

# Canada's Conservative Mindset: Sustaining Resource Extraction

Simon Dalby

Balsillie School of International  
Affairs/Wilfrid Laurier University,  
Canada

[sdalby@gmail.com](mailto:sdalby@gmail.com)

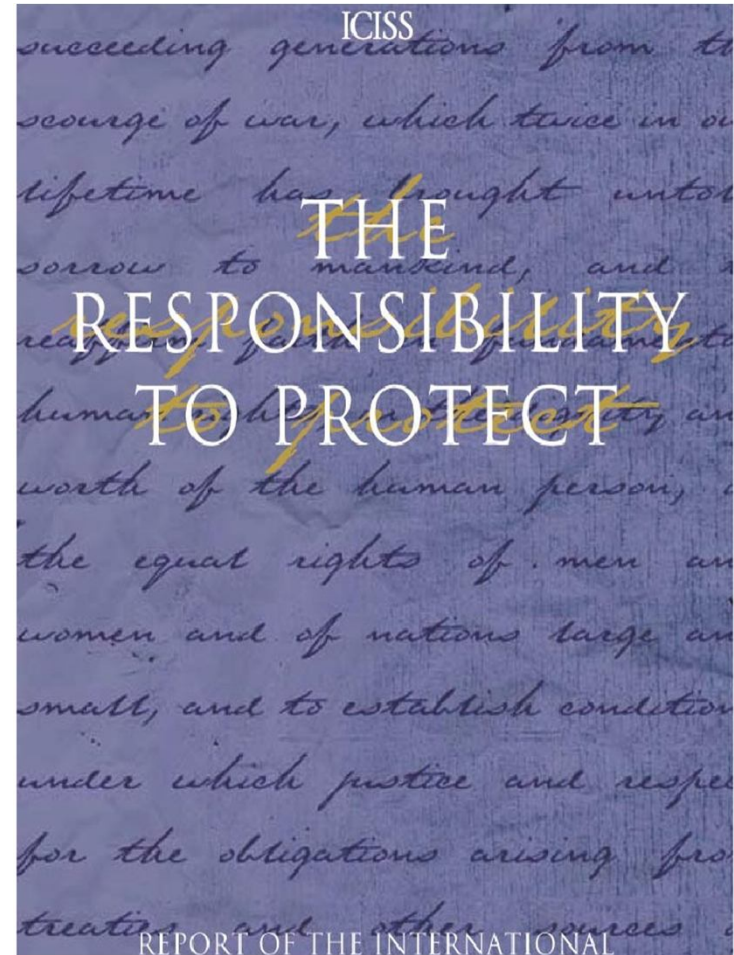
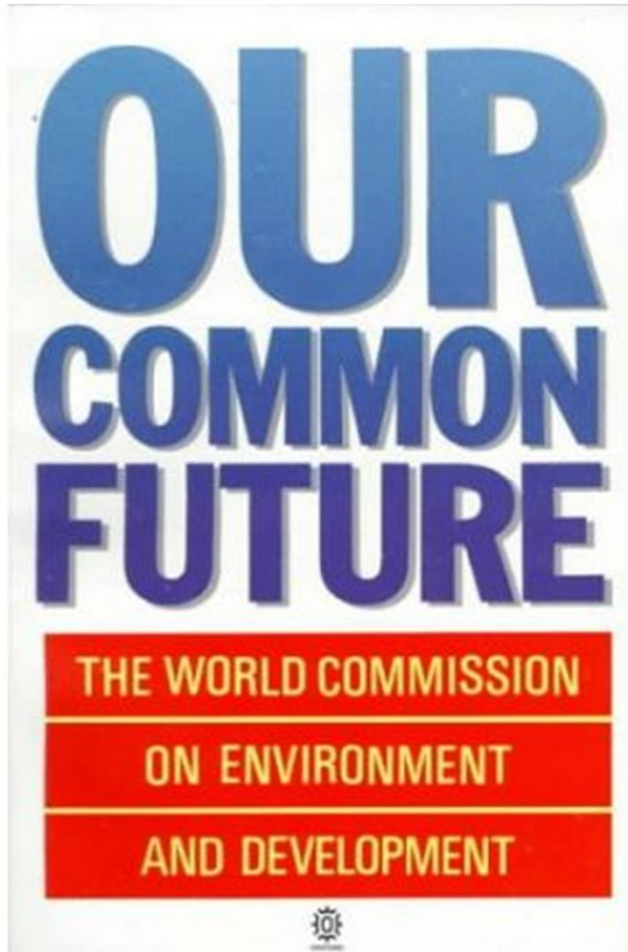


Once upon a time ... Toronto 1988





# Once upon a time ...















# Canada: An energy superpower?



# “Intellectual” sources

- Neo-liberalism – corporations central
- Outsider/ victim rhetoric against government
- Ad hominem politics, personalities not policies
- Simplistic geopolitics/ imperial throwbacks
- Religious anti-science/experts
- Culture of conspicuous consumption
- Rugged individualism/resource periphery

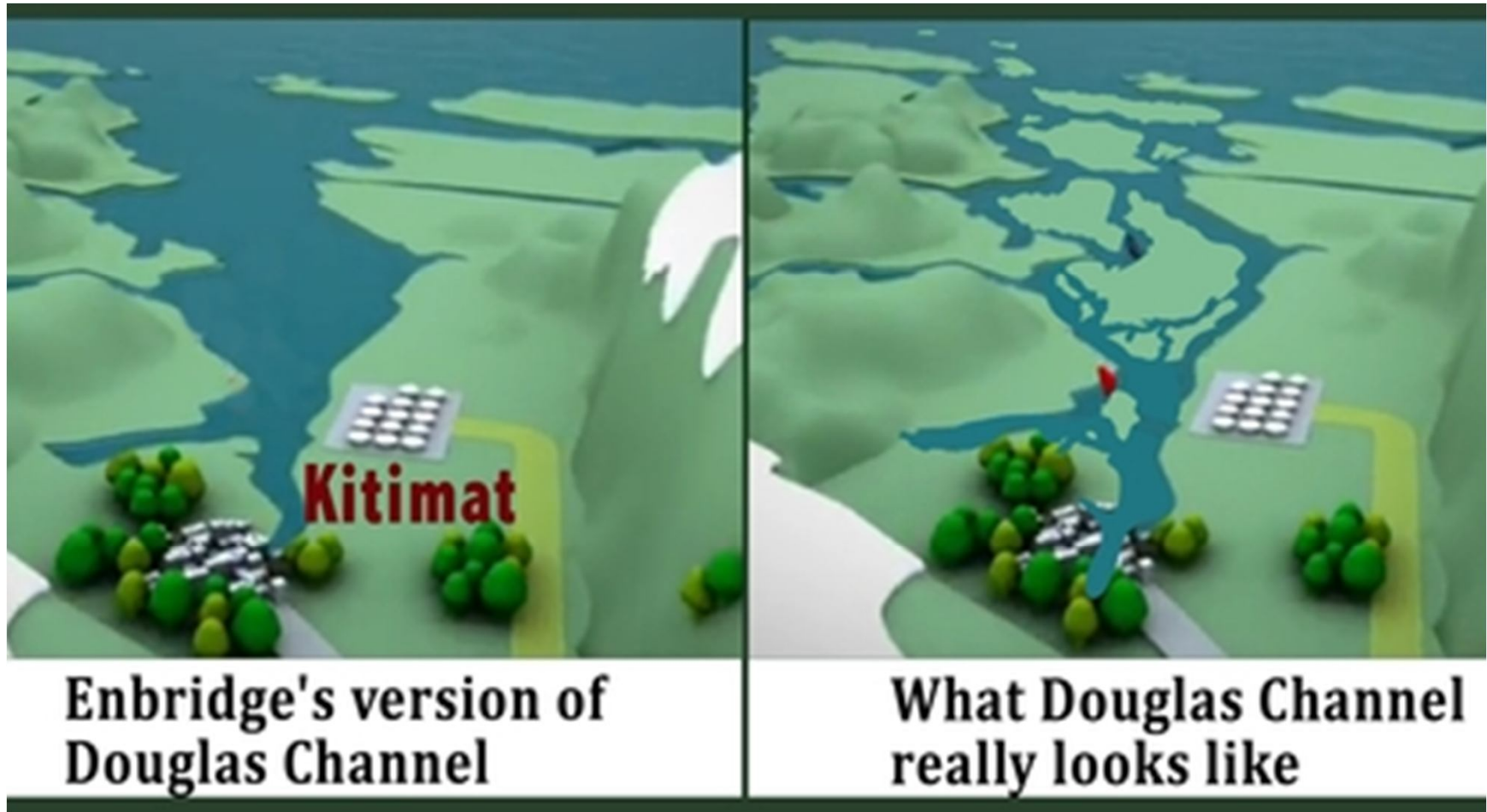


# Pipeline politics ...





# Oil company geography ...





# Canadian consumption ...





# Anthropocene Geopolitics?

- Failure to understand “environment” as interconnection
- Reworked into scramble for Arctic resources
- Climate simply irrelevant to Harper’s geopolitics as to American Republicans
- Mitt Romney RNC speech: “President Obama promised to begin to slow the rise of the oceans and heal the planet. MY promise ... is to help you and your family.”





# **BOR****DER** **WA****LLS**

**SECURITY AND THE  
THE UNITED STATES**

**WAR ON TERROR IN  
INDIA AND ISRAEL**

**REECE****JONES**



# Conclusions ...

- Ignore geopolitics at our peril
- Partisan politics, and assumptions about the common good in liberal states
- Incoherent policy making
- Authority diffusing?
- Production key, markets can't decide key issues concerning sustainability
- Must challenge neo-liberal assumptions of intrinsically competitive world!!



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