

Oilsands a major polluter, EU environmentalists say

PETE HARRISON
REUTERS
BRUSSELS

European parliamentarians are raising the pressure on the Canadian oilsands industry, which they accuse of destroying forests and polluting the air and waterways.

Seventeen members of the European Parliament wrote to European climate commissioner Connie Hedegaard on Tuesday, urging her to maintain barriers to oilsands in draft EU standards to promote greener fuels.

"The extraction and refining of tarsand oil is around three times more carbon intensive than conventional oil," they said in the letter.

Canada has already warned the EU that its draft standards are too unwieldy and will



Connie Hedegaard

harm the market for its oilsands — tar-like oil that is trapped in sediment and forms the world's second-largest proven crude oil reserves after Saudi Arabia.

Separately, Greek lawmaker Kriton Arsenis asked EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton this week to link trade co-operation with Canada to its climate strategy and its use of oilsands.

"It would be unacceptable not to place the environmental consequences of tarsands oil extraction on the negotiating table," Arsenis said in a statement.

"This activity is the reason why Canada doesn't honour its international commitments on climate change," he said.

The issue has already led to pressure on oil companies to withdraw from the sector.

Despite the pressure from environmentalists, the EU appears to be yielding to Canadian demands that it remove possible barriers to oilsands to avoid further damage to trade ties.

Canada's EU envoy, Ross Hornby, has written to EU climate officials warning them that the EU's "fuel quality directive" could be seen as a trade barrier.

In his letter, Hornby cited research showing oilsands' carbon footprint was only five to 15 per cent higher than most crude oil imports consumed in the United States.



From left, front row: Don King, Holly Jones, Ev Arnott, Keith Erickson; second row: Debbie Davis, Sandra King, Wanda Michaels, Leslee Rennie; third row: Steph McIntyre, Jill Rehman, Franc Cioffi; back row: Sandra Sveinson, Giovanna Doucette, Jodi Maxwell, Wendy Nadon. Location courtesy of Artistic Stairs.

Kogawa Consulting – Celebrating 25 Years

From its almost accidental beginnings 25 years ago, Kogawa Consulting Ltd. has become a recognized leader in business strategy and process re-engineering, with clients ranging from small businesses to big government and big oil. Despite pressures to grow fast or go corporate, the company celebrates its silver anniversary this year as a small but multifaceted consulting firm that provides world-class expertise with a personal touch.

Kogawa Consulting is co-owned by twin sisters Sandra King and Wanda Michaels (Kogawa is their maiden name). King and Michaels grew up doing things together, and continued to do so after university when Michaels was offered a three-month contract with Alberta Family and Social Services in Edmonton to document work processes.

a tool," Michaels says. "It's not the tool that makes us successful, it's having a great team of highly skilled consultants who know how to use it appropriately in each unique business environment. They are a hardworking, gifted group who all share common values of integrity and honesty -- focused on delivering results to our clients. We are very thankful to them."

"I took a holistic view of the whole business process, and we could see redundancies between areas and managers doing clerical work," Michaels recalls. "The project became so successful that the boss said, 'Too bad there isn't another one of you.' "I said, 'Oh, there is! Same age, same degree – same resume, except for the first name.'"

Adds King: "Our focus is always trying to help our clients succeed in reaching their goals; everyone in Kogawa really cares about the client's needs and requirements."

King happened to be visiting at the time and was brought onto the project. When they finished the project, they formalized the partnership by launching Kogawa Consulting.

But all the care and expertise in the world won't create success if they're not backed up by people who are enjoyable and easy to work with – and that's another area in which Kogawa Consulting really shines. "Our consultants are all really nice, personable people, and fun to be around, too," King says. "We treat everyone how we'd like to be treated." Great relationships with clients come from positive experiences with Kogawa's people and the results they bring.

Thanks to their fresh, insightful approach and innovative practices, the firm quickly established a solid reputation that attracted an array of clients from a variety of sectors. Business grew steadily over the years, and today the Kogawa team consists of 15 diversely talented senior consultants, trained and experienced in Kogawa's signature methodology.

Remaining a boutique firm has meant Kogawa Consulting can be selective about the work it takes on, ensuring each client gets the full attention of the team. "Going in, we look at a project and think about whether we can add value to the organization. If we can, we bid on it, but if not, we don't. I think our clients appreciate that," King says.

The company's versatile approach has evolved over the years, and is still integral to the firm's work in business planning, business process innovation, data modelling, information systems planning, facilitation, project management, training, coaching and policy & procedure development.

"A key thing we all do is to make sure the client can sustain themselves and transition knowledge before we leave," Michaels says. "Most of our business comes from word of mouth, and we really want to thank our clients for that."

In the end, though, the key to success is people and relationships.

A quarter of a century may sound like a long time, but for Kogawa Consulting, it's clearly only the beginning.

"The secret of our success is our team of consultants. The methodology is just



2010 **CALGARY STAMPEDE**
PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON
PRESENTED BY GLOBAL CALGARY

Join us in honouring three-time Presidents' Ring recipient Henry Burris.
Thursday, May 6, 11:30 a.m. at Flames Central

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR \$75
Stampeders.com • 403-289-0258





CALGARY HERALD

AUCTIONMART
www.calgaryherald.com/auctions

ShopSmart, Shop AuctionMart

Watch for Huge Savings!

PACKAGE DEAL (BLUE LABEL) **ITEM 18**
1 AVAILABLE

2 Custom suits & 2 cotton shirts. Suits in Woolens from Dornell Collection fabrics & shirts in Sea Island Cotton. Made to your style, specs and measurement. Call or email for local show dates. Prices exclude S/H.



Retail Value \$1,530.00

The Tailored Man
5243 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia
1-877-984-3339

5 X \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATES **ITEM 42**
10 AVAILABLE

5 x \$50 gift certificates can be used at lunch or dinner. Q has a lot to offer, such as Express Lunch, Jazz Nights, Wine Dinners and More! Join our mailing list.



Retail Value \$250.00

Q HAUTE CUISINE
100 LaCaille Place,
Upper Level 7th Street
81st Ave SW
Calgary, Alberta
403-262-5554

LA-Z-BOY \$4000 GIFT CERTIFICATE **ITEM 57**
2 AVAILABLE

"Griffin" Leather Sectional
With a wonderfully scaled, flared arm style and chaise seat, the complete Griffin collection offers sophistication to those seeking a look of their own!



Retail Value \$4,000.00

LA-Z-BOY Furniture Galleries
North - 5111 Northland Dr. NW,
South - 7300 11 St. SE
Calgary, Alberta
403-240-1000

\$500 RUG GIFT CERTIFICATE **ITEM 211**
6 AVAILABLE

Experience the world of luxury and privilege. Bring the passion of distinctive design and impeccable craftsmanship into your home. Use this \$500 rug gift certificate for yourself or for someone you love.



Retail Value \$500.00

INDO DESIGNER RUGS
620 - 17th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta
403-229-0156

April 17th-April 26th

Browse • Bid • Buy!
Highest bidders will win top quality, brand name merchandise and
SAVE up to 50% off

Want to save money on everyday items?
ON NOW!

You could save a bundle on something you were already planning to buy.

www.calgaryherald.com/auctions



Experts in
Business Innovation

KOGAWA

www.kogawa.com

403-202-2561