CONTINUE UP THE RIVER FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE TO EAT TO SURVIVE.

DREDGING GRAVEL OUT OF THE RIVER TO BUILD BRIDGES AND HIGHWAYS FOR THE OLYMPICS IS DESTROYING THE DELICATE ECOSYSTEM AND PUTTING DECLINING FISH STOCKS AT FURTHER RISK.

– Online Statement from Blockade Organizers



PHOTO: CHRIS BEVACQUA

This Is Where the Revolution Starts

19th Women's Memorial March honours 3,000 missing and murdered women by Moira Peters

"This is where the injustice starts."

Dalannah Bowen addressed the 5,000 people gathered today in memory of Canada's 3,000 missing and murdered women. She was standing on the steps of the Vancouver Police Department station on Main Street in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

"This is where it starts for missing and murdered women," she said.

Bowen was followed to the mic by women who told stories of friends and relatives gone missing, or found dead, and of police inaction and disrespect.

"Each and every single person is part of this human family. We deserve to be treated like human beings," Bowen said.

Earlier in the morning at the Carnegie Centre, each and every person gathered for the beginning of the march witnessed a painful aspect of family: loss.

continued on next page...

of our sacred burial ground."

A video of the blockade is posted on YouTube, with a statement from the organizers of the action. The statement is a powerful reminder that the colonization of British Columbia is not merely a historic context for this area that is currently occupied, but is a continuing project that has expanded under the banner of the Olympic Games. *see video at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wq28fHUI1fu>*

Greenpeace Greenwash: Greenpeace International hires torchbearer Tzeporah Berman as chief climate campaigner

by Macdonald Stainsby



PHOTO: ARIEL WETZEL

As the world turned their attention to the spectacle of the 2010 Olympics, Greenpeace International played another kind of game, appointing Tzeporah Berman as their new energy and climate campaign director. As a result, she will inherit their "Stop the Tar Sands" campaign and take responsibility for 110 Greenpeace climate campaigners in 28

Premier Gordon Campbell's "leadership" in fighting climate change while at the Copenhagen negotiations. This, even though BC was the only province in Canada whose tally of greenhouse gas emissions for the year 2009 was higher than the year before. While Berman was on the inside at Copenhagen handing an award to Premier Campbell (whom she worked), tens of thousands of activists calling for real action on climate change were being arrested, beaten and tear gassed. According to the Vancouver Sun, Berman "decided to apply for the job after reconnecting with Greenpeace representatives at the Copenhagen climate conference last December." Her decision came roughly the same time as Greenpeace International was releasing their statement with Coca-Cola.

On February Fifth, Berman, whose birth name was Suzie Faye Berman, carried the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Torch Indigenous and grassroots environmental activists have been blocking, through Brackendale, near Squamish BC. In a statement released prior, she said she carried the torch to "make the connection between the hope and inspiration

of the Olympics and the promise of electric vehicles and clean energy." Berman rode an electric scooter with the torch, escorted by police.

Greenpeace itself has refused to oppose the 2010 Winter Games despite their massive carbon footprint and the dynamiting of mountains to expand a highway from Vancouver to Whistler for the same Games.

Greenpeace & Coca-Cola also had zero comment on the destruction of clean water aquifers within India, notably Kerala, rendering the land where much of global Coke's bottling plants fill up parched of water and contaminating what's left.

countries. In the last few years Berman has been known to accommodate corporate interests, provided they make minor concessions and release joint statements. Greenpeace itself, by teaming with Olympic corporate sponsor Coca-Cola, has made clear this strategy also falls within their overall corporate strategy.

Berman, a former a Greenpeace BC campaigner, was recently appointed to the BC Liberal government as an "adviser" on free market-based "green energy" initiatives. She immediately conferred an award to BC

REPORT FROM THE STREETS with 2010.mediacoop.ca

FOLLOW US! Go to twitter.com/vanmediacoop and click "receive mobile updates" to receive trusted tweets.

FLICKR AND YOUTUBE! Tag your pics and videos #no2010 or #report2010 and they'll show up at 2010.mediacoop.ca.

INTERNET Hit up 2010.mediacoop.ca and hit "add report" to update.

TIPS! Email us vmc@mediacoop.ca or post to our website. You can also call us and (604) 630-6864 and record audio reports.

Women's March continued...

At 11:30 am, 400 people were gathered on the steps of Carnegie, on the corner and down the sidewalk on both sides of the building. Most were women. By 12:20, the crowd quadrupled and took up all four corners. Buses made it through the intersection with difficulty. By 1pm, the entire intersection was blocked, and "Carnegie hosts" in yellow vests linked hands, creating a corridor for the families of missing and murdered women to pass into the centre of the crowd. Most were women.

Drummers were invited into the centre. A cry rose. Hands pointed skyward. Pigeons flapped around the rooftops and seagulls circled. Higher, with unmistakable white heads and majestic wingspans, two eagles soared.

A woman in a loose pink shirt and black hair stood on the steps of Carnegie, an eagle feather in her hand and a square of paper pressed to her breast. She raised the feather in the air and began a low wail. A song, a heartbreak. She concentrated on the sky, pleading with the sky, crying, her feather trembling.

The drums began. The crowd sang, for a half hour, while families filed out of the Carnegie patio and toward the centre of the intersection, carrying banners. Some were dressed in traditional regalia. Most were women.

The people marched.

"A nation is not conquered until the hearts of its women are on the ground. Then it's lost; it's down. No matter what. No matter how strong its warriors; no matter how powerful its weapons," said Mabel Nipshank. She located intent in violence against women as she spoke from the steps of the police station. The priority for Europeans in first contact with aboriginals, she said, was the disenfranchisement of women.

"They were afraid of the power of the First Nations women because when First Nations women spoke it

echoed like thunder," she said.

Nipshank challenged two groups to collaborate in the demand for justice for killed and disappeared Indigenous women: First Nations leaders and white feminists.

"I don't have a whole lot of trust in our aboriginal leaders. They are pushing women off our territories and this" – she pointed to a placard with photos of hundreds of young women lost – "is what is happening to us. We need our leaders to challenge the colonial structures that have put us in poverty."

Nipshank called on feminists to quit talking the talk when they cannot walk the walk.

"Sometimes we don't fall into the white feminist ideology. [They] can't comprehend our oppression because [they] don't live it the way we do."

She asked the crowd to consider that the next case of a murdered or disappeared woman could be anyone's daughter, sister, aunt. "That is why we need to address this collectively. This is our problem as a whole people."

Sirens wailed.

Maggie de Vries told marchers about her sister who had been murdered at Robert Picton's pig farm. She described the last time she saw her sister Sarah. It was December 14, 1998, and her sister was on her way to work. She asked her little sister Maggie to "go home, baby girl."

"The investigation [into Sarah's disappearance and



Delannah Bowen, Director of Interurban Gallery, marches along with 5,000 people to honour Canada's missing and murdered women.

murder] did not have the full support of the province of British Columbia, of the Vancouver Police or of the RCMP. There was a resistance to admit there was anything wrong," she said.

"My sister was picked up, driven along a direct route: down Hastings Street to Boundary Road to the Lougheed Highway and onto Dominion Road. She was driven through a gate, and she never came out."

De Vries said in order to keep women safe the public needs an independent inquiry into the investigation of Vancouver's missing women.

Ann-Marie August read a poem, which she wrote for her best friend who disappeared.

"My sister, my friend. Where are you? What happened to you?"

The drums beat, the people marched. The sun shone. It was Valentine's Day.

LEGAL UPDATE

As of Feb. 14, 8pm

In addition to the three still held from Saturday, two people arrested this Sunday. Everyone was released on Sunday, except for one person. Jail support may still be needed.

VIVO Radio Signal Silenced by Industry Canada

Artist-run centre threatened with \$25,000 a day fines by Dawn Paley

As part of their programming during the Olympic Games, VIVO Media Arts had planned to set up a low powered terrestrial radio signal during the month of February. Instead, VIVO, one of the few local cultural groups that rejected Cultural Olympiad funding, found themselves shutting down the signal just hours after their broadcast began.

The volunteers who launched the radio signal, which reached about 3km from the transmitter, weren't setting up a pirate station.

"We went into the project with the understanding that broadcasts on the FM spectrum were entirely legal if they fell under a certain duration," said Brian Beaudry, the co-producer of the radio project.

But it wasn't the Canadian Radio, Television and Telecommunications Commission, the federal body governing broadcast media in Canada, that asked them to shut the signal.

"The CRTC hasn't approached us yet, it's something by the name of Spectrum Management and Telecommunications, and they've handed us a whack of documents and broadcasting procedure rules

under the auspices of Industry Canada," said Beaudry.

He described how three very polite representatives of Spectrum Management and Telecommunications entered VIVO and

told them to shut down the broadcast until they could do some measurements on the strength of the frequency.

"Their main concern, it seemed like, or what they brought up in conversation with us was that it was possibly interrupting aviation navigation signals," said Beaudry.

Presented with a choice between fines of up to \$25,000 per day for VIVO and \$5000 a day for individuals involved, the station's producers opted to move the broadcast online while their lawyers look into the matter.

As for the visitors from Industry Canada, Beaudry said that they wore Vancouver 2010 jackets, handed out business cards emblazoned with 2010 the Olympic logo, and had 2010 email addresses. One of them "did mention, offhand at one point... That there were more

of them in the city just as general procedure for the Olympics," he said.

Listen to VIVO's live broadcast online: <http://vivo-mediaarts.com/radio.php>



EVENTS

February 15th, 12:00 Pigeon Park: No More Empty Talk, No More Empty Lots! Rally for housing and tent village kick-off with all our neighbours and supporters. Food will be served.

6:00pm anti-war demo. March to leave at 6:30pm, Vancouver Art Gallery: An anti-war and anti-militarization moving spectacle!

LEGAL INFO

BCCLA Arrest line (if you are arrested): 604-689-9540

BCCLA Support line (friends and families missing someone): 604-689-9547

BCCLA Tip line (to report misconduct): 1-866-610-0385

Arrest/misconduct reports: orn-legal@riseup.net

ORN Legal Weblink: <http://olympicresistance.net/content/legal-information>

Corporate Spotlight:

2008 losses: \$32,318,000,000

\$53 million sponsorship, Official Vehicle Partner.

GM manufactures and markets cars in the US, Canada and globally. Its roster includes the Chevrolet, GMC, Cadillac, and Buick brands. GM also operates a division in Canada which fabricates light armoured vehicles for customers including the United States Marine Corps, the United States National Guard, the Canadian Forces, the Australian Army and Saudi Arabia. Over the last 18 months, GM took \$10.5 billion from Ottawa as part of a bail out from the province of Ontario and the federal government, and \$53,153,952,804 from the US government.

VIVO MEDIA ARTS 2010 SAFE ASSEMBLY

Forming a Counter Public | February 12-28 2010
1965 Main Street Vancouver BC | By Donation

AFTERNOON SCHOOL | Discussions engaging critical theory and contemporary art. Monday-Friday 15-19 + 22-26, 2pm

EVENING NEWS | Social Forum for residents, media, activists, researchers, and artists to report on and discuss their experiences and observations surrounding the Olympics. Submit your documentation, projects, and stories to VIVO between 4 and 6pm or contact via information below. Feb 13, 17, 21, 23, 25, 7pm

RADIO | 91.5FM and online stream. Ongoing pre-recorded and live programming invited.

+ SAFE FACADE + SOCIAL PROPAGANDA MIXING MACHINE
+ VANCOUVER (DET)OUR GUIDE + COVERING UP
+ NOISE POLLUTION PLAYGROUND + WHITE PILLOWS

eveningnews.vivo2010@gmail.com | 604.872.8337 ext 3
vivo-mediaarts.com | vivoeveningnews.wordpress.com
cineworks.ca/events/vancouverstourguide2010.com

