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**To:** Mayor <[Mayor@burnaby.ca](mailto:Mayor@burnaby.ca)>, "Calendino, Attilio Pietro" <[AttilioPietro.Calendino@burnaby.ca](mailto:AttilioPietro.Calendino@burnaby.ca)>, "Dhaliwal, Satvinder" <[Satvinder.Dhaliwal@burnaby.ca](mailto:Satvinder.Dhaliwal@burnaby.ca)>, "Johnston, Dan" <[Dan.Johnston@burnaby.ca](mailto:Dan.Johnston@burnaby.ca)>, "Jordan, Colleen" <[Colleen.Jordan@burnaby.ca](mailto:Colleen.Jordan@burnaby.ca)>, "Keithley, Joe" <[Joe.Keithley@burnaby.ca](mailto:Joe.Keithley@burnaby.ca)>, "Wang, James" <[James.Wang@burnaby.ca](mailto:James.Wang@burnaby.ca)>, [alison.gu@burnaby.ca](mailto:alison.gu@burnaby.ca), [mike.hillman@burnaby.ca](mailto:mike.hillman@burnaby.ca)

**Subject:** Heal the Forest, Heal Ourselves, Stop TMX

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Dear Mayor and Council,

Thank you for working to uphold your responsibilities to care for the collective well-being of our communities. We believe that all people who live on unceded Coast Salish lands have a responsibility to learn about and uphold Indigenous laws, starting with the base line of caring for the land so that it is healthy for current and future generations.

In this spirit, attached please find a<sup>\*</sup> collection of writing and art for the thousands of trees that the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion plans to cut down very soon around the Lower Mainland, on unceded Coast Salish territories without consent or permission from the local host nations and municipalities. Our project is entitled 1308 Trees, referring to TransMountain's application to the Canada Energy Regulatory requesting and receiving permission to cut down 1308 trees larger than 20 cm in diameter, not even bothering to count smaller trees, whose lives will also be lost. The actual numbers of trees killed are much higher, likely millions, along the whole length of the pipeline, a destruction and elimination of trees that we cannot afford in this time of climate emergency.

Most of the images are part of an art exhibition around the tree sit that has been going on for over 180 days - see <https://www.stoptmx.ca/> - or have been circulated through social media. The letters to the trees and to Prime Minister Trudeau and Trans Mountain CEO Ian Anderson were sent through our website, <https://1308trees.ca/>. They share love, care, grief, and outrage at the destruction of the biodiversity we need to be nourishing, not impoverishing.

Through spending time with the trees, who provide much needed habitat for animal, bird and plant life, community members have raised the alarm about how tree removal was harming nesting hummingbirds, who are supposed to be protected under Canada's Migratory Birds Convention Act. The Community Nest Finding Network has been working to support people's capacity to identify birds and help protect them, to uphold the environmental laws that seem to be neglected or inadequately enforced by federal bodies (<https://ca.gofundme.com/f/2d89pe3jzc>).

We are sounding the alarm that we cannot afford to be cutting down thousands of trees right now. There is no social license for a pipeline expansion that will be the death of us all. As we face the worst heat wave we've ever seen and future forest fire seasons that will break more records, we say that TransMountain and the Canadian government do not have the right to wreck the climate for the rest of us.

We hope this collection inspires you to find ways to stop the expansion of the TransMountain pipeline. The climate science is very clear, as are Indigenous knowledge keepers and the increasing frequency of

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massive wildfires, and intensive storms; we are at a time where we need to make a just transition off fossil fuels. It is already very late, but hopefully not too late, to achieve this. We owe it to the children in our lives to try our utmost to halt the pipeline expansion. And so we share some beauty as an offering to remind us what matters, in the long run.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Amy Walker, Sara Ross, Rita Wong and Donna Clark  
On behalf of 1308 Trees

PS. We can be reached at [REDACTED] (Rita) if you have questions or feedback.