

Conference Program

MORE POWER TO YOU

A conference for community & environmental activists
organizing to protect public power in British Columbia

Saturday, October 4th &
Sunday, October 5th, 2008
8AM – 4PM

Simon Fraser University – Harbour Centre
515 West Hastings St.
Vancouver BC



WHEN & WHAT

08:15AM – 08:45AM

Breakfast*(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)***MORNING SESSIONS***(SFU Fletcher Challenge Theatre – Rm 1900)*

08:45AM – 09:00AM

Blessing

09:00AM – 09:10AM

Welcoming Remarks

09:15AM – 09:30AM

Keynote Address:**British Columbia Being Sold Down the River**

09:35AM – 09:55AM

Presentation:**Power Struggle: Public Power As an Environmental Issue**

09:55AM – 10:15AM

Coffee Break*(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)*

10:20AM – 10:40AM

Presentation:**Lost in Transmission – The Economics of Private Power**

10:40AM – 10:55AM

Q & A Period

11:00AM – 12:00PM

Panel Discussion:**Power of the People – High Profile IPPs in BC & Organized Community Opposition**

12:00PM – 01:00PM

Lunch/Networking*(SFU – 1301 Harbour Centre Concourse)*

01:00PM – 01:10PM

Afternoon Announcements

WHO

Conference Moderator: Jeffrey Rotin

- **Leonard George** • Former leader & elected chief, Tsleil-Waututh Nation

Event Sponsors:

- **Michelle Laurie** • President, BC Citizens for Public Power & president, IBEW local 258
- **Andy Ross** • President, COPE 378

- **Rafe Mair** • Former cabinet minister turned broadcaster/political commentator, & recently appointed spokesperson for the Save Our Rivers Society, sets the tone for the conference with a zealous analysis of the issues & characteristic wit.

- **Gwen Barlee** • Policy director with the Wilderness Committee discusses the organization's voyage of discovery—& ultimate wake-up call—on the issue of private power in BC. Citing the provincial government's Bill 30, as well as various existing & proposed private power projects, this presentation exposes the green veneer of IPPs: an enterprise that places private profits ahead of the public good, at the expense of environmental standards.

- **Marvin Shaffer** • Consulting economist & adjunct professor in the public policy program at Simon Fraser University will present the major findings from "Lost in Transmission," his comprehensive assessment & critique of the province's 2007 *Energy Plan*. He will explain how this plan exaggerates the need for new sources of electricity supply, undermines conservation efforts, & promotes the development of high cost, low value resources which, despite their green veneer, have significant, cumulative adverse environmental effects.

Panel Moderator • Craig Orr • Watershed Watch Salmon SocietyASHLU POWER PROJECT • **Tom Rankin** • Save Our Rivers SocietyUPPER PITT RIVER PROJECT • **Elaine Golds** • Burke Mountain NaturalistsGREEN POWER CORRIDOR • **Denise Reinhardt** • Malaspina Communities for Public PowerGLACIER/HOWSER PROJECT • **Lee-Ann Unger** • West Kootenay Eco SocietyKLINAKLINI • **Jan Dettmer** • BC Creek Protection Society

WHEN	WHAT	WHO
<p>01:15PM – 02:15PM Workshop Series 1 <i>(Workshops run concurrently)</i> * The workshop on Energy Policy & First Nations Peoples will run only in Series 1.</p>	<p>AFTERNOON SESSIONS/ WORKSHOPS <i>(SFU Harbour Centre Classrooms)</i></p> <p>Workshop: Launching a Grassroots Awareness/ Action Campaign Seasoned political & labour movement campaigner Lori Winstanley joins forces with longtime environmental activist Joe Foy to share their knowledge & experience in campaign development & execution, transcending traditional alliances, audiences, & approaches. A range of strategies will be discussed—from emailing to events, petitions to protests—demonstrating effective grassroots organizing on any budget.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Winstanley • Director of strategic campaigns & communications, COPE 378 • Joe Foy • National campaign director, Wilderness Committee
	<p>Workshop: Accessing & Using Information to Build Your Campaign Without question, knowledge is power. These three workshop co-presenters will share their diverse areas of campaign-specific expertise. Sage Aaron will discuss the processes, benefits, & challenges associated with list development & data collection to build a larger constituency of support. Darrell Evans will explain the basic steps involved in filing a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to access information typically classified as private. And Craig Williams will outline the growth of private power water licences in BC, since 2001, using the information he has acquired and adapted through google earth & google maps.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sage Aaron • Campaign assistant, COPE 378 • Darrell Evans • Executive director, BC Freedom of Information & Privacy Association • Craig Williams • Creator of IPP Watch map (www.IPPWatch.com)
	<p>Workshop: Energy Policy & First Nations Peoples* This workshop, conducted by BC First Nations environmental consultant Dan George, Union of BC Indian Chiefs president Stewart Phillip, & BC First Nations Energy Working Group representative Dave Porter will explore various issues related to energy policy & Aboriginal communities in British Columbia. Topics will include: land claims & treaty rights; values, principles, & protocol associated with First Nations engagement & community organizing; the public/private power debate in Aboriginal communities; & the <i>BC First Nations Energy Action Plan</i> compared/contrasted with the <i>2007 BC Energy Plan</i>. * The workshop on Energy Policy & First Nations Peoples will run only in Series 1.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan George • President, Four Directions Management Services Ltd. • Stewart Phillip • Chief, Penticton Indian Band & president, Union of BC Indian Chiefs • Dave Porter • Representative, First Nations Leadership Council & BC First Nations Energy Working Group
<p>02:15PM – 02:30PM</p>	<p>Coffee Break <i>(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)</i></p>	
<p>02:35PM – 03:35PM Workshop Series 2 <i>(Workshops run concurrently)</i></p>	<p>Repetition of all Workshops in Series 1</p>	
<p>03:35PM – 04:00PM</p>	<p>Networking <i>(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)</i></p>	

WHEN & WHAT

08:15AM – 08:45AM

Breakfast*(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)***MORNING SESSIONS***(SFU Fletcher Challenge Theatre – Rm 1900)*

08:45AM – 09:00AM

Morning Remarks:**Review of Conference Highlights**

09:05AM – 10:00AM

Presentation:**The Power of Images:****Using Media & Technology**

10:00AM – 10:15AM

Coffee Break*(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)*

10:20AM – 10:40AM

Presentation:**The Shift in Power Dynamics:
BC Hydro, BC Energy Plan &
the Government's Movement
Towards Energy Deregulation
& Privatization**

10:40AM – 10:55AM

Q & A Period

11:00AM – 12:00PM

Networking Forum:**Powerful People &
Enlightening Ideas**

12:00PM – 01:00PM

Lunch/Networking*(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)*

01:00PM – 01:10PM

Afternoon Announcements

WHO

Conference Moderator: Jeffrey Rotin

- **Damien Gillis** • Filmmaker, *Power Play: The Theft of BC's Rivers*
- **Monica Hamburg** • Social media consultant
Drawing on his experience as a documentary filmmaker, Damien Gillis illustrates the compelling combination of images & narration to educate, persuade, & mobilize community response in opposition to private power. Capitalizing on this theme, social media consultant Monica Hamburg explains various uses of the internet—particularly social network sites—to increase momentum & support for a cause; she will provide examples of online technologies used to inform, engage, generate dialogue, coordinate events, & call supporters to action.

- **John Calvert** • Simon Fraser University professor & author of *Liquid Gold: Energy Privatization in British Columbia* explains the consequences of introducing private interests into our electricity system, exposing the questionable economics of the provincial government's energy plan & the resulting impacts on ratepayers, BC Hydro, & the province's finances.

- **Jeffrey Rotin** • **Forum Moderator**

A forum for registered conference participants to introduce the organization/group they represent, identify current projects, accomplishments, or challenges they are encountering in their fight against energy privatization, & build alliances with other individuals & groups. In order to accommodate all speakers, presentations will be time-limited & content is restricted to public/private power issues. Creativity is encouraged! A sign-up sheet for speakers will be made available at the conference. Follow-up networking opportunities can take place during the lunch break.

WHEN	WHAT	WHO
<p>01:15PM – 02:15PM Workshop Series 3 <i>(Workshops run concurrently)</i></p> <p><i>(Workshops do not repeat on day 2)</i></p>	<p>AFTERNOON SESSIONS/ WORKSHOPS <i>(SFU Harbour Centre Classrooms)</i></p> <p>Workshop: Regulatory Processes – Green or Greenwashing? This workshop will examine both provincial & federal environmental regulatory processes. Mark will discuss the BC Environmental Assessment Act & the mandate of the BC Environmental Assessment Office as it relates to private power projects, using the case of the recently proposed Upper Pitt hydroelectric power project as an example. Lara will explain the basics of the federal Environmental Assessment process under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA), & how CEAA can apply to proposed river diversion projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lara Tessaro • Staff lawyer, Ecojustice, Vancouver • Mark Haddock • Environmental lawyer
	<p>Workshop: The Media & Your Message Environmental activist Gwen Barlee teams up with broadcast journalist Keith Baldrey to offer two perspectives on effective media communications. Topics will include: drafting & distributing media advisories/releases, evaluating the newsworthy quality of stories for press conferences or media exclusives, key messages, effective story-telling, traditional versus new media, & more.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gwen Barlee • Policy director, Wilderness Committee • Keith Baldrey • Broadcast journalist, political commentator
<p>02:15PM – 02:30PM</p>	<p>Coffee Break <i>(SFU Harbour Centre Concourse)</i></p>	
<p>02:30PM – 03:30PM</p>	<p>Panel Discussion: Where Do We Go From Here? Organizing & Coalition-Building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michelle Laurie • President, BC Citizens for Public Power • John Calvert • Simon Fraser University professor and author, <i>Liquid Gold</i> • Dan George • President, Four Directions Management Services, Ltd • Lori Winstanley • COPE 378/ Take Back the Power campaign • Joe Foy • National campaign director, Wilderness Committee
<p>03:30PM – 03:50PM</p>	<p><i>Q & A Period</i></p>	
<p>03:50PM – 04:00PM</p>	<p>Closing Remarks: Acknowledgements</p>	

SAGE AARON is the campaign assistant for COPE 378's public power BC campaign, spending as much time on the road meeting with diverse groups and concerned citizens as she does anchoring campaign activities at home.

KEITH BALDREY is a broadcaster and a journalist specializing in BC politics. He is the BC legislative bureau chief and reporter with Global television, provides a weekly radio commentary on the "cutting edge of the ledge" segment of CKNW's Bill Good Show, and is a regular contributor to numerous newspapers and magazines in the province.

GWEN BARLEE has been in the environmental movement since 2001 and is the policy director for the Wilderness Committee. She sits on the board of directors of BC Citizens for Public Power, the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association, and the advisory board of Orion Grassroots Network.

JOHN CALVERT is a professor in the health sciences faculty at SFU and the author *Liquid Gold: Energy Privatization in British Columbia*. He has served on numerous energy-related committees, including the 2005 BC Hydro integrated electricity planning committee and the BC task force on electricity market reform.

MELISSA DAVIS is the executive director with BC Citizens for Public Power, a grassroots, non-profit, advocacy organization established to give voice to British Columbians' demand that the province's power generation system remain in public hands.

JAN DETTMER is a co-founder of the BC Creek Protection Society where he volunteers and serves on the board of directors. Within CPS, Jan focuses on the scientific understanding of potential ecological impacts of run of river projects and alternatives to "green" energy.

DARRELL EVANS is the founding president and current executive director with the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association. He is a frequent public speaker on freedom of information and privacy issues.

JOE FOY is the national campaign director with the Wilderness Committee, beginning his association with the organization as a volunteer in 1984. Since then, Joe has led the organization to successfully protect numerous threatened areas in BC.

DAN GEORGE has been involved in First Nations issues for more than 25 years, is a member of the Gilseyhu clan (Big Frog) of the Wet'suwet'en people. He is president of Four Directions Management Services Ltd., an Aboriginal consulting organization working to build bridges of better understanding between Aboriginal Peoples, industry, local communities, and governments.

LEONARD GEORGE served as the elected Chief of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation from 1989 to 2001. He is one of the founding members and past executive director of the Vancouver Aboriginal Centre, and has held numerous directorships with BC Aboriginal advocacy groups.

DAMIEN GILLIS is a corporate and documentary filmmaker. Last year, he released his documentary film *Power Play: The Theft of BC's Rivers*, which has been widely distributed and viewed over 100,000 times online. Damien also provides communications support to Save Our Rivers Society.

ELAINE GOLDS is the conservation chair with the Burke Mountain Naturalists. She campaigned to protect Pinecone Burke Park in 1995 and successfully fought against a gravel mine proposed in the Upper Pitt watershed in 2000. She played a key role in recent efforts to oppose the proposed Upper Pitt river private power project.

MARK HADDOCK has been practicing law since 1988, focusing mainly on the public interest side of environmental, land use planning, and natural resources law. He teaches environmental law at UBC and Royal Roads University and is a board member with the Forest Practices Board of BC.

MONICA HAMBURG is a Vancouver-based writer and social media consultant/evangelist. She is a researcher, investigator, and observer of imagery in today's multi-media world, helping clients use online media to communicate their message.

MICHELLE LAURIE is president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 258, representing workers in the utility, manufacturing, tree trimming, power line maintenance/construction, and traffic control industries throughout BC. She has been a Board member with BC Citizens for Public Power since 2002, currently serving as president.

RAFE MAIR is a former lawyer and cabinet minister turned broadcaster, writer, and political commentator. In the spring of 2008, he became the spokesperson for Save Our Rivers Society.

CRAIG ORR is a professional ecologist and the executive director of Watershed Watch Salmon Society, a Coquitlam-based salmon conservation organization working to conserve water and salmon habitat, minimize impacts to wild salmon from fisheries, unsustainable aquaculture practices, and climate change.

GRAND CHIEF STEWART PHILLIP is currently serving a third consecutive four-year term as Chief of the Penticton Indian Band. Over the last 33 years, he has worked within the Penticton Indian Band administration, hold a variety of positions. He is also serving for a fourth consecutive three-year term as president of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs.

DAVE PORTER is a member of the Kaska Nation. His career includes journalism, politics, communications, and public service on behalf of Aboriginal organizations as well as public governments in BC, the Yukon, and NWT. He served on the political executive of the First Nations Summit from 2004 – 2008, has been a representative on the First Nations Leadership Council, and remains involved in the BC First Nations Energy Working Group.

TOM RANKIN is an Upper Squamish Valley rancher and small business owner who began working with Friends of the Ashlu in 2006 to stop the massive private power development on the Ashlu river. Today, Tom leads Save Our Rivers Society to mobilize British Columbians to save public power and BC's rivers from privatization.

DENISE REINHARDT practiced labour and civil rights law in the US for 25 years before moving to Powell River. She is presently the coordinator of Malaspina Communities for Public Power, advocating for truly green public power in her region of the province.

ANDY ROSS is the elected president of the Canadian Office and Professional Employees (COPE) Union, local 378, a progressive union representing over 10,000 employees within the utilities industry and other sectors. He is frequently the public and media spokesperson for COPE 378's public power BC campaign.

JEFFREY ROTIN is an independent consultant, facilitator, and trainer specializing in the not-for-profit and public sectors. His areas of expertise include strategic planning, visioning, board governance and development, policy development, succession planning, and communications. He is a faculty member at the Justice Institute of BC.

MARVIN SHAFFER has been a consulting economist specializing in energy, transportation, and natural resource economics for over 30 years. He is also an adjunct professor in the public policy program at SFU. He was previously an assistant deputy minister in the provincial government, responsible for the Crown Corporations Secretariat.

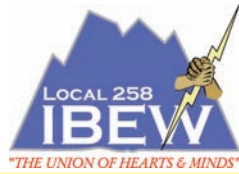
LARA TESSARO is a lawyer at Ecojustice Canada where she represents clients in environmental law matters related to mining, energy, marine pollution, and protection of wildlife and aquatic species at risk. She is developing expertise in the area of federal environmental assessment law.

LEE-ANN UNGER works as a campaign coordinator with the West Kootenay EcoSociety in Nelson, BC. Concerned about environmental impacts of the proposed Glacier/Howser project and increasing numbers of private water licenses and applications in the Kootenays, she launched the wild rivers campaign in October 2007.

CRAIG WILLIAMS is a software developer from North Vancouver who mapped the growing number of private hydro power developments in BC. The resulting google earth map and google map have been shared with the public through his website www.ippwatch.info.

LORI WINSTANLEY is a seasoned campaigner and political activist who has worked on political and progressive campaigns for more three decades. She is the director of COPE 378's strategic campaigns and communications, which includes the public power BC campaign.

EVENT SPONSORS:



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ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS:

- BC Creek Protection Society • BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association
- Burke Mountain Naturalists • Ecojustice Canada • First Nations Leadership Council
- First Nations Summit • Four Directions Management Services, Ltd. • IPP Watch
- Malaspina Communities for Public Power • Save Our Rivers Society • Tsleil-Waututh Nation
- Union of BC Indian Chiefs • Watershed Watch Salmon Society • West Kootenay EcoSociety

ADDITIONAL THANKS TO:

- Don Bain • Keith Baldrey • Paul Blom • Colin Braker • John Calvert
- Dan George • Leonard George • Damien Gillis • Mark Haddock
- Monica Hamburg • Rafe Mair • Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
- Dave Porter • Jeffrey Rotin • Marvin Shaffer
- Simon Fraser University at Harbour Centre • Staff & Board, BC Citizens for Public Power

