



Seniors' Climate Witness Update #1: David Suzuki to launch Climate Caravan!

August 17, 2026

Dear friends,

Thank you for your interest in **Seniors' Climate Witness and Climate Caravan**. Whether you've attended an information session, joined one of our weekly meetings, or simply signed up to learn more, we're delighted to have you with us.

What began as a small group of organizers is quickly becoming a national campaign, with people from across Canada stepping forward to help build a powerful week of public witness and nonviolent action during the opening of Parliament.

As communities across Canada continue to experience climate-fuelled wildfires, seniors, people of faith, and allies will travel together in a **Climate Caravan** to Ottawa, where they'll participate in **Seniors' Climate Witness**—a week of public witness and nonviolent action calling on the federal government to reject new publicly funded fossil fuel pipelines and invest instead in a renewable energy future that is safe, just, and livable for present and future generations.

Last week's [letter](#) from the Union of BC Indian Chiefs opposing the proposed West Coast Oil Pipeline is a clear indication that many of these proposed pipelines lack Indigenous free prior and informed consent.

Campaign Highlights

- Information sessions have now been held in **Toronto** and **Ottawa**, with participants expressing enthusiasm and offering to help in many different ways.
- Our **Climate Caravan** and **Nonviolent Action** working groups are meeting regularly and making good progress.
- New supporters continue to sign up from across Canada, and outreach is underway to faith communities, climate organizations, seniors' groups, and other allies.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the past two weeks has been the willingness of people to step forward. At both information sessions, participants didn't simply ask questions, they asked how they could help. That spirit of generosity gives us great hope for what we can accomplish together.

Western Canada Climate Caravan

We're thrilled that **David Suzuki** has agreed to help launch the **Western Canada Climate Caravan** in Vancouver on **Wednesday, September 9**. We hope this event will help inspire communities across the country as the caravan makes its way to Ottawa.

Tentative itinerary (daily destinations)

Wednesday, September 9

Victoria • Vancouver • Kamloops

Thursday, September 10

Calgary

Friday, September 11

Medicine Hat

Saturday, September 12

Regina

Sunday, September 13

Winnipeg

Monday, September 14

Thunder Bay

Tuesday, September 15

Thunder Bay (community events/rest day)

Wednesday, September 16

Sault Ste. Marie

Thursday, September 17

Sudbury

Friday, September 18

Arrival in Ottawa

Because the caravan will travel by electric vehicle, charging stops will create opportunities to meet with local faith communities, climate groups, media, and supporters along the route.

We're also exploring opportunities for people to travel together from Ontario, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada.

Ottawa Week at a Glance

Friday, September 18 – Arrival & Welcome

Saturday, September 19 – Global Climate March

Sunday, September 20 – Nonviolent Action Training (Session 1) & Community Dinner

Monday, September 21 – Opening of Parliament • Care not Warfare: 1,000 Women for Peace & Climate Rally • Nonviolent Action Training (Session 2)

Tuesday, September 22 – Main Nonviolent Action

Wednesday, September 23 – Public Witness, Media & Solidarity Activities

Thursday, September 24 – Closing Gathering & Departure

(Schedule subject to change.)

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Atlantic Canada online campaign info session: Wednesday, August 19, 7-8 pm AT (6-7 ET), online at <https://concordia-ca.zoom.us/j/85794576837> (Atlantic Canada focus, but all welcome)

Weekly overall campaign updates, Thursdays at 5 pm PT/8 pm ET, online at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88400023357>

Toronto Nonviolent Action Training: Join a nonviolent action training on Wednesday, **September 8 at 5-9 pm** in downtown Toronto. Nonviolent direct action is a key strategy for resisting climate breakdown, stopping new pipelines, and standing in solidarity with Indigenous land defenders. Join this free training and learn: principles and history of nonviolent action; legal aspects; arrest and non-arrest roles; formation of affinity groups; and our action plan to resist new pipelines on unceded Indigenous lands. Register [here](#).

How You Can Help This Week

Every conversation helps build this campaign.

- **Join us in Ottawa** for all or part of the week.
- **Travel with one of the Climate Caravans.**
- Invite a friend or colleague to one of our weekly campaign meetings.
- Share the campaign through your congregation, organization, or personal networks.
- Become a liaison for a caravan stop along the route.
- Volunteer with one of our working groups.
- [Donate](#) to help more seniors participate.

To volunteer for any or these roles, email us at seniors.climate.witness@proton.me.

Stay Connected

If you haven't already done so, please complete our [participant form](#).

Our weekly campaign meetings are open to everyone interested in helping build Seniors' Climate Witness. We'd love to have you join us every **Thursday at 5 pm PT/8 pm ET**, online at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88400023357>

Our goal is to build a broad, hopeful movement of seniors, people of faith, and allies. If someone comes to mind as you read this update, please consider forwarding it to them. Personal invitations remain the most effective way to grow this campaign.

Thank you for being part of this growing movement. Together, we can offer a hopeful, courageous, and compassionate witness for a livable future.

With gratitude,

Michael Polanyi

on behalf of the Seniors' Climate Witness organizing team