



July 15, 2023

This summer, amid ongoing climate change impacts all around us - record-breaking wildfires and heat, repeated severe air quality warnings, droughts and floods - there is something else.

It's the hum of action, of change. As parents, grandparents, and those who care about kids, caterpillars, whales, trees and rivers, we were built for this. We create change through the connections we make and the stories we share.

Here's a taste of some stories For Our Kids' members have been moved to share already this summer. And if they inspire you, read on for ideas on how you can do the same.

This comes from Jennifer, a member of Pour Nos Enfants/For Our Kids Montréal:

***How do you feel when you watch wildfires force thousands of people from their homes and millions more to breathe air that is the worst quality in the world? When you hear that Canada's oil and gas companies and top banks are bringing in billions of dollars in profits while many working Canadians are having trouble putting food on the table? Those emotions need to be shared. Then they need to be put into action. We need to make it impossible to ignore the call for a just transition off fossil fuels.***

Jennifer was moved to write this piece reflecting her experience as a parent in the midst of the air quality warnings. You can read the full [blog post here](#).

Vanessa from the Toronto For Our Kids team was feeling the anxiety caused by wildfire smoke as well and connected the dots to corporate profits in her [op-ed speaking out against RBC's proposed merger with HSBC](#).

Meghan from Guelph reached an international audience when she was interviewed recently by German independent newsroom CORRECTIV about Canada Pension Plan investments in German fossil fuels. [Read the article here](#).

And Sarah from London shared with her local morning radio show why [her son is her motivation](#) to do all she can - including co-hosting a community parent meet-up - so that his generation has a liveable future in which they can thrive.

Here are some [tips for telling your story](#). And remember, stories don't need to be published to have an impact. Bringing the climate crisis into our daily conversations is one of the most powerful things we can do. Here's some encouragement for [why talking about climate change is important](#). You can find more inspiration from other parents [on the Our Stories page](#) of FOK's website.

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## We want your kids' art!

Storytelling through all forms of artistic creation is a profoundly important way of expressing and processing our feelings, and a compelling way to connect with others.

We're inviting you to share your kids' drawings, paintings, chalk art, fabric creations, sculptures and scribbles with us this summer (we're open to adult art work too)!

We'll feature art that you share with us in our social media posts and possibly on our website. Photographs of kids and adults connecting with nature are welcome too! Please send images to [hello@fourkids.ca](mailto:hello@fourkids.ca) and we'll follow up with the details.

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## Quick Summer Actions

You can keep the hum of action and change going over the summer - here are a few current actions where parent voices can make a difference:

1. Support the call for improvements to the federal government's [Sustainable Jobs legislation](#) so the transition to a clean energy economy includes everyone.
2. Learn more about the potential of a [Climate Aligned Finance Act](#) and how you can push for it to become a reality.

3. Tell the federal government that **Clean Electricity Regulations** are needed now, before further delays allow provinces to expand the use of gas-fired power plants.

We know that this work can be heavy, as much as it is empowering. We wish you time to spend outside this summer, in gratitude for the web of life of which we are a part, whether that's at a lake, camping in the woods or under the shade of an urban park. And we hope that helps to sustain and inspire you.

**Thank you for everything you do,**

Jinhwa, Gabrielle, Lella, Lorna, Natalie, Rebecca, Ruth

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**For Our Kids** parents and teams live, work, meet, and act in communities that exist on land that has been taken from First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples across Turtle Island, whether through unfulfilled treaties or outright occupation of territory. We recognize the harm and injustices resulting from colonization and we commit to working toward safe, inclusive, just, equitable and healthy communities for all.