

Dear team leaders,

Four things I'm excited to share with you in this email:

- **Very cool prize draw for International Women's Day**
- **Follow up from team leaders' meeting**
- **Bi-weekly roundup of activities**
- **Maude Barlow talks about hope in activism**

Here we go.

→ It's no secret that women are leading climate justice action around the world, including within this network. The theme for this year's [International Women's Day](#) on March 8 is #BreaktheBias, and we want to recognize you by offering a paid registration for an upcoming [media skills workshop](#) by Informed Opinions, a Canadian charitable organization aimed at amplifying underrepresented voices.

I'm collecting names of those interested in the workshop, and will make a draw on **Tuesday, March 8th**. Let me know (you can reply to this email) if:

- you'd like your name entered in the draw
- you'd **also** like to enter the name of someone on your team
- you'd **also** like to enter the name of someone you know from a BIPOC-led community group that may have difficulty accessing this kind of resource

Remember to reply by end of day Tuesday March 8th.

→ It was good to see many of you at the Team Leaders' meeting last Sunday, and thanks for the feedback at the meeting and afterward. A couple of follow-up items:

Lorna will be sending an email this week with updates about how we communicate with each other, based on your responses to the communications survey.

I'm setting up check-ins with each team and would love it if you could find a time on [this scheduler](#) that would work for you. Thanks!

The next team leaders' meeting is April 24th and invitations will be sent out by the end of March. [Dates for all meetings can be found here.](#)

→ What's happening locally, regionally, and nationally

- **Just Transition Day of Action: March 12**

Interest in this is growing - Natalie has compiled an excellent page of [background information, resources, and how to take action ideas here](#)

- **Climate Strike March 25**

[Here's the info from Fridays for Future](#)

- **Get Gas out of the Classroom**

Groups in BC are working with Dogwood and CAPE to call on school boards to ban the curriculum resources developed by energy giant FortisBC from classrooms. Many trustees aren't even aware of the propaganda being promoted to teachers for use as resources. If you are or want to be part of this action, let me know.

Do you know if the same thing is happening in your area? It was an issue in Alberta about 8 years ago, and I suspect it's happening elsewhere.

- **Ontario's Provincial Election**

A [collaborative action page](#) is live for teams in Ontario who want to work on developing a set of questions for candidates for the election in June.

There is a shared document for you to add the questions you'd like to ask, and a list of candidates by riding, with their contact information.

- **Eco-anxiety resources for parents/kids/students/teachers**

The need is intensifying for resources, information, ideas and therapeutic intervention for eco-anxiety and eco-grief. A few teams in the network are addressing this, and would like to connect with others who are interested. Let me know if you'd like to collaborate.

- **Pressure on banks**

We haven't lost sight of this campaign. For Our Kids is part of a national campaign aimed at mainstreaming the divestment conversation - in other words, to get more people talking openly about the billions of dollars invested in fossil fuels by major Canadian banks every year, and the damage this causes to health, environment and Indigenous rights. You'll hear a lot more on this soon. If you have a story to share about bringing your concerns to your bank, or switching your money from one of the major banks, please let me know.

- **UN Comment on Children's Environmental Rights**

The UN will be launching [consultations with children and youth](#) around the world very soon to get their ideas on what a declaration of environmental rights for children should look like. You can sign up at the link above to get notification when the consultation is open.

FOK has been invited to be part of a national collaboration to promote the consultations and hold the federal government accountable for upholding the declaration once it's finalized.

Interested in being part of this? Let me know.

→ Did you happen to hear Maude Barlow speaking on the Sunday Magazine today? I'm showing my age here, but she was one of my inspirations as a young adult, and she continues to inspire. She spoke [on the March 6 edition of the show](#) (starting about the 1:14 mark) about the importance of acknowledging grief and then asking yourself "what's the next appropriate step to take" in your activism. She shared her concern and admiration for youth (I love her reference to herself as being "committed in an undisciplined way" when she was 17 - brings back memories!) and insight from many years of experience building movements and creating change (including the Blue Communities campaign, during which I had the chance to meet her).



Quoting Rebecca Solnit, author of *Hope in the Dark*, she said: "Progress isn't an army marching forward; it's a crab scuttling sideways. You don't know where victory is going to come from." It's a great image, isn't it? If you get the chance, take a listen.

Take care out there, and please stay in touch.

Lella