

## **Council of Canadians, Ecology Ottawa to join Sustainable North Grenville at Pipeline Information Session September 18**

KEMPTVILLE – Representatives from the national organization Council of Canadians and Ecology Ottawa will be coming to North Grenville September 18 to expose the potential impacts the proposed TransCanada Energy East pipeline will have on our community.

The public information session, organized by Sustainable North Grenville, will feature a panel of speakers to talk about the proposed pipeline that would flow through North Grenville and across the Rideau River, and give citizens an opportunity to ask questions and share their concerns.

“Residents of North Grenville need to be fully aware of the impacts a pipeline of this magnitude would have on our community,” said Chris Weissflog, a member of Sustainable North Grenville. “We are calling on our elected representatives to oppose the proposed pipeline until a full assessment has been made of the potential impacts on our community and risks to the Rideau River watershed.”

TransCanada is proposing to pump 1.1 Million barrels of tar sands oil across the Rideau River and through North Grenville each day. Part of a nation-wide project, the proposed pipeline originates in Alberta’s tar sands and would carry bitumen across the country to refineries in Quebec City and Saint John, NB.

“This pipeline is not safe, is unlikely to provide energy security for Atlantic Canadians or generate decent jobs,” says Andrea Harden-Donahue, Energy and Climate Campaigner with the Council of Canadians. “Communities along the route will see little benefit while facing the serious risks of a tar sands pipeline spill.”

Presentations will be followed by questions and an open discussion forum.

Mayor David Gordon welcomes the discussion, and will be attending the event.

The session will take place in the North Grenville Municipal Theatre, Wednesday, September 18, from 6:30 – 9:00 pm. All are welcome to attend. Attendees are encouraged to consider alternative forms of transportation for all or part of their journey to the session.

If you have a specific question regarding the proposed pipeline, please email us at [info@sustainablenorthgrenville.ca](mailto:info@sustainablenorthgrenville.ca).

For more information about the event and the proposed pipeline please visit our website at [www.SustainableNorthGrenville.ca](http://www.SustainableNorthGrenville.ca)

For media inquiries contact:

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## BIOS

**IAN ANGUS** is the author of two books and many articles on environmental issues. He lives in North Grenville and is a member of Sustainable North Grenville.

**BEN POWLESS** is working as a Community Organizer on the proposed pipeline with Ecology Ottawa. He has worked extensively with the Indigenous Environmental Network, focused on climate justice and the tar sands. He is also an organizer with the Defenders of the Land and Idle No More, and was a co-founder of the Canadian Youth Climate Coalition, where he still serves on the national council. He enjoys biking and photography in his spare time.

**Ecology Ottawa** is a not-for-profit, grassroots, volunteer-driven organization working to make Ottawa the green capital of Canada. We believe that Ottawa residents are concerned about issues such as climate change, pollution and waste, and that they want sustainable communities where clean energy, air, and water, public transit, recycling, and green space protection take priority. We provide residents with the information and tools they need to understand local environmental issues and promote environmental leadership at city hall.  
<http://ecologyottawa.ca/tar-free-613/>

**ANDREA HARDEN-DONAHUE** is the Energy and Climate Justice Campaigner with the Council of Canadians. Andrea has been with the Council for over five years, working with members, Council chapters and allies on local, national and international campaigns for climate justice. This has seen Andrea attend international climate summits, author several reports, promote energy alternatives and participate in campaigns against extreme energy including tar sands pipelines and fracking. Andrea has a history of activism in the water justice movement and defending arts programmes; she studied human rights at Carleton University. She loves to play ultimate frisbee and spend time with her family, including her one year old son.

Founded in 1985, the **COUNCIL OF CANADIANS** is Canada's leading social action organization, mobilizing a network of 60 chapters across the country. Through our campaigns we support democracy, clean water, fair trade, climate justice, public health care, and community organizing. We educate and empower people to hold our governments and corporations accountable. We believe a better Canada and a fairer world are possible. Together, we turn that belief into action. The Council of Canadians is a registered non-profit organization and does not accept money from corporations or governments. Our work is sustained by the volunteer energy and generous donations of people like you.  
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