

Rights Action
September 29, 2012
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**WINNERS & LOSERS IN GOLDCORP'S EMPIRE:
\$5 million donated to health programs in Canada;
Denial of deadly health harms by mine site in Honduras**

Goldcorp donates \$5 million to two health programs in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, even as Goldcorp categorically denies any responsibility or even remedy for deadly and devastating health harms in the Siria Valley, Honduras, suffered by former Goldcorp workers and by villagers living near Goldcorp's "San Martin" open-pit, mountain-top removal, cyanide bonding gold mine. Today, four years after Goldcorp suspended its mining operation, people continue to suffer devastating health harms.

BELOW:

- Article, "Goldcorp donating \$5 million to fund two programs helping Downtown Eastside", by Denise Ryan, Vancouver Sun
- Photo report, "Serious health crisis in the Siria Valley, Honduras caused by Goldcorp", by Carlos Amador, with Grahame Russell

WHAT TO DO & MORE INFORMATION: See below

GOLDCORP DONATING \$5 MILLION TO FUND TWO PROGRAMS HELPING DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE

By Denise Ryan, Vancouver Sun, September 21, 2012, dryan@vancouversun.com
<http://www.vancouversun.com/health/Goldcorp+donating+million+fund+programs+helping+Downtown+Eastside/7280494/story.html>



Goldcorp Inc. announced a major donation of \$5 million dollars to fund two unique addiction and mental health programs serving the Downtown Eastside. [Photograph by: Les Bazso, PNG]

VANCOUVER -- St. Paul's Hospital will provide specialized training to doctors in addiction medicine, thanks to an infusion of \$3 million from Goldcorp Inc. The new addiction medicine fellowship at the downtown hospital is the first in Western Canada. Dr. Evan Wood, an attending physician and professor of medicine at the University of B.C. will develop and lead the program, training 20 doctors in the specialty over the next five years.

Wood said the program will help establish and accredit a "critical mass of physicians" with the tools for early intervention and the treatment of severe addiction. "This is something that was needed decades ago," Wood said. "We know that drug and alcohol addiction is a disease and that there are effective treatments that can help people recover and go on to lead productive lives."

Goldcorp, a Vancouver-based gold-mining company, also announced a gift of \$2 million to Vancouver Coastal Health's Assertive Community Treatment program (ACT). It provides community assistance to those living with drug addiction and mental illness on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Chuck Jeaness, president and CEO of Goldcorp said this donation adds to \$15 million Goldcorp has already poured into initiatives on the Downtown Eastside.

"Four or five years ago, we developed a strategy to focus a lot of our giving on the DTES as an area where we felt we could make a real difference," Jeaness said. "We've always known you have to get to the core of mental health and addiction issues to help people and make a difference."

[Rights Action note: in 2011, Chuck Jeaness received over \$10,000,000 in personal compensation for his work with Goldcorp.]

Friday's donations are a combination of long- and short-term funding. "The ACT program has been very successful, and was in danger of shutting down due to funding shortfalls, and for the longer term, we've created this fellowship that will get accredited training in addiction treatment," Jeaness said.

The St. Paul's Hospital Goldcorp Fellowship in Addiction Medicine will begin next July, and doctors will train both in hospital and in the community. "We can't change the problem of addiction in B.C. if we don't have a skilled workforce to do that," Wood said. He said he had to travel to the United States to get specialized training in addiction medicine. He hopes St. Paul's will become the destination for other physicians inspired to work in the field.

SERIOUS HEALTH CRISIS IN THE SIRIA VALLEY, HONDURAS CAUSED BY GOLDCORP INC.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE VICTIMS OF MINING CONTAMINATION:
Chronicle of a Death Foretold**

By Carlos Amador, piviamador@yahoo.com), July 2, 2012
(with Grahame Russell, info@rightsaction.org)

Below, we present a series of photographs documenting the reality of life in the Siria Valley, Honduras, where a serious endemic health crisis continues to unfold. The health problems were caused by open-pit mining exploitation carried out by Entremares, a subsidiary of Goldcorp Inc. of Canada, at its "San Martin" mining operation.



(1666) Maria Cabrera, El Pedernal

“I am really concerned about my health problems caused by contamination left by the mine. Before the mine came here, we were poor but healthy.”

Since 2003, we have been documenting and denouncing the harms to our health and our environment, as well as other violations of our rights. As you will see in these photos, the problems are chronic. We are very alarmed, as we see the health of our community members getting worse every day ... and it has been four years since Goldcorp suspended its mining operation here.

I, Carlos Amador, took these photos on May 10, 2012, when the Medical Brigade came to the community of El Pedernal (Siria Valley). People came to be examined by the Brigade from: El Pedernal, Palos Ralos, Barrosas, El Escanito, Guayabillas and Pueblo Nuevo. Former employees of Entremares (Goldcorp), with health problems caused by work in the mine, also came to be examined.

The Medical Brigade was coordinated and directed by Dr. Juan Almendrades Bonilla.



(1658) Gladis Hernandez, El Pedernal

“Look at the state I am in. It keeps me awake at night. My health is poor, very poor. I have a lot of pain at night. I can’t sleep at all. All I do is feel pain.”

This is the part one of our photo-report. In the days to come, we will bring out part two, dealing with the impacts on the health of our community members whose lives are seriously threatened – they find themselves in a chronicle of a death foretold.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH TRIBUNAL – GUATEMALA

As well, on July 14 and 15, we will be participating in the International Health Tribunal taking place in the community of San Miguel Ixtaguacan, Guatemala. (<http://tribunaldesalud.org/>; <http://healthtribunal.org/>)

This photo-essay is a message from the Siria Valley Environmental Committee to inform people of the terrible health crisis we are experiencing as a result of mining exploitation activities carried out by Entremares (Goldcorp Inc).

We urgently need more funds to support those who are suffering from health harms. As well, we need political support to continue our struggle for truth, justice and full reparations for all victims.

Please contact us directly with questions and comments.

In Canada and the United States, please contact Rights Action, an NGO that we have worked with in our struggle since 2004. Rights Action also supports us with funds received from Canada and the United States.

Thank-you. Please re-distribute this photo-report widely.

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(1600) Rogelio Sorto, El Pedernal
"I am really worried about this – my health is bad."



(1083) Pedro Ramos, El Pedernal
"I am really worried about my health. I used to be healthy, but when he mine came here it harmed us. This mine has caused a lot of harm to us."



(1671) Jose Gutierrez, El Escanito

"I am worried about my sickness. All this mine did was harm us. This say they want to open it again. Do they want to kill us off?"



(1552) Juana Aceituno

"Look at how sick I am. I never had problems like this. It was when the mine came that I got sick. I have a lot of pain and I don't know what to do about it. This Canadian mine came here and ruined everything."



(1617) Petronila Arteaga, Palo Ralos

“I cry when I see the state of my health because I never imagined I would have such problems. The mine destroyed the hills and all they left behind was health problems. Look at what a terrible state I am in. I don’t know what to do – my health is terrible.”



(1618) Luisa Hernandez, El Pedernal

“I am in very poor health. Look at me. This is what the mine left behind – nothing but bad health.”



(1615) Genesis Velasquez, El Pedernal

"I can tell you I had no health problems before. The mine destroyed the hills and then this whole disaster with my body began. I am in pain. I cry all the time because I don't know what to do. I am looking for medicine from this medical brigade you brought here but I don't know if it will cure me. But the mining company will be paid for ruining our lives."



(1661) Juana Diaz, El Pedernal

"Look at my body. I never had any health problems. Never. I have been to clinics and they say my illness was caused by pollution left by the mine - it has poisoned the water and harmed our health."



(1663)Angelica Suarez, Palo Ralos

“Look at the state of my daughter. I cry all night because she is very itchy and scratches herself so much she bleeds. I am in a desperate state over this. This Canadian mine caused nothing but harm here and now they have the money they made from our hills.”

FUNDS NEEDED FOR VICTIMS OF HEALTH HARMS

TO MAKE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS (in Canada and the U.S.) to support ***Emergency Health Work in the Siria Valley (Honduras)***, make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

UNITED STATES: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
CANADA: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

CREDIT-CARD DONATIONS can be made (in Canada and U.S.): <http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>

be a monthly credit card donor (Canada and U.S.)
to donate stock, contact: info@rightsaction.org

EDUCATIONAL DELEGATION TO HONDURAS, March 16-23, 2013

Struggle for democracy, human rights, justice and the environment – versus - the illegitimate, military-backed Honduran regime and global companies and investors
Information: info@rightsaction.org

GOLD FEVER (forth-coming film)

Watch trailers at: <http://www.gprojectfilm.org/video>

“Gold Fever” is about gold mining and global impunity ... set in Guatemala. In the film, Noam Chomsky asks: Is it proper "to benefit from over half a century of repression, violence, destruction, and elimination of democracy"? Goldcorp Inc. continues to mine relentlessly in San Miguel Ixtahuacan, despite 8 years of documented health and environmental harms and other human rights violations.

Investors across North America - from public pension funds to private equity capital - profit from their investments, with no concern for how the profits are made.

ALL THAT GLITTERS ISN'T GOLD: A story of exploitation and resistance

2008 (10 minutes version of longer film)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tmqXc5rX8s>

All That Glitters Isn't Gold tells the stories of community members residing near Goldcorp's "San Martin" open-pit/ mountain-top removal, cyanide-leaching gold mine in Honduras' Siria Valley. Villagers discuss the serious harms and violations they have experienced since the mine began operating – including health problems related to water contamination and depletion - contesting Goldcorp's claims that the mine has been a model of beneficial development for the community and has caused no adverse effects.

THE REAL COSTS OF GOLD MINING: Goldcorp in Honduras

2008 (9:51 minutes, English with Spanish)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PhV9IgzT4qg>

In the Siria Valley, Honduras, local citizens speak for themselves about the devastating impact of Goldcorp Inc's "San Martin" open-pit/ mountain-top removal, cyanide-leaching gold mine on their lives and communities.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH TRIBUNAL – GUATEMALA, July 14-15

<http://tribunaldesalud.org/>; <http://healthtribunal.org/>

Read: “Goldcorp on trial: People’s health tribunal shows commonalities throughout Mesoamerica”

(<http://www.towardfreedom.com/home/americas/2963-goldcorp-on-trial-first-ever-peoples-health-tribunal-shows-commonalities-throughout-mesoamerica>)

PLEASE RE-PUBLISH, RE-POST THIS PHOTO-REPORT

QUESTIONS/ COMMENTS:

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