

ROBERT BRUCE TORRIE

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CURRICULUM VITAE

- Born** Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, August 7, 1953
- Education** University of Victoria, 3 years Political Science/History
Osgoode Hall Law School, York University 1977 - LL.B.
Called to the British Columbia Bar - January, 1981
Member, The Law Society of British Columbia (non-practicing)
- Employment** March 1981 to January 1992: Principal, Torrie & Associates, Barristers and Solicitors (three lawyer firm)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Twelve years in civil and criminal litigation, constitutional cases, environmental law, commercial law and real estate.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING

In 1991, I became a member of the National Platform Committee, Liberal Party of Canada. Since moving to Victoria in January 1992, I have primarily studied environmental science, policy and law as well as issues concerning health. I have been focusing on atmosphere issues, particularly ozone depletion and climate change impacts on health, forestry, fisheries and agriculture. From January to May 1992, I coordinated the environmental research for the official opposition (Liberal Caucus), Province of British Columbia. Since May 1992, my work has involved briefing federal and provincial government officials on global warming, ultra violet radiation and ozone depletion impacts and appropriate government policy responses. I have also coordinated a series of conferences on international environmental law, climate change, ozone depletion and impacts on forestry and biodiversity. I have produced 100 hours of television shows on these topics and assisted in planning several national and international conferences dealing with climate change ozone depletion. I coordinated and chaired a National Conference on Environmental Legislation in May 1998. I coordinated a Distinguished Lecture Series on Toxics and Alternatives at UVIC in September and October, 1998 and a Healthy Communities Conference at UVIC in October, 1998. In 1999 – 2000 I produced and chaired the Climates of Change Congress.

CBA ACTIVITIES

Member, Canadian Bar Association National Special Committee on the Atmosphere (1989 to date)

Member, Canadian Bar Association National Special Committee on Nuclear Arms and International Security (1986 to date)

National Vice-President and Director, Lawyers for Social Responsibility Canada (1988-1992)

Delegate, Canadian Conference on Nuclear Weapons and the Law, Ottawa, 1986)

Vice-Chairperson, Canadian Bar Association (B.C.) International Law Section (1988-1990)

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Skies Above Canada Foundation (Co-Chair)

International Law Education Foundation (Canada)

Hilltop Media Foundation

Earthchild Environment Foundation

Living Planet Foundation

Langford Protection Society (2000)

Langford Enhancement Society

Member, Advisory Board of Directors, Whistler Foundation (1989-1995)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Earth Island Institute Atmosphere Alliance (1997)

Van Island Human Rights Coalition (1997)

Legal Counsel, British Columbia Environmental Network Society (1990-1998)

Burns Bog Conservation Society

British Columbia Environmental Network Education Foundation (1995 - 1999)

Western Canada Wilderness Committee (1987-1990)

Founding Member and Director, Meager Creek Hot Springs Natural History Society (1985-1990)

Member, Advisory Board of Directors, Peace Magazine (1986 -)

Delegate, Founding Conference, Canadian Peace Alliance, Toronto (1985)

Member, Vancouver City Council Special Centennial Committee on Peace (1986)

Speaker, Public Inquiry into the Hanford, Washington Nuclear Waste Dump, Nelson, B.C. (1987)

Member, Ministry of National Defense, Defense Advisory Group (1987, prior to the White Paper)

Vice-President and Director, Alternate Shelter Society (1989-1990)

Chairperson, Vancouver Peace Center Society (1985-1990)

Provincial Policy Chair, B.C. Liberal Party (1991-1992)

Co-Chair, International Affairs Caucus, British Columbia Environmental Network (1998-2000)

Co-Chairperson and Director, Carmanah Forestry Society (1992-1994)

Chair, Atmosphere Caucus, British Columbia Environmental Network (1990 – 2000)

Member, B.C. Energy Council, General Plan Consultation Group (representing BCEN)

Delegate, International Conference on Public Participation, Whistler, B.C. (representing BCEN)

Director, Sierra Club, Victoria (1992-1995)

I also frequently provide legal advice to the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, The Greater Victoria Disarmament Group and other environmental and community groups.

SPECIAL EVENTS ORGANIZING

Chair, Media Relations and coordination, Vancouver Peace Flotilla, 1986

Organizing Committee, City of Vancouver Centennial Committee, 1986

Chair, Lawyers for Social Responsibility Conference, 1989

Producer and Host of a 3-hour TV program of Lawyers for Social Responsibility Conference Proceedings

Organizing Committee, Winds of Change Event, Globe '90

Organizing Committee, BCEN Conference, 1989 and 1990

Producer and Host of two and one-half hour TV special produced at the 1989 BCEN Conference (Climate Change and the Ozone Crisis)

Producer, Ecobeat '91, Fundraising Benefit for the BCEN at 86 Street Music Hall, March, 1991

Organizing Committee, B.C. Atmosphere and Air Quality Conference, March 30 to April 1, 1991, Simon Fraser University

Organizing Committee and Presentation, Canadian Soviet Conference on International Law in the Post Cold War Era, June 20-22, 1990 (Simon Fraser University) (included in the TV show produced at the conference and in the published proceedings of the conference)

Organizing Committee, BCEN Conference, May 1992

Delegate representing BCEN to Organizing Committee, B.C. Hydro Energy and

Environment Forum and Canadian National Energy Forum, held in Victoria May 10-13, 1992 at the Victoria Conference Centre

Associate Producer “Silent Winter”, a 1-hour Rogers Cable TV series on Environmental Issues

Host “Contact”, Rogers Cable TV half-hour interview program

Member, International Affairs Caucus, Canadian Environmental Network (re: Brazil ‘92)

Delegate representing BCEN to Globe ‘92 Conference Organizing Committee (re: atmosphere issues)

Delegate representing BCEN to the Shaping British Columbia’s Future Conference, University of British Columbia, November 23, 1991

Delegate representing BCEN to CEN Annual General Meeting, Montreal, 1991, Winnipeg, 1992, Ottawa, 1994, Regina, 1995

Producer, “The Ozone Crisis” a 2-hour TV special produced on May 12, 1992, hosted by CBC’s Eve Savory and sponsored by B.C. Hydro and the BCEN

Organizing Committee, B.C. Hydro Energy and Environmental Conference, 1993.

Have organized all aspects of many successful conferences; produced musical fund-raisers; produced, hosted and obtained sponsorship for educational TV programs and specials; promotion and press relations for numerous conferences, meetings, concerts and events

1993 - 1999 co-host and executive producer of Shaw Cable TV program 30 minute format on environmental, health and science issues

Co-chair, International Conference on Ozone Depletion and Ultraviolet Radiation, Victoria, 1994, Executive Producer of four hour TV conference special; Co-editor (with Keith Heidorn) of conference proceedings, 1995

In 1995 I attended the municipal leaders climate summit in Berlin (5 Days) and the meetings of the **Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP 1) in Berlin in March (25 days)** and Geneva (10 days) in October, 1995

Chair, International Conference on International Environmental Law, University of Victoria, 1996; **Featured Judge Ulf Panzer, Federal Republic of Germany**

Organizing Committee, BCEN Conference, Victoria, 1996, 1997, 1998

Chair, Organizing Committee, Skies Above Conferences: **From Carbon Cycle to Bicycle - Sharing Responsibility for Climate Change** 1997 and **Who is Minding the Store???** - **Environmental Legislation in Canada** 1998 **UVIC Distinguished Lecture Series**, Fall 1998 and **Healthy Communities Conference** UVIC, October 1998. **In 1999 and 2000 Bruce chaired the organizing committee and acted as Congress Chair for the International Climates of Change Congress.**

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Numerous speeches and presentations to groups, including the Burnaby Chamber of Commerce; Delta Rotary Club; Vancouver City Council and Committees; Canadian Bar Association Council, Annual General Meetings and Committees; Charitable groups; Public Forums and Conferences; the CRTC; The Royal Commission on Electoral Financing and Practices, and Simon Fraser University; University of British Columbia; University of Victoria; and Vancouver Community College Student and Faculty Groups; Victoria Rotary Clubs — Harbourside and University of Victoria. **In March 2000, Bruce served as the Congress Chair of the Climates of Change Congress.** This international event brought many of the World's leading Climate and Energy Scientists together with the public and the international press.

TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS

Have produced over 100 hours of TV Documentaries, mostly very low budget productions on Global Change, Science and Law themes. In addition to producing high quality productions of science and law conferences that he organized, Bruce also has lead teams of video journalists and produced programs at many national and international conferences. These programs have often featured the world's leading experts in a wide range of topics. In 1997, he was the Executive Producer and Director of the following Programs:

Forest Science / Climate Change / Deforestation

Peter McAllister – **Logging of Mainland B. C. Coast** - 1997 – 30 mins.

L'Hirondelle and Binder – **UV Radiation Effects on B. C. Trees** - 60 mins.

Martin Caldwell – **UV and Global Warming Effects on U. S. Trees** – 30 mins.

Greg McDade – **Effect of B. C. Forest Practices Code** – 1997 – 30 mins.

Misty McDuffee – **Logging Plans on Vancouver Island** –1997 – 30 mins.

Eric Taylor and Bill Taylor – **Climate Change Impacts on B. C.** – 60 mins.

Orie Loucks – **Acidification of Forest Environments in U. S.** – 30 mins.

International Law Impacts on Forest Policy

Elizabeth May, Sierra Club; Ron MacIsaac, Human Rights Coalition; Bruce Torrie, Skies Above Foundation and Ambassador Alan Beesley (ret'd) Discuss Canadian Compliance with its International Law Obligations to Protect the Environment – 90 mins.

Community Responses: Reducing Emissions & Pollution

Des Kennedy – **Organic Gardening and Lifestyles** – 30 mins.

Robert Bateman – **Inventing the Future – How To Make It Happen**– 30 mins.

Warren Bell, MD and Cheeying Ho – **Pollution and Health Effects** – 30 mins.

Mike and Merran Smith – **Sustainable Communities Gaia Project** – 30 mins.

James Keating, Melanie Ransom– **Victoria’s Blue Bike Solution** 30 min.

David Cubberly - **Galloping Goose Trail & Gary Holesko – BC Hydro**

Right of Ways -New Environmental Management Strategy – 30 min.

John Mate – **The Ethics Of Environmental Destruction** – 30 mins.

Lou Hobson – **CO2, the Ocean and Climate Change** – 30 mins.

David Balsler & Dermot Foley – **Finding Environmental Solutions** – 30 mins.

In 1998, Bruce produced:

Alan Dieterman, Seattle’s Water Conservation expert discusses how we can reduce our consumption of water and help protect the Sooke River.

Ron Dreiger, BC Ministry of Environment, explains BC’s excellent stewardship program for paints, toxics and batteries. (30 min.)

Dave Douglas, BC Ministry of Environment, discusses BC’s brand new world class beverage container stewardship strategy. (30 min.)

Elizabeth May, Sierra Club of Canada, reviews Canadian Forestry practices, and discusses her book “*At the Cutting Edge*” (30 min.)

David Bennett (National Director, Health, Safety and Environment, CLC) “National Standards for Pollution Prevention – Who Does What?”

Jack Basuk (Science Counsel of Can. Ret’d) “CEPA Framework : The Chemistry & The Risk”

Elizabeth May, Executive Director, Sierra Club of Canada “Understanding the Implications of CEPA and Harmonization”

Fred Knelman, PhD., The Whistler Foundation “The Future’s At Stake”

Mike Wong, Manager, CEPA Office, Ottawa “Bill C-32 – The New Canadian Environmental Protection Act”

Linda Nowlan, West Coast Environmental Law Association, “Putting the Federal House in Order”

Don Fast ADM, B. C. Ministry of Environment “An Overview of B.C. Initiatives for Environmental Protection”

Chris Tollefson “SLAPP Suits : Implications of Daishowa v Friends Of The Lubicon”

“**What Has Become Of Canada’s International Obligations?**” **Joan Russow**, Global Compliance Project, **Bruce Torrie**, Skies Above Foundation, **Steven Shrybman**, West Coast Environmental Law Assn.

In the fall of 1998, Bruce, in conjunction with the University of Victoria Faculty of Law, produced a series of six distinguished lectures on the themes of Toxics and Health:

PETE MYERS, co-author of *Our Stolen Future*. When this book was released in 1996, the chemical industry went berserk. Why? Because this well-researched book brought together all the damning evidence about toxic synthetic chemicals and the threats they pose to our health and the survival of wildlife. Sperm counts dropping, cancers of all sorts increasing, species unable to reproduce: chemicals in the environment — chemicals which can cross the placenta and begin to harm unborn children — seem to be the link. Find out what the industry doesn't want you to know.

JOHN STAUBER, co-author of *Mad Cow USA - Could the Nightmare Happen Here?* and *Toxic Sludge is Good for You! Lies, Damn Lies and the Public Relations Industry*. Never was it more true than today: We are what we eat - and what the animals we eat have been fed. Crops fertilized with toxic waste and doused with chemical poisons; cattle, chicken and fish reared on animal waste and antibiotics — all promoted by billion dollar advertising and PR campaigns. John Stauber explains how they get away with it.

ANITA ROY, former town councillor in Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, who sought election for the sole - successful - purpose of passing a by-law restricting community pesticide use. It's easy to feel overwhelmed, as if there is nothing individuals can do to reverse the toxic madness. Anita Roy is living proof that each of us *can* make a difference.

MARY O'BRIEN, University of Oregon, pesticide researcher and breast cancer survivor, author of *Making Better Decisions: Alternatives to Risk Assessments*. As evidence mounts that pesticides and other synthetic chemicals in the environment may be responsible for much of the current breast cancer epidemic, research continues to focus on an elusive cure, rather than eliminating the causes of the disease. Dr O'Brien details how our regulators are failing to protect us.

KHOSROW ADELI, University of Windsor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, co-author of *Tests to Establish DNA Damage*. The ground breaking research of Dr. Adeli and his colleagues has produced a test which will allow scientists to establish DNA damage caused by specific chemicals and give regulators a crucial tool to help eliminate the worst chemicals from our environment.

PAUL JOHNSTON, principal scientist, Greenpeace Research Laboratories, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Exeter (UK), coauthor *Body of Evidence* and *Poisoning the Future*. In 1997 the Greenpeace lab looked like a demented Santa's workshop, with scientists taking cheese graters to Barbie dolls and plastic ducks. Why? To find out if toxic plastic toys might be placing babies and toddlers at risk. As a result of their research, the European Union is considering a ban on many toys. This is just one example - whether in the lab or participating in the negotiation of international treaties - of the pivotal role Dr. Johnston's scientific team have played in exposing the chemical industry.

In 1999 and 2000 Bruce produced and acted as the Congress Chair at the **Climates of Change Congress**, which took place in Victoria, B. C. on March 19 – 22, 2000. This event attracted the international news media and featured Climate Scientists and Energy Innovators from around the World.

PUBLICATIONS

Books (with K. C. Heidorn)

Proceedings of the International Conference on Ozone Depletion and Ultra Violet Radiation: Preparing for the Impacts, 283 pp., 1995

The Skies Above Guide to Sunsafe Schools

Articles

Numerous stories, chapters, published presentations and articles in *British Columbia Environmental Report, Watershed Sentinel, No Sweat News, Chronic Disease Canada, Common Ground, Earth Journal, The Sierra Report, The Monitor* and other books, magazines and newspapers.

Personal References available on request

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