



January 27, 2009

UPDATES

Plastic Ain't My Bag – campaign update

City council's unanimous support of Ald. John Mar's motion to investigate eliminating free, single-use plastic bags in Calgary by the end of 2010 has paved the way to making Calgary a big-city Canadian leader when it comes to taking action on plastic bags. But it's only the first step and now is when public pressure will be most important to ensure it becomes reality!

A report on the matter will be brought to the city's Standing Policy Committee on Utilities & Environment before May, at which time it will be the public's only chance to provide input directly to city council. Between now and then, the Chinook Group plans to add momentum to its anti-plastic bag campaign. Everyone interested helping this effort is encouraged to attend a **special campaign meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 11 from 7 to 9 pm at the Old Y Centre** (#211, 223 12th Avenue SW, in the common room on the main floor). Come armed with ideas for action!

We have also created a new Facebook group for the Plastic Ain't My Bag – Calgary campaign, complete with a new photo gallery of plastic bags littering Calgary that we can present to City Hall this spring. Join up and start adding photos now at:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=50854936675&ref=mf>

For more info about the campaign, contact Grady Semmens at:

communications@sierraclubchinook.org

Action Grizzly Bear campaign

Sierra Club Canada is leading the new campaign to protect Alberta's vulnerable grizzly bear population, through Action Grizzly Bear. By joining Action Grizzly Bear you will help raise the collective voice for grizzly bear recovery. You will be added to the Action Grizzly Bear listserv allowing you to receive occasional updates and action alerts to help you stay informed about the recovery process and alert you when your voice is needed most. Visit the website: <http://actiongrizzlybear.ca> and sign up today!

To subscribe or unsubscribe to our email newsletters and updates list, visit:

<http://lists.sierraclubchinook.org/mailman/listinfo/updates>

EVENTS

Monthly Chinook Group meeting: Feb. 4

“Recent Environmental Issues in the Oilsands” with Pembina Institute's Terra Simieritsch

Terra Simieritsch is a Policy Analyst with the Pembina Institute's Energy Solutions team. Her research focuses on the environmental implications of oilsands development. She has been involved in the review of various proposed oil sands projects and has co-authored Pembina Institute publications on conservation offsets. Terra has worked as a forestry technologist, a field technician and a research assistant. She has a B.Sc. in Environmental Science from the University of Calgary, and a diploma in Forest Technology from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

The Sierra Club Chinook Group holds a free, monthly public meeting at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Calgary Area Outdoor Council building (1111 Memorial Drive NW, upstairs, entrance at the back). If you have any questions or to RSVP (optional), email SC CG Meetings Coordinator Alex Taylor at: alex<at>sierraclubchinook.org.

Environmental Justice Action Camp: Jan. 30 – Feb. 1

The Council of Canadians, Greenpeace, the Indigenous Environmental Network, the Rainforest Action Network and the Sierra club are combing forces to offer a 3-day series of workshops to help you expand your climate activist toolbox.

The 3-days from Jan. 30 – Feb. 1 will cover a variety of different areas. From informational sessions on the tar sands to workshops on topics ranging from non-violent direct action, environmental justice, media, art and activism, campaign planning and more.

There is something for everyone and the three days is a great way for the new activist to learn a bunch of skills and meet a lot of people and for the veteran activist to hone old skills and learn some new ones. Suggested donation for the weekend is \$20 but no one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

To request a registration form contact Mike at mhudema@greenpeace.org, Clayton at monsterredlight@gmail.com or Eriel at ederanger@ran.org

OUTINGS & TRIPS

Chester Lake/Mt. Shark snowshoe: Feb. 8

Our annual snowshoe to Chester Lake in Kananaskis Country is taking place on Sunday, Feb. 8. It will be a day trip adventure of moderate difficulty. Ride-sharing from Calgary will be arranged for 9 am, with return to the city by 5 pm.

For more information or to RSVP by Feb. 6, email Laura Hickman at: lauraATsierraclubchinookDOTorg

To be added to our Outings email list, go to:

<http://lists.sierraclubchinook.org/mailman/listinfo/outings>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Events Co-ordinator position

The Chinook Group is seeking a volunteer to oversee events and festivals we attend every year around the city. This position entails registration for events and working with the volunteer coordinator to schedule these exciting opportunities. We would also like to start planning some additional activities that would require preparation and this would fall under this position as well. Training and assistance will be provided by members of the Chinook Group's leadership team. For more information, contact Melanie Richard at: [melanie<at>sierraclubchinook.org](mailto:melanie@sierraclubchinook.org)

To be added to our Volunteers email list, go to:

<http://lists.sierraclubchinook.org/mailman/listinfo/volunteers>

Chinook Group Vision Statement

The Sierra Club Canada - Chinook Group is an environmental organization that changes consciousness through political influence, education, advocacy and fun!

Not a member yet? Join Sierra Club of Canada today at: <https://getinvolved.sierraclub.ca/renew.php>