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## Noise Demo hits the road for refugees

by Vancouver Media Co-op

FRASER VALLEY - No One Is Illegal and allies put together a solidarity caravan on Halloween in solidarity with Tamil refugees still being held in prisons after having arrived in BC Aug. 13.

The group has been holding weekly Noise Demos at the Burnaby Youth Detention Centre where Tamil women and children are being held. On Oct. 30 the caravan visited the Alouette Correctional Centre for Women and the Fraser Regional Correctional Centre as well as the Burnaby facility.

Fraser Regional jail staff tried to stop the refugee supporters from approaching the facility, claiming



photos: Isaac Oommen

Tamil refugee supporters make their presence known outside the Fraser Correctional Centre. INSET: The Alouette prison where Tamil refugee women are still being held.

it is “private property.” The refugee supporters called their bluff, walking to the front entrance of the prison.

Even though the reception from correctional facility staff was hostile, the demo made itself seen and heard with banners, a variety of noisemakers and Tamil music.

## PR pressure mounting to ‘privatize’ Reserves

by Neskie Manuel and Emma Feltes

VANCOUVER - Peruvian economist and World Bank poster child Hernando de Soto visited Vancouver recently to speak in favour of the establishment of individual property ownership (“fee simple”) on First Nations Reserves.

The First Nations Property Ownership (FNPO) conference - hosted by the First Nations Tax Commission - paired de Soto with a select roster of Canadian Indigenous leaders, lawyers, economists, and scholars to promote fee simple title on reserves.

The proposal would give individuals on reserves legal private property rights as opposed to the collective title held by bands. Currently, collective title is bound by section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867 (a guiding provision of the Indian Act), which allocates legislative jurisdiction over “Indians and lands reserved for the Indians” to the federal government, constitutionally protecting Indigenous title.

“What [the proposal is] doing is putting a damper on 91(24) lands,” said Harley Chingee, a member of the First Nations Lands Advisory Board. “There’s no internal controls once you take 91(24) out of it. Because then the provinces - and Canada, for that matter - can have control,” he wrote.

“The change would undermine signed Treaties across Canada; undermine our political autonomy; restrict our creativity and innovation; and place us in a dangerous position where any short-term financial difficulty may result in the wholesale liquidation of our reserve lands, or the creation of a patchwork quilt of reserve lands like Oka.”

The conference came at the crest of an increasingly aggressive effort to generate support for the controversial proposal.

**Read the full version of these stories online at [vancouver.mediacoop.ca](http://vancouver.mediacoop.ca)**

## G-20 defendant wins court victory on conditions

by Dawn Paley

TORONTO - Leah Henderson has won a small victory for defendants facing G20 conspiracy charges. A Superior Court judge denied the Crown’s request to impose non-association conditions on Henderson with Southern Ontario Anarchist Resistance (SOAR) and Anti-War @ Laurier (AW@L).

“The Crown had asked for the condition of non-association with SOAR, AW@L, as well as two individuals - Dan Kellar and Harsha Walia, to be added to my bail conditions,” Henderson said.

Henderson added that her lawyer successfully argued that the Crown presented no evidence of

what being a member of SOAR or AWOL actually means, since neither has membership lists.

“The reason that this is a significant decision is that the rest of my co-accused will now have the opportunity to say that a superior level court has said that this condition is setting people up to breach, and isn’t actually a fair condition to have, which of course will help people in terms of not feeling as isolated, in terms of having access to their support networks and their friends and their lovers,” Henderson said.

Henderson faces three politically-motivated charges from the G-20 summit in Toronto. She is slated to return to court Nov. 8 to challenge the condition that she can’t attend or plan public demonstrations.



# Sinixt Nation establishes Slhu7kin Protection Camp

by Slhu7kin Camp Supporter

The Sinixt Nation have asserted their sovereignty by initiating the Sinixt Slhu7kin (Perry Ridge) Protection Camp on their ancestral lands. The Sinixt, by declaration, have established the "Sinixt Slhu7kin - Perry Ridge Wilderness Preserve to protect the rich bio-diversity on Perry Ridge and the collective domestic watershed interests of the Perry Ridge community."

Sinixt Nation members, local residents, and supporters are gathered at the beginning of the Perry Ridge Forest Service road near the town of Slokan, BC. The camp has halted all commercial logging in the area.

After a complete refusal to consult with the Sinixt Nation, BC Timber Sales, via BC Ministry of Forests and Range, sold the logging rights to four controversial cut-blocks on Perry Ridge to Sunshine Logging LTD of Kaslo, BC.

Sunshine Logging purchased the two-year contract for approximately \$330,000 after BC Timber Sales dropped the auction bidding price because no companies wanted to touch the highly-contentious contract with a 10-foot pole.

This isn't the first time that people have taken a stand to protect the area known as Slhu7kin to the Sinixt. In 1997 local residents, the Perry Ridge Water Users Association, and Sinixt members took both legal and direct action and successfully halted road building on the Perry Ridge. More than 300 people took part in a road blockade demanding protection for the area.

Known as the Arrow Lakes Indian Band under the Indian Act, Canada officially declared the Sinixt extinct in 1956. This left Sinixt members living on the Colville Reservation (in the US) and scattered among other nations in BC without recognition.



illustration: freexero

## Residents react to gentrification

by Vancouver Media Co-op

VANCOUVER - A group of Downtown Eastside residents took their fight for more social housing to the wealthy Terminal City Club.

Inside, Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson was making a budget presentation to the business community at a \$500/table luncheon. Outside, the crowd demanded fewer new condos and more social housing. They were kept from talking directly to the mayor by heavy police presence at the club's front doors.

Among the demands, the residents listed social housing to be included in plans for a proposed new library on East Hastings street. The previous day, parents, kids and supporters gathered at the library site. The early morning demonstration was to push for social housing atop the library complex. The original library plans on a different site included social housing units. The City now says it might reconsider but not guarantee a housing component.



photo: flux

Local kids join morning protest at library site.

### URGENT CALLOUT

There is an urgent need for defence-related funds for jailed Indigenous political prisoner Ryan Rainville. You can mail cheques to: No One Is Illegal-Toronto, 90C Beverley Street, Toronto, M5T 1Y1. Be sure to indicate "Ryan Rainville".

### International Conference

## Everyone's Downstream IV November 25 to 28 • Edmonton, AB

#### The Tar Sands go global

Madagascar, Trinidad, the US and more

#### Building accountable movements

ENGOS, secret deals, and how to build and demand democracy and transparency

#### Ongoing resistance

Communities fighting pipelines, refineries, and other tar sands infrastructure

For online coverage during the conference:

[www.everyonesdownstream.org](http://www.everyonesdownstream.org) • #eds4 on twitter

### EVENTS

Friday Nov. 5 3:15pm

Group Hike

South Fraser Witness Trail  
168 St. & 108 Ave, Surrey

Friday Nov. 5 7 - 9:30pm

Right to the City forum

VIVO, 1965 Main St

Saturday Nov. 6 9:30am - 4:30pm

Right to the City

Creekside Community Centre  
at Olympic Athletes Village

Saturday Nov. 6 11am - 4pm

Media Democracy Day

Main public Library

Sunday, Nov. 7 Noon - 6pm

VMC Video Workshop

svp to [VMC@mediacoop.ca](mailto:VMC@mediacoop.ca)  
VIVO, 1965 Main St

Saturday Nov. 13 11am

Action for Climate Justice: Building

the Climate Justice Movement

Cavalry Baptist Church, 1803 E. 1st

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