

THE  
**COUNCIL**  
OF CANADIANS



LE  
**CONSEIL**  
DES CANADIENS

## LONDON CHAPTER

### Water is a Human Right

Council of Canadians fights for water justice on many fronts. It is something so essential to all our lives that it is important for us to realize that it is worth fighting for. In this age of the Anthropocene, when our climate is changing rapidly and water is becoming scarce in some communities and abundant in others, we must protect our water against privatization and for profit companies. We cannot live without water - it is vital to life. The Blue Communities project is an initiative to lobby our municipal governments to protect our water and to stop privatization from taking over our most basic human need.

*Julie Picken Cooper*



We Own It Rally – Nov 2017

We sat in at MPP Deputy Premier Deb Matthews' office in London for 85 consecutive Fridays, 12 noon. We retired our props for the Hydro One Not For Sale Campaign at the Adam Beck monument on University Ave. in Toronto.



*Glad Neighbours Sign*

## **Indigenous Allyship**

The London Chapter of the CoC is committed to working with our First Nations neighbours whenever we have mutual issues. We showed slides and spoke about “Environmental Racism” for our March 15, 2017 monthly event. We learned that while the town of Blue Water, the community of workers who built Chemical Valley, was moved due to extreme pollution concerns, the residents of the Aamjiwnaang First Nation have been left poisoned by the flares and leaks from the refineries. March 22 several of our members attended the International Joint Commission on the Great Lakes open hearing in Sarnia. There we networked with members of Walpole Island and came back with their Position Paper on the pollution of the St. Claire River. They also have serious health concerns about the Ontario Power Generation plant on Lake Huron, north of them. Walpole Island members have stood up for safe drinking water in solidarity with Water Wells First, the group of farmers who have had their wells poisoned by sediment due to the drilling of Samsung, the corporation.

installing wind turbines around Dresden

Our April 19 event was the Blanket Exercise, which is a hands on demonstration of the history of genocide of the Indigenous population of what is now called Canada

In August the Line 9 Snake (with its new and improved body) was taken on its third Toxic Tour of Chemical Valley in solidarity with the Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

The program that follows our Nov. 15, 2017 AGM is provided by Kelly Morrissey, an Inuit Labrador Land Protector, speaking on The Struggle at Muskrat falls.

We look forward to Walpole Island providing the program for one of our monthly events, Spring, 2018.

*Roberta Cory, Co-Chair*