

ADVISORY

May 28, 2016

River of poison in Grassy Narrows can be cleaned

Grassy Narrows fish have up to 150x safe daily dose of mercury

Toronto - One of Canada's most notorious toxic dumping sites can be cleaned according to a ground breaking expert report to be released Monday. Multiple generations of Grassy Narrows First Nation's people suffer from the debilitating health impacts of mercury poisoning including loss of vision, imbalance, and trembling. Nothing has been done to clean the Wabigoon River in over 45 years since a paper mill dumped 9,000 kilograms of mercury, a potent neurotoxin, into the waterway that provides fish and water to Grassy Narrows First Nation and their neighbours.

PRESS CONFERENCE

WHAT: Experts release and discuss new report finding that Grassy Narrows' river can be cleaned up.

WHEN: Monday May 30th, 9:45 a.m.

WHO: Dr. John Rudd – senior report author, Prof. Brian Branfireun Western University – mercury expert, Prof Miriam Diamond UofT – environmental scientist, Craig Benjamin – Amnesty International.

WHERE: Queens Park media studio.

PRESS CONFERENCE

WHAT: Grassy Narrows responds to new report, makes demands supported by major Ontario Regional Chief, major NGOs and labour unions.

WHEN: Tuesday May 31st, 9:30 a.m.

WHO: Chief Simon Fobister Sr., Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day, Grassy Narrows environmental health coordinator and grandmother Judy Da Silva, Faisal Moola – David Suzuki Foundation, Craig Benjamin – Amnesty International.

WHERE: Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil St. near College and Spadina.

AVI LEWIS SPEAKS WITH GRASSY NARROWS

WHAT: Avi Lewis and Grassy Narrows people speak about Grassy Narrows' quest for mercury justice. Grassy Narrows youth will perform their hit song "Home to Me."

WHEN: Tuesday May 31, 6:30 p.m.

WHO: Avi Lewis will speak alongside Grassy Narrows Chief, youth singers, Elders, and Andrea Chrisjon of Toronto Council Fire.

WHERE: 245 Church Street, Ryerson Engineering Building (ENG 103)

VISUAL MARCH AND RALLY

WHAT: Grassy Narrows youth will perform their hit song "Home to Me" and lead a thousand supporters with giant fish, thousands of meters of blue fabric, vertical banners and screen printed signs to create a wild river that will flow through the streets of Toronto calling for mercury justice.

WHEN: Thursday June 2nd, Noon.

WHO: Grassy Narrows youth, traditional drummers, mercury survivors, and a thousand supporters from social justice, environmental, faith, and labour movements.

WHERE: Queens Park South Lawn, Noon – speeches. March leaves at 1:00 p.m.

CONTACT: 647-550-7882

More information: FreeGrassy.net

High resolution photos and Broll are available.

#FreeGrassy #RiverRun2016