

Rights Action
info@rightsaction.org
December 12, 2013

Guatemalan Plaintiffs in Hudbay Minerals Lawsuits Choose Jury Trial in Canada

Below:

- Press release from Klippensteins law firm
- What to do / How to support & get involved

Mayan Plaintiffs Choose A Jury Trial In Canada:

Update on litigation against Hudbay Minerals regarding human rights abuse at its former mine in Guatemala

On December 12, 2013, the Guatemalan Mayan plaintiffs in the Hudbay litigation filed a jury notice choosing a trial by jury. As a result, the lawsuits against Hudbay Minerals regarding gang rapes, murder and shootings alleged to have been committed at Hudbay's former mining project in Guatemala will be tried in Ontario in a front of a jury comprised of ordinary Canadians.

The plaintiffs believe that it is entirely appropriate for regular Canadians to have the responsibility of judging Canadian corporations for harms created by their actions. Through these lawsuits, ordinary Canadians will have the opportunity to set the standards for how we as a nation expect Canadian corporations to behave abroad.

"It is our belief that Canadians would never allow corporations to get away with these kinds of abuses in Canada, and will not tolerate such abuses when committed by Canadian corporations abroad", said Murray Klippenstein, lawyer for the Guatemalan Mayan plaintiffs.

The Hudbay litigation now enters the "discovery" stage of the lawsuit. Through discoveries, Hudbay will be required to disclose all relevant documents and communications regarding the operation of its former mine in Guatemala. Hudbay's executives will also be subject to questioning under oath. It is expected that this discovery stage will last from one to two years.

For more information on the lawsuits, see www.chocversushudbay.com

Murray Klippenstein / Cory Wanless
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WHAT TO DO:

Defensora

Rights Action is pleased to have helped with the 2013 award winning film *Defensora*, by Rachel Schmidt, that documents the lives and vision of the Mayan Qeqchi people, and their efforts to seek justice in Canadian courts against Hudbay Minerals.

- Trailer / Organize screenings / Information: www.defensorathefilm.com

Educational Delegation to Guatemala, May 31-June 8, 2014

"Mining Injustice ~versus~ Community well-being and the Environment"
in the context of on-going struggles for truth, memory and justice for the genocides and repression of the past. Hosted by Rights Action and SMAK (Sustainable Mining Alliance of the Kootenays). Contact: info@rightsaction.org

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

To support community environmental and human rights defense struggles in Guatemala and 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 (Canada & U.S.):

<http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>

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

Say No To "Business As Usual"

The Canadian (& U.S.) governments, and North American resource extraction companies and investors (including public pension funds like the Canada Pension Plan) maintain full and profitable economic and military relations with the Guatemalan elites, always turning a blind eye to repression, violence and impunity that are the norm in both countries.

Please send copies of this information, and your own letters, to your own elected politicians (MPs, Congresspersons, Senators) and other government officials, and to your own media, to *nothing about the on-going impunity, repression and violence, while promoting and benefiting from economic and military relations with the Guatemalan elites.

Contact:

- Member Of Parliament:
<http://www2.parl.gc.ca/Parlinfo/Compilations/HouseOfCommons/MemberByPostalCode.aspx?Menu=HOC>
- Congress: <http://www.house.gov/> to get info for your member of Congress, and call: 202-224-3121
- Senate: <http://www.senate.gov/> to get contact for your Senator, and call: 202-224-3121

Comments / Questions: info@rightsaction.org

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