LUSH Cosmetics Just Says No To Canadian Seal Hunt

Well I guess the song speaks truth... we can all blame Canada.

As many of you know, the annual seal hunt kicked off today and will once again reign terror over the icy shores of Canada.

More than 205,000 individual seals were killed last year during the hunt, and just today more than 150 have been killed.

To help stop this bloodbath, LUSH cosmetics is urging people to sign their online petition to help ban the slaughter. They’re also taking it a step further by donating 100% of the proceeds from the sales of their First Swim Limited Edition Bubble Bar to Sea Shepherd Conservation Society – a non-profit...
LUSH Cosmetics Just Says No To Canadian Seal Hunt
Well I guess the song speaks truth...we can all blame Canada. As many of you know, the annual seal hunt kicked off today and will once again reign terror over the icy shores of Canada.
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Lush launches online petition against Canada seal hunt

UK naturals cosmetic manufacturer Lush has launched an online petition to campaign against the culling of seals in Canada. The campaign is timed to coincide with the start of the seal hunting season, which kicked off in Canada last week and draws
Lush boss opposes hunt

KRISTEN THOMPSON, METRO VANCOUVER
March 25, 2009 02:59

Covered head-to-toe in red paint and lying on a bloody Canadian flag, Karen Wolverton turned heads on Robson Street yesterday afternoon.

Wolverton, who is co-owner of Lush Cosmetics, was meant to represent one of 280,000 seals expected to be slaughtered in Canada’s seal hunt this year.

The cosmetics company yesterday kicked off a campaign in partnership with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society to protest the hunt and raise money for the environmental organization's fight to protect baby harp seals.

"We’re trying to educate the public on the slaughter that happens every time this year," said Brandi Halls, spokesperson for Lush. "It’s horrendous and cruel to animals, and we want it to stop."

We’re an ethical retailer and we do business in Canada, so it seems natural to us to use our storefront as a way to get this message out," added Halls. "And we’re ashamed about what’s happening."

Lush employees across North America, including those at the company’s Robson Street store, handed out postcards urging Prime Minister Stephen Harper to outlaw the hunt.

The company has also created a seal-shaped bubble bar called First Swim. Proceeds from the sale of the soap go to Sea Shepherd, which intervenes in the annual seal hunt.
Local

Sealing her protest in blood

By DHARM MAHWANA, 24 HOURS

Instead of wearing luxurious body butter, LUSH owner Karen Wolverton painted herself blood red to protest Canada’s seal hunt, which resumed Monday along the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Wolverton curled up on top of a Canadian flag outside her cosmetic chain’s Robson Street location while LUSH employees urged passersby to sign a petition calling for the end to the country’s commercial seal hunt. An online petition is available at www.lush.ca.

“We have this opportunity, we have so many stores in Canada, it’s up to us to put the word out and help make people aware of what’s happening back east,” Wolverton said yesterday.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans approved the culling of 280,000 seals this year.

According to Amy Baird, spokesperson for Sea Shepherd, the barbaric practice of clubbing harp seals to death is unsustainable and inhumane.

“The seals obviously feel a lot of pain. They’re not able to see the people coming up on them. They’re defenceless,” she said.

The ethical-cosmetics retailer will donate all proceeds from sales of its First Swim bubble bar to Sea Shepherd.

Wolverton promised to continue protesting despite the federal government’s efforts to keep the industry afloat.

“It won’t be my last [stand],” she said. “We at LUSH believe quite strongly in a lot of different charities and we hope that being as large as we are we can make a difference in this world.”
Guelph workers don pirate garb to protest seal hunt

Local cosmetics shop staff taking part in chain-wide campaign against sealing

Mercury staff

GUELPH

Animal rights activists believe the death knell of the annual Canadian commercial seal hunt will soon be sounded.

A protest against the hunt is scheduled for today at the Lush Cosmetics store in the Stone Road Mall, part of a chain-wide, anti-seal hunt campaign in conjunction with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. There have been a series of demonstrations across the country leading up to the hunt, which starts later this month.

A number of organizations are opposed to the hunt, and continue to push for a widespread boycott of Canadian seafood products to put pressure on the Canadian government to end a commercial hunt that many believe is barbaric. Most seal skins find their way into the European fashion industry.

The European Union will vote next month on legislation that would ban Canadian seal products. That would effectively close the largest market for Canadian seal skins. The hunt killed more than 250,000 newborn seals last year. Canada's largest markets for other seal products, such as Russia, China and Norway, are outside the EU. However, sealing industry experts fear a ban would curb the demand for sealskins from the fashion industry and disrupt shipping routes.

Employees of the local Lush Cosmetics store will wear pirate outfits today in support of Sea Shepherd, a marine wildlife conservation organization committed to ending the seal hunt, and to conserving and protecting the ecosystems and species of the world's oceans. Sea Shepherd is often referred to as the "pirates of compassion."

"Our employees are super excited about this," said Brianne Service, manager in training at Lush Cosmetics in Guelph. "We all work for Lush because we like the ethics involved in the company. Lush has a history of making a difference in other places, and I feel this is a good start for the store in Guelph."

Guelph's Karen Levenson is a director of Animal Alliance of Canada and Environment Voters. She is involved in campaigns to end Canada's commercial seal hunt.

"I think the hunt is definitely going to end," she said. "A number of organizations have come together to fight the seal hunt tooth and nail. It is not sustainable, and it is intensely cruel."

Levenson said main branches of the Canadian government, as well as the government of Newfoundland, heavily subsidize the seal hunt.

"If the government took those millions of dollars and put them into infrastructure and retraining, we would not have this problem," she said, adding governments persist in supporting the hunt for political, not economic reasons.

Lush has produced a body moisturizer and a new bubble bar in the shape of a baby seal especially for the campaign. All proceeds from the $19.95 moisturizer and the $6.75 bar will go to Sea Shepherd, Service said. All Lush products are 100 per cent vegetarian and 74 per cent vegan.

The store started a postcard campaign this week, and the response has already been strong from customers. About 50 postcards were filled out in the first two days of the week. They will be sent to Prime Minister Stephen Harper when the campaign is over.

The annual commercial harp seal hunt subsidizes the income of Canadian East Coast fishermen, who derive roughly five per cent of their income from the spring hunt, according to reports. Since 1978, sealers haven't been allowed to kill the youngest harps, called whitecoats, until their fur changes colour. That can be 12 days after birth but federal officials say most hunted seals are about 25 days old.

With Files From the Canadian Press
Protest du Jour: Pirates at Westlake. Argh!

Staffers at the ever-active LUSH cosmetics in Westlake Center are dressed as pirates today to support an international conservation organization in its fight to end the Canadian commercial seal hunt.

The event, a result of a recent partnership with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, coincides with demonstrations at LUSH stores across North America.

Sea Shepherd is best known in this region for its aggressive and sometimes controversial action against the whaling industry in general and the Makah tribe in particular.

The organization has a 30-year history protesting the Canadian seal slaughter.

"Every spring, they club over 250,000 seals that are defenseless and unable to swim," said Amy Baird, a staffer with the nonprofit. "Their furs are used and sold to fashion industries in Europe as a way for Canadian fisherman to make extra money in the off-season."

Along with chunky organic soaps and lotions, social protests are another LUSH specialty.

"It's really liberating, 'cause you can have a voice at work," said LUSH staffer Hillary Pickles.

Last August, six women wore nothing but aprons to protest the use of excessive packaging in cosmetic goods.

Neither Pickles nor Baird knew for sure whether Sea Shepherd representatives would participate in today's event, though a Sea Shepherd founder was in the store Tuesday, Pickles said. A media photo shoot with the pirates is set for noon.

Interested customers can buy a special seal bubble bar to support the cause, or sign postcards addressed to the Canadian prime minister. More info here.
Saving the World a Soap at a Time

Updated 6:45 PM EDT, Wed, Mar 25, 2009

What do fuzzy little baby seals have to do with sparkly bars of soap? Only that the latter is attempting to save the former. As Canada's annual seal hunt gets underway, LUSH cosmetics is "urging people to sign their online petition to help ban the slaughter. They're also taking it a step further by donating 100% of the proceeds from the sales of their First Swim Limited Edition Bubble Bar to Sea Shepherd Conservation Society—a non-profit that seeks to end the slaughter of wildlife in the world's oceans." [Ecorazzi]

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4,135

Spirited

Post Comment
Dramatic display to protest seal hunt

A LUSH Cosmetics employee in Toronto Wednesday lying 'skinned and lifeless' on a bloody Canadian flag to protest the annual seal hunt. LUSH Cosmetics, a Canadian-based business, is using its stores to campaign against the killing of young seals. Photo special to The Guardian.

Comments:

This Conversation is Moderated. What is moderation? [Post a comment]

Chris S from Charlottetown, PEI writes: Can you eat seal meat? I'm not the anti-fur, anti-testing type but I am the anti-waste type so I am quite interested to know if the meat is sold after clubbing.

Posted 18/03/2009 at 5:24 PM | Alert an Editor | Link to comment

No waste from PEI writes: Hi Chris. Seal meat is definitely used, no part goes wasted. The people in the Magdalen Islands even have a pastry they make around Easter that is made with the seal oil or fat (I think the pastry's called cokkinole), but the plant burned down last year just before Easter and it was a big blow to the community. You can go in any butcher shop and there will be seal meat available. I've had it, tastes disgusting, but I hear it's better than most meats in nutrients.

Posted 18/03/2009 at 6:03 PM | Alert an Editor | Link to comment

Jason Perrot from Montague, PEI writes: I am not against anyone for standing up for for what they believe but you should not be allowed to deface our MY national flag.

Posted 18/03/2009 at 6:08 PM | Alert an Editor | Link to comment

Steve from PEI writes: ...they would, no consideration for anyone, these seal advocates should focus on what is going on in wartorn countries and not be so concerned with a HUMANE seal hunt, must be nice to have the money to blow when the rest of the country is going through this nice economic meltdown...

Posted 18/03/2009 at 6:24 PM | Alert an Editor | Link to comment

pei citizen from pei writes: I totally agree Jason.
Cosmetics maker takes stand against seal hunt

By: Julia Le

March 18, 2009 07:36 PM - LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics wants to revoke "Canada's license to kill" seals. With the Canadian commercial seal hunt set to resume this spring, the company, with 43 stores across Canada, including one at Square One Shopping Centre, has launched a campaign to protect the marine mammals. The campaign runs March 16-27.

At the Square One store, employee Danielle Pipka said she's been sharing with customers the plight of seals slaughtered for their fur. She's petitioning customers to put pressure on the government by signing post cards urging it to commit to stopping the hunt for good.

"We're trying to stop Canadian taxpayers' money from going to the annual seal hunt," said Pipka, 21.

LUSH hopes to send 300,000 post cards to Prime Minister Stephen Harper by the end of the month.

"Last year, 275,000 seals were killed and that's just the ones that were killed on first impact; that doesn't count the ones that were left to die," said Pipka. "For a majority of them, they are no more than four weeks old. They haven't even had their first swim and are often skinned alive."

She said that along with post cards, the company has also created a new bubble bar, First Swim. Proceeds from sales of the bubble bar and a moisturizer, Charity Pot, will go to Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, an international non-profit organization dedicated to ending the destruction of habitats and slaughter of wildlife in the world's oceans.

Pipka hopes that by taking a strong stance, LUSH will help stop the largest mass slaughter of marine mammals in the world.

"We're frowned upon by a whole bunch of countries," she said.

The United States, Belgium and the Netherlands have bans on the importation of Canadian seal products.

For more information, visit www.lush.ca.

jle@mississauga.net
Lush's aromatic solution for 'agitated' bus drivers

Metros Halifax
March 18, 2009 12:47

After alleged road rage, racism and fake-seal beatings, what bus drivers really need is some soothing aromatherapy.

A Halifax cosmetics company is supplying Metro Transit workers with some bath products to calm "agitated" drivers.

"It seems that the Metro Transit drivers need some tender loving care that Lush Cosmetics bath products can provide," the company wrote in a release.

Lush is hopping on board the campaign to stop seal hunting and said it was surprised to hear about a bus driver who pulled over to beat a fake seal at a protest on Saturday.

"Stopping a bus to club a stuffed animal takes road rage to another level," said Sean Gifford, Lush's campaigns manager.

"While no actual baby seals were hurt during his outburst, we think this bus driver could do with a nice relaxing bubble bath to help clean up his act."

The company sent Metro Transit a box of bath bars and invites drivers to come by their store for some free samples.
Paul Watson: The end of the commercial Canadian seal hunt is in sight

By Paul Watson

"Mr. Speaker, I would like to see the six million, or whatever number is out there, killed or sold, or destroyed or burned. I do not care what happens to them. The fact that the markets are not there to sell more seals. What they (the fishermen) wanted was to have the right to go out and kill the seals. They have that right, and the more they kill, the better I will love it."

—John Efford, former Newfoundland Minister of Fisheries and former Canadian Minister of Natural Resources, to the Newfoundland Legislature on May 4, 1999

The surest sign that the horrific commercial slaughter of baby harp seals will soon be ended is the fact that in a fit of whining desperation and seething anger, Canadian politicians and bureaucrats this week raised the kill quota of harp seals by 55,000 to a high of 338,000 seals. Canada also intends to kill 55,000 grey seals and 8,500 hood seals.

The bloody clubs of Canada's East Coast barbarian culture will begin swinging this week upon the nursery ice floes in the Canadian Gulf of St. Lawrence.

This is the best response they can come up with after two weeks of heavy blows to their obscene and bloody industry.

The bureaucrats in the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans are throwing a temper tantrum after the announcement by President Vladimir Putin of Russia that the killing of baby seals by Russian sealers has been banned. Putin openly called it a "bloody business". The High Parliament banned all seal pelts without loopholes and exemptions. LUSH stores with 600 retail outlets around the world are displaying full-window displays condemning the seal slaughter in partnership with the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and collecting petitions to send to the Canadian government.

For the first time ever, a member of the Canadian Senate, Senator Mac Harb, has drafted a motion to end the slaughter although only the Green Party has had the courage to speak out against the killing. The boycott of Canadian seafood organized by the Humane Society of the United States is still going strong. Demonstrations have taken place against the Canadian slaughter in hundreds of cities worldwide.

And next month, Europe is poised to pass a bill banning all seal products into European markets. Seal products have been banned in the USA since 1972 and the Canadian government's negotiations with the Bush Administration to overturn the ban were shot down in flames with the election of President Barack Obama.

The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans is a hornet's nest of frisky fits and nail-biting sore losers. They're lost and they know it, they just are refusing to accept the stark reality that their glorified welfare tradition of bashing out the brains of baby seals is an obscenity that will soon be tossed onto the immoral trash heap of history.

Over the last week, the Canadian government has been assailing LUSH with their pathetic propaganda, claiming that the seal defenders are being "unfair" in accusing Canadian sealers of killing baby seals. You see, it's all in the definition. The Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans defines a baby seal as any seal over two weeks of age even if they can't swim and are helpless on the ice as some cigarette-smoking, beer-chugger, club-swinging, sadistic, immoral thug approaches and proceeds to kick, slash, club, and skin them alive.
Lush launches online petition against Canada seal hunt

24-Mar-2009

Related topics: Products & Markets

UK naturals cosmetic manufacturer Lush has launched an online petition to campaign against the culling of seals in Canada.

The campaign is timed to coincide with the start of the seal hunting season, which kicked off in Canada last week and draws attention to the fact that 250,000 seal pups are killed each year.

Lush is organizing its campaign in conjunction with The Sea Shepard organization, a small charity that has taken it on its hands to physically try and prevent the seal hunt from taking place each year.

Lush is also sponsoring Sea Shepard, by donating all the profits from the sale of several of its products, including a specially designed 'Save Our Seals' soap bar, to fight the hunt.

Lush has been involved in a number of high profile campaigns in recent years, including the UK environmental group, Plane Stupid, as well as a campaign to ensure the closure of the Guantanamo Bay US prison camp.
Sorry to manipulate your emotions with the dangerously cute picture above, but we had to talk about Canadian Commercial Seal Hunt, the largest mass slaughter of marine animals in the world. More than 275,000 seals will be killed this year, most of which are only a couple of weeks old and with no means to defend themselves or escape. Although 69% of Canadians and 80% of Americans disapprove, the "hunt" continues, and Lush is doing what it can to stop it with their Save Our Seals Campaign.

Their new bubble bar in the shape of a baby seal, created especially for the campaign, was named "First Swim" because many of the seals that are killed are so young that they have yet to go into the water. A full 100% of the proceeds from the bar are going to Sea Shepherd, an organization that directly intervenes on the high seas to stop sealers from killing baby harp seals. Furthermore, you can stop into any Lush and sign a postcard declaring that you're against the seal hunt - Lush will be sending them directly to Canadian Prime Minster Stephen Harper. You can even add your name to the online petition [here](http://www.lapretty.com/2009/03/lush-helping-to-save-our-seals.html).

_Lush Cosmetics, 312 N. Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills._

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Thanks for leaving some Pretty words for us!

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The LA Pretties
Cosmetics firm protests planned hunt for seals

Lush Fresh Handmade Cosmetics, with more than 600 shops worldwide, including a store in the Westfield Galleria at Roseville, has launched a campaign protesting Canada's commercial seal hunting season.

The season begins at the end of March on Canada’s east coast, according to the Humane Society of the United States.

Last year, the Canadian government allowed hundreds of thousands of seals, mostly harp seals, to be clubbed or shot to death primarily for their pelts, the society said.

Northern American Lush stores will display seal during the campaign with the words "End Canada's License to Kill," and will collect signatures from customers to appeal to the Canadian government.

The stores will also sell a "bubble bar" of soap with a harp seal face on it, with proceeds going to a group dedicated to protecting the seals.

— M.S. Enkoji
Cosmetics maker takes stand against seal hunt

By: Julia Le

March 18, 2009 07:36 PM - LUSH Fresh Handmade

Cosmetics wants to revoke "Canada's license to kill" seals. With the Canadian commercial seal hunt set to resume this spring, the company, with 43 stores across Canada, including one at Square One Shopping Centre, has launched a campaign to protect the marine mammals. The campaign runs March 16-27.

At the Square One store, employee Danielle Pipka said she's been sharing with customers the plight of seals slaughtered for their fur. She's petitioning customers to put pressure on the government by signing post cards urging it to commit to stopping the hunt for good.

"We're trying to stop Canadian taxpayers' money from going to the annual seal hunt," said Pipka, 21.

LUSH hopes to send 300,000 post cards to Prime Minister Stephen Harper by the end of the month.

"Last year, 275,000 seals were killed and that's just the ones that were killed on first impact; that doesn't count the ones that were left to die," said Pipka. "For a majority of them, they are no more than four weeks old. They haven't even had their first swim and are often skinned alive."

She said that along with post cards, the company has also created a new bubble bar, First Swim. Proceeds from sales of the bubble bar and a moisturizer, Charity Pot, will go to Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, an international non-profit organization dedicated to ending the destruction of habitats and slaughter of wildlife in the world's oceans.

Pipka hopes that by taking a strong stance, LUSH will help stop the largest mass slaughter of marine mammals in the world.

"We're frowned upon by a whole bunch of countries," she said.

The United States, Belgium and the Netherlands have bans on the importation of Canadian seal products.

For more information, visit www.lush.ca.

jle@mississauga.net
What’s up with the bus drivers?

Psychologist: Many factors can cause stress and lead to lashing out

By MICHÈLLE JONDEAU

Recent accusations of bad behaviour by Metro Transit bus drivers have led some people to wonder what’s going on.

From ordering a Muslim woman to remove her veil before boarding a bus last week, to leaving a bus to attack a mock seal during an anti-sealing protest Saturday, to kicking a woman off a bus on Sunday for allegedly swearing, Metro Transit drivers seem to be lashing out lately.

"They do have a high-stress job," Carol Shirley, a psychologist with Jason Roth Associates in Halifax, said Tuesday.

Ms. Shirley said bus drivers have a lot of responsibility. People get annoyed if the bus is even a few minutes late or when they have to pay the fare, and the drivers tend to take responsibility for these problems, she said.

Moreover, she said, people tend to be irritable more often than kind to bus drivers.

"We don't say (to the bus driver), 'Thank you for being on time the other 150 times,' " Ms. Shirley said with a laugh.

People can only take so much before reaching the breaking point, she said. Combine that with the fact that bus drivers must deal with different people all the time and it can all add up to make some situations difficult to handle, she said.

Being a bus driver is more than just learning how to drive a bus, Ms. Shirley said.
canadian seal slaughter commences today

It was with a heavy heart and an upset stomach that I write that Canada’s seal slaughter begins today. This year’s quota, as established by the Canadian government, is set at 284,000 harp seals, 450,000 harp seals, and 8,200 hooded seals. This staggering figure is an increase from 2008’s already tragic quota, which claimed the lives of over 220,000 seal pups. The seal culling is the largest slaughter of marine mammals on the planet.

Just days ago, Vladimir Putin announced an end to the annual spring massacre in the northern White Sea region of Russia. Annual quotas set by the Russian government previously permitted the killing of up to 35,000 baby seals in the White Sea. Putin called the clubbing of baby seals a “bloody trade” that “should have been banned long ago.”

A 2006 letter from the U.S. Department of State to Senators Collins and Levin stated our own government’s position: “The United States has made known to the Government of Canada its objections and the objections of concerned American legislators and citizens to the Canadian commercial seal hunt on numerous occasions over recent years.” So why does the seal slaughter continue in Canada? While this practice should have ended well before Obama entered office, some of the blame certainly lies with our current administration.

More than 150 restaurants in the area, including Central Michel Richard, CityZen, and PS 7’s, boycotted Canadian seafood because of the cruel killing of Canadian seals committed each year. Yet our own President, as recently as March 4th, served Canadian salmon to 200 White House guests. With the seal slaughter occurring within the same month as Obama’s fish feast, the timing of this dinner seems particularly insensitive.

So what can you do?

- Educate yourself on the hunt.
- Tell the President that you want the White House to ban all Canadian seafood.
- Sign a petition.
- Support local restaurants that ban Canadian seafood.
- Donate to the cause or buy items whose proceeds go to fight the seal hunt.

Written by: Amber McDonald | March 23, 2009 | Filed Under Animals, Benefit, Food, News
Bubble Baths to Save Seals

by Mylie | March 24, 2009, 5:08 pm

Canada’s annual seal slaughter is already underway. More than 300,000 baby seals will be clubbed in the next few weeks, which is why we must draw attention to the horrors of the slaughter. We already know LUSH for being on our list of cruelty-free companies, but now they’re earning even more of our admiration by helping to save Canadian seals. Proceeds from their cute new “First Swim” bubble bar and “Charity Por” body lotion are going to the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society to help save baby seals.

So after you go stock up on bubble bars and body lotion from LUSH (or just donate straight to the cause), ask the Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee to help stop the seal slaughter before the Olympic Games begin in 2010. You can even forward the action alert to your friends while the tap is running for your bubble bath.

Lainie Turner

The following post is a guest post by PETA Files writer, Mylie.
LUSH: End Canada's License to Kill

Written by Administrator
Monday, 16 March 2009 20:06

Why does LUSH, a soap company, care about the Seal Hunt?
Our beliefs are at the heart of everything we do. LUSH firmly believes in the ethical treatment of animals and we have always taken a strong stance against animal cruelty. We are embarking on a hard hitting campaign to end the unsustainable, poorly regulated and hideously cruel Canadian Commercial Seal Hunt.

We believe that the consumer has the ability to make powerful choices everyday and this is why we are reaching out to you, our customer, to help end the Canadian Commercial Seal Hunt. Most of you shop with LUSH not only because we make wonderful handmade products for your bath, hair and body but also because of who we are and what we believe in. We believe in making products by hand, using fresh ingredients, not testing on animals, supporting our communities and protecting the planet.

This year alone more than 275,000 seals will be killed (many of which are only a couple of weeks old), in the largest mass slaughter of marine mammals in the world. Governments around the globe, including the US, have spoken out against Canada's seal hunt. The seal hunt is essentially government sanctioned cruelty to animals. Recent polls show that nearly 65% of Canadians and nearly 80% of Americans are opposed to the seal hunt. Yet, the government continues to spend millions of Canadian taxpayers dollars to help support it.

Our goal is to educate, create awareness and reach out for your support to help end this cruel and needless killing. Join us, take a stand and petition along with us to end the Canadian Commercial Seal Hunt.

Sea Shepherd

For the campaign LUSH has partnered with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, a direct action group that has been at the forefront of defending baby seals against slaughter for over 30 years. Sea Shepherd volunteers risk their safety and face the possibility of arrest to document and witness the killing of baby seals (illegal) to do without the permission from the Canadian Government. They go directly onto the ice packs of Eastern Canada to document the cruelty of the seal hunt and expose the truth to the world.

(From lush.ca)
LUSH launches campaign against Canadian Seal slaughter

Tuesday, March 17, 2009

With Canada’s controversial seal slaughter about to resume, LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics, in conjunction with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, are launching a hard-hitting campaign to protect these important marine animals.

LUSH has created a new bubble bar in the shape of a baby seal especially for the campaign. Called First Swim, because many baby seals are slaughtered so young they haven’t even had a chance to go into the water. 100 percent of the proceeds of the bubble bar are going to Sea Shepherd, who stand-up for what’s right. As a supporter of animals, free speech, and LGBT rights, LUSH’s American CEO of LUSH Cosmetics, “Clubbing and shooting baby seals for their fur is cruelly to animals, plain and simple, and LUSH Cosmetics wants to see it stopped.”

“As a business that cares about animals and the environment we are ashamed that the blood continues to flow on the ice of Eastern Canada,” said Mark Wolverton, North American CEO of LUSH Cosmetics. “Clubbing and shooting baby seals for their fur is cruelly to animals, plain and simple, and LUSH Cosmetics wants to see it stopped.”

Doming the window of most of LUSH’s North American stores will be a giant picture of a seal with the words End Canada’s License to Kill splattered in red paint. LUSH shop staff will be giving customers information about the plight of seals and urging them to put pressure on the government by signing postcards that LUSH will be sending directly to Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

LUSH’s Style Editor Jason Salzenstein says “Support the seals, and support companies who stand-up for what’s right. As a supporter of animals, free speech, and LGBT rights, LUSH is a company that I go out of my way to support.”
Russia Bans Hunt for Young Harp Seals

MOSCOW, Russia, March 18, 2009 (ENS) - A ban on the hunting of all harp seals less than one year old was announced today by the Russian government. The ban was imposed by the Russian Federal Fisheries Agency and the documentation has been sent for state registration with the Ministry of Justice, RIA Novosti reports.

"The bloody seal slaughter, the killing of the defenseless animals, which can't be even called a 'hunt,' is now prohibited in Russia as it is in most developed countries. It is a serious step towards the conservation of biodiversity in Russia," said Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology Yurii Trutnev.

Public opposition to the Russian harp seal hunt has grown over the past year. International Fund for Animal Welfare's Anna Filippova said that anti-hunting demonstrations held in 25 Russian cities and abroad have helped people gain greater understanding of the issues involved in seal hunting.

Trutnev thanked nongovernmental organizations and the public for supporting the passage of the ban, saying, "NGOs actively upheld their position against this hunt, raised public awareness and by all means contributed to the passage of ban on the seal hunt in Russia."

Environmentalists were happy with the
government's decision.

The end of Russia's harp seal hunt was applauded by the International Fund for Animal Welfare, which has been working in Canada and throughout the world to put an end to commercial seal hunts.

"We are overwhelmingly pleased that the Russian government has finally completed its pledge to protect harp seals," said Masha Vorontsova, director of IFAW Russia.

"The time has now come for the Canadian government to follow suit and end their cruel hunt for harp seals once and for all," said Vorontsova. "These hunts are unnecessary. They are merely supporting the trade in fur used for non-essential fashion items."

"We are delighted at the adoption of this decision and would like to separately underline the important role played by the Russian Natural Resources Ministry in this cause. Thanks to their efforts this has finally taken place. Being a state structure, it greatly influenced the advancement of this process," said Filippova.

The government-subsidized Russian harp seal hunt takes place in early spring in the White Sea off the coast of Russia in an area known as the East Ice.

The Seal Conservation Society, based in Northern Ireland, says the main product of the Russian hunt has been the white fur pelts of very young seals which are dyed black for sale as hats "for which there is little demand."

Although the European Union currently maintains a ban on the importation of harp seal whitecoat products, an environmental group has found evidence that the ban is not being enforced and that whitecoat products have been entering the European Union from Russia through Norway.

"It has been reported that many people participating in the Russian hunt work in conditions of virtual slavery and are forced by their employer to take part in the hunt or lose their jobs, no alternative jobs being available," the Seal Conservation Society says. "There are two sealing concessions for the Russian hunt, sealers using helicopters to reach the seals on the ice and killing the pups by clubbing them. The number of pups killed by Russian sealers in 1999 was 34,850, all whitecoats."

Environmental groups have been trying to promote ecotourism and small business as alternatives to the Russian seal hunt.

Later this week, the world's largest seal hunt will
begin off the east coast of Canada. Last year, more than
217,000 harp seals were killed, 99.8 percent of which
were under three months of age. Canada does not allow
the clubbing of whitecoats. Sealers must wait until the animals
get their darker gray coats at about six weeks of age.

But around the world, opposition is mounting to annual
hunts in Canada, where most of the world's seal hunting
takes place, as well as Greenland, Namibia and Norway.

On March 2, a European Parliamentary committee voted to
ban products derived from seals from being imported into
the European Union, exported from it, or even transported
through EU territory.

The full European Parliament is to vote on the ban at a
April 1 plenary session in Brussels. The measure also must
approved by EU governments before it can be
implemented.

On
Tuesday,
St. Patrick's
Day, at the
urging of
the Irish
Animal
Rights
Action
Network,
the Irish
government
announced
its support
for the total
European
Union trade
ban on seal
products from Canada and South Africa with no loopholes
and no exemptions.

Seals are hunted mainly for their pelts, but also for meat
and fat, which is used in beauty products.

Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and LUSH Cosmetics,
which makes only plant-based products, today announced a
new partnership to oppose Canada's commercial hunt.

To launch the campaign, in the Queen Street store in
Toronto, Ontario, LUSH employee Kristi K stripped off her
clothes, painted herself red and lay on a bloody Canadian
flag to symbolize the thousands seals that will be killed and
skinned during this year's hunt.

"As a business that cares about animals and the
environment, we are ashamed that the blood continues to
flow on the ice of Eastern Canada," said Mark Wolverton,
North American CEO of LUSH Cosmetics. "Clubbing and
shooting baby seals for their fur is cruelty to animals, plain
and simple, and LUSH Cosmetics wants to see it stopped."

LUSH has created a new bubble bar in the shape of a baby
seal for this campaign with Sea Shepherd. This sea-
vegetable soap bar is called "First Swim" because many of
the seals are slaughtered so young they have not had their first swim. One hundred percent of the proceeds of the bubble bar are going to Sea Shepherd, to support the organization's practice of placing its conservationists between the seal hunters and the seals.

The Canadian government maintains that the annual hunt is an essential part of the maritime economy and that it is humane. Patrice Simon, a biologist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada said today that the seals are not skinned alive. "Several independent studies by European and Canadian veterinary researchers have concluded that the seals were indeed dead when they were skinned. They may sometimes still seem alive, because they have a reflex and continue to move following death," he said.

But the Humane Society International points out that veterinarians have studied Canada’s commercial seal hunt for five decades and have consistently found high levels of suffering. "Veterinary experts say commercial seal hunting is inherently inhumane because of the remote, extreme environments in which hunts operate and the speed at which they must be conducted," the organization says. "This is a primary reason why nations around the world are taking action on behalf of their citizens to end their trade in seal products."

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Business takes a stand against cruel seal hunt

CONTRIBUTED BY LUSH • MARCH 16, 2009

With Canada’s controversial seal slaughter about to resume, LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics, in conjunction with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, today are launching a hard-hitting campaign to protect these important marine animals.

LUSH has created a new bubble bar in the shape of a baby seal especially for the campaign. Called ‘First Swim’ because many baby seals are slaughtered so young they haven’t even had a chance to go into the water, 100 percent of the proceeds of the bubble bar are going to Sea Shepherd. Also, dominating the window of LUSH’s North American stores will be a giant picture of a seal with the words ‘End Canada’s License to Kill’ splattered in red paint.

As a charity Sea Shepherd directly intervenes on the high seas to stop sealers from killing baby harp seals. LUSH shop staff will be supporting these “pirates of compassion” by dressing as pirates in the store, giving customers information about the plight of seals and urging them to put pressure on the government by signing postcards that LUSH will be sending directly to Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. In conjunction with this local activity, a LUSH employee will strip down to virtually nothing, paint herself red and lie on a bloody Canadian flag outside a LUSH store in Toronto, Canada, to symbolize the thousands of seals that will be killed and skinned during this year’s hunt.

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Defending Ocean Wildlife and Habitats Worldwide

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WHAT'S NEW

SEA SHEPHERD NEWS

Sea Shepherd Partnership with LUSH Gains Momentum for the Seals
- On March 16, 2009, LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics, in conjunction with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, launched a hard-hitting North American campaign to end Canada's controversial seal slaughter. ... read more

The Seal Slaughter is Cruel According to Canadian Sealers - Despite the fact every elected Canadian politician and Canadian Senator with the exception of Mac Harb insists that the Canadian seal slaughter is the "most well managed, humane animal cull in the world" the evidence is overwhelming pointing to the reality that Canadian politicians will deny their own mothers to kiss the ass of the Newfoundland and Magdalen Island voters. ... read more

NOAA is On The Right Track With Obama - At long last, a President of the United States has made a sensible appointment to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) backed up with solid scientific credentials. Oregon State ecologist Jane Lubchenco has just been appointed as the new administrative head of NOAA. ... read more

Sea Shepherd Opposes Proposed Whale Shark Import in Singapore - Singapore's proposed casino resort, Resorts World at Sentosa, wants to capture whale sharks from the wild for its aquarium attraction. ... Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and PETA have joined forces with local Singaporean organizations to launch a public awareness campaign against the importation of whale sharks into Singapore. ... read more

Sea Shepherd Partners with LUSH Cosmetics to Help End Canada's Commercial Seal Hunt - To the dismay of animal lovers around the world, the annual Canadian seal slaughter is set to resume later this week. Therefore, with the goal of bringing the world's attention to this atrocity, Sea Shepherd is proud to announce a new partnership with LUSH Cosmetics to oppose the commercial hunt, which kills over 250,000 baby harp seals each spring. ... read more

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- 10 Mar 09 Sea Shepherd Calls For the Resignation of William Hogarth
- 09 Mar 09 Sea Shepherd Featured in the Award Winning Documentary, "The Cove"
- 08 Mar 09 Russia Bans the Slaughter of Baby Harp Seals

<< All Sea Shepherd News >>
LUSH cosmetics, a lovely brand full of deliciously scented skin, hair and bath products has stepped up their commitment to the world around them and are standing strong against seal hunting with their Save Our Seals campaign. LUSH is no stranger to world issues, they carry a ton of vegan products (their non-vegan products include ingredients such as honey and yogurt) and have had many campaigns bringing attention to causes in the past. Their latest cause is an emotional one for sure.
They’ve partnered with The Sea Shepard Organization (love them!) and are working together with them to bring attention to this form of animal cruelty. You can do your part by picking up their lovely body lotion called Charity Pot. The full proceeds (including tax!) go to Sea Shepard to help with their anti animal cruelty efforts.

If you're not jonesing for some body lotion but could use a nice warm bubble bath pick up their First Swim Limited Edition bubble bar. 100% of the proceeds go straight to the Sea Shepard Organization of course!

While you're on the site, sign the petition and make a difference. Send the petition to friends and shop for a cause! What better justification do you need to treat yourself to some lovely skincare products (not to mention a much deserved bubble bath).

(Images: ecorazzi & lush.com)
Cosmetics company campaigns to stop slaughter of baby seals

By Sharon Hardwick, Correspondent

PASADENA - In protest of Canada's commercial seal-hunting season which is currently under way, socially-conscious cosmetics company LUSH promoted their anti seal-slaughter campaign, "End Canada's License to Kill," outside their Colorado Boulevard store this week.

LUSH launched a nationwide two-week long campaign in conjunction with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, an international marine wildlife protection nonprofit.

On Wednesday, employees dressed as pirates encouraged passers-by to sign petition postcards intended for Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper's office.

"We are an extremely ethical company," store manager Kirsten Broughton said. "This is an issue close to our heart, especially within the cosmetic industry. Something like a quarter of a million baby seals will be killed this year."

Canada's commercial seal hunting industry has gained notoriety over the years for its indiscriminate slaughter of weeks-old seal cubs. But while international opposition to the killings rise, the practice continues.

And Broughton said it's unacceptable. While the company works with 20 charities year-round, this project hits close to home.

"I mean, yes we're a business. Yes, we need to make a profit. But we believe there's a way that can be done ethically," she said. "We have a lot of foot traffic by our store, so it's a great location to get people's attention."

One hundred percent of the proceeds from the sale of their "First Swim" bubble bar, a soap manufactured solely for the seal hunt campaign, will go to Sea Shepherd, Broughton said.

While the Colorado Boulevard store has collected close to 180 signatures since the campaign began, it hasn't always been easy, said Broughton.

"We have great customers, but when people don't sign it's hard," she said. "Sometimes I want to say, 'just sign this, please,' but I can't force it on them. It's a really important issue though. I mean, how can you say no to a baby seal?"

For some, the decision not to sign immediately came from not having enough information.

"I want to be educated about it first," said Juan Gutierrez who works downtown. "I mean it was like here's a contract - sign."

But for others, signing the postcard was a no-brainer.

"It's just not right to kill them," said Joanne Lee
Red Paint Makes Seal Protest Look Bloody

Published: March 26, 2009 3:00 PM
Updated: March 26, 2009 3:31 PM

Lush Cosmetics has launched a campaign to protest the annual Canadian seal hunt. Employees at various stores will be painting themselves red and lying on a bloodied Canadian flag to symbolize the plight of the seals.

In Victoria today company owner Karen Wolberton, took the lead in the campaign, placing herself on a Canadian flag outside the Government Street store.

The Vancouver based company will be posting posters and handing out info against the seal hunt at all its North American stores.

Karen Wolberton, owner of Lush Cosmetics, after painting herself red, lies on a Canadian flag to protest the annual seal hunt on the east coast.

Don Denton/News staff

Buy Victoria News Photos Online
A LUSH Cosmetics employee in Toronto, Wednesday, March 18, 2009, lies skinned and lifeless on a bloody Canadian flag in protest of the annual seal hunt.

THE CANADIAN PRESS IMAGES

A LUSH Cosmetics employee in Toronto, Wednesday, March 18, 2009, lies skinned and lifeless on a bloody Canadian flag in protest of the annual seal hunt. LUSH Cosmetics, a Canadian based business, is using its stores to campaign against the slaughter of young seals where they are shot, clubbed, and skinned for their fur.
Help end the senseless slaughter of Canada's baby seals

March 23, 5:09 PM  Add a Comment

By now, I hope that most of you have heard of the heinous baby seal massacre that goes on every year in Canada. If you haven't, read on but prepare to be saddened. This is such a sad chapter in the history of our lovely neighbor up North and it truly is one of the most gruesome and wanton exploitations of a natural resource that I have ever seen. Killing whales for food, the illegal shark finning industry, the senseless destruction of our natural forests, none of these things make any sense at all to insure our survival on a planet that is already struggling to find its balance, but the brutal murder of these young seals leaves me frightened for our souls.

The baby seal massacre, some of whom are no more than 3 weeks old and perhaps younger is just horrific. It's done for fur and that's the only reason. Young seals are brutally beaten and skinned alive in front of their mothers and if you're unsure whether to believe me, just google the topic. I truly no longer believe in wearing fur, with the exception of my mother's mink coat which would now be considered recycled. I love it because it was hers but I would never be able to buy a new one, I know too much about the cruelty of the industry that produces it and I completely draw the line at wild animals trapped and skinned alive. I completely get how cool it looks, animal furs and prints are beautiful and as someone who adores fashion I won't deny it. But there are so many fine faux furs available that why wouldn't anyone try this. I can't get over feeling that wearing fur is akin to some of my friends relatives who were skinned and made into...
housewares during the sad sad chapter of history that we know as the Holocaust. I’m just not sure of the difference.

Fortunately, a small and mighty group called The Sea Shepherd has taken it into their own hands to do something about this brutality along with many small companies, notably Lush Cosmetics! If you’ve ever watched the TV show “Whale Wars” then you know of Captain Paul Watson and his daring crew and their race to end illegal whaling all over the world.

If you go into the Lush store at Beachwood Place, or any Lush store for that matter you will be able to sign a postcard which will be sent to the Canadian Prime Minister demanding that he put an end to this senseless destruction. You can also purchase several Lush products, one in particular is a delightful bubble bath bar that smells of lavender and the ocean and 100% of the profits from the “Save our Seals” bar is donated to the Sea Shepherd campaign to end this horrific brutality.

Lush products are totally vegan, with the exception of some honey that they use and there is absolutely no animal testing. Please stop by the store and sign a postcard and buy one of the delightful bath bars. It’s great to support a company that puts their money where their mouth is and although I’ve always loved their fun and frivolous products, now I’m truly proud to be a loyal Lush Customer.

To read more about “The End Canada’s License to Kill” campaign please go to www.lushusa.com

More About: Lush Cosmetics · Canadian Seals · Sea Shepherd

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Goodbye to Yellow Teeth!

For someone wanting to enhance their appearance, a good teeth whitener is a must! We often underestimate the importance of having a brighter smile. Aside from your eyes, which first impression characterizes do people usually remember about you? Think about it! A whiter, brighter smile equals youth and friendliness! I’m sure you feel the same way.

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Kill Germs, Save Seals

A cosmetics company wants to stop seal clubbing, one bar of soap at a time

By JESSICA SICK

Updated 11:00 AM EDT, Wed, Mar 18, 2009

And here we thought the only obnoxious thing Canada did was make some of their citizens learn French. Turns out they love to club them some baby seals, too -- approximately 275,000 of them last year.

But if there’s one thing ladies love as much as baby seals, it’s cosmetics, and beauty product company Lush is bringing the two loves together. Partnering with Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, a non-profit organization dedicated to stopping the slaughter of oceanic wildlife, Lush is donating 100 percent of the proceeds from sales of its bubble bar -- in the shape of a baby seal, of course -- to the SSC’s baby seal effort.

You’ll know you’ve found the Lush store (located in Aventura Mall) when you see the giant picture of a seal with “End Canada’s License to Kill” written in red. Just for today, employees will be dressed like pirates to recognize the SSC as “pirates of compassion.” And if you happen to be in Toronto today, a Lush employee will slip down to her skivvies, paint herself red and lie on a bloody Canadian flag in front of the store.

Take that, PETA.