

## ECOPOLITICS PODCAST: Additional Pedagogical Resources (Episode 5)

### [Episode 5: Environmental Political History in Canada](#)

*Overview: From ecopolitical history to tips on environmental activism techniques, Robert Paehlke discusses the environmental movement, and the ways in which the movement has changed over the past five decades.*

#### Key Takeaways

- Environmental activism has transformed since it first began in the 1960s and 1970s, moving from local issues of land use, recycling in urban and rural spaces, to global issues such as climate change.
- There is a role for governments, industry, and individuals to participate in the environmental movement. The introduction of recycling, for instance, required both industries and governments to scale up in communities across Canada.
- Progressive environmental change is not linear, it takes time and may experience setbacks from time to time; priorities change (for instance, a shift in concern about pollution to climate change).

#### Discussion Questions

1. What do you think are the key urban issues of concern for environmentalists today, and how has this changed over time?
2. How would you describe the focus of your own environmental activism, and how has it changed over time?
3. Would you characterize environmental activism as a “local” or “global” movement today?
4. How would you describe the relationship between Indigenous communities and environmental activists in Canada, both in the past and today?

## Episode 5: Environmental Political History in Canada

### Learn more about our Guest

#### Dr. Robert Paehlke

- <https://www.alternativesjournal.ca/authors/robert-paehlke/>

#### Select articles and videos

- IPPA Public Policy. “**Robert Paehlke** - The Challenges of Doing Climate Policy.” June 18 2020. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/eOiRooXLkf0>
- **Paehlke, Robert**. “Greening Canada’s COVID Recovery.” *Alternatives Journal* (Waterloo) 45, no. 1 (2020): 48–49.
- **Paehlke, Robert**. *Hegemony and Global Citizenship : Transitional Governance for the Twenty-First Century*. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.
- **Paehlke, Robert**. “Just Watch Us.” *Alternatives Journal* (Waterloo) 41, no. 1 (2015): 80–80.
- Learn more about the Alternatives Journal: <https://www.alternativesjournal.ca/>

### Learn more about the Environmental Movement and its Impact in Canada

- Dalton, Russell J. 2015. “Waxing or Waning? The Changing Patterns of Environmental Activism.” *Environmental Politics* 24 (4): 530–52. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2015.1023576>.
- GreenUP. “The Green Update: History of Recycling in Peterborough” Youtube. May 11, 2021. <https://youtu.be/82zYaPm4iQ>
- Naomi Klein. 2014. “This Changes Everything | Bioneers.” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jdaxehd0cF0>
- Check out the CBC Digital Archives for stories on environmental activism, protections, and regulations in Canada: <https://www.cbc.ca/archives/history>