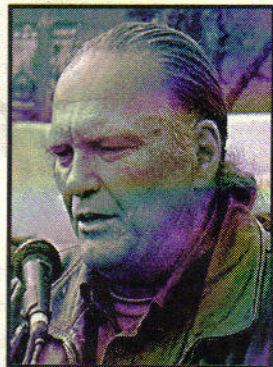


Artists for Bob Lovelace Benefit Concert



Musicians and writers have gathered tonight, together with close to 900 audience members, to offer music and words in support of Bob Lovelace and to honour his integrity. The purpose of this show is to raise funds to help alleviate the financial impact of Bob's imprisonment and court battle. It will also raise spirits and provide hope to all who are opposed to uranium mining.

On February 15th, Bob Lovelace was led away from the Kingston courthouse in handcuffs, sentenced to six months and fined \$25,000 for his peaceful protest against uranium mining in North Frontenac. "I am in a dilemma. I want to obey Canadian law but Algonquin law instructs me that I must preserve Creation," he said. Bob is a gentle man, a father, a retired chief of the Ardoch Algonquin First Nation and a university lecturer who for more than 25 years has been involved in researching and negotiating his people's rights over their homeland. In 2006 he discovered, along with others in the community, that the Ontario government had granted license to a uranium exploration company to stake and claim 30,000 acres of land (including land in the heart of the Ardoch Algonquin territory) at the headwaters of the Mississippi water system that feeds the Ottawa River.

There was no consultation with the Ardoch Algonquin or the Shabot Obaajwan, though the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that all provinces have a duty to consult with First Nations before they permit any development, nor was there consultation with landowners in the area. Concerned by the audacity of the mining company's claim, the lack of consultation and the potential environmental and public health risks associated with uranium exploration and mining, a growing number of non-aboriginal citizens have joined with aboriginal people to engage in peaceful demonstrations. It was these public events held at the proposed mine site that eventually led to an injunction being served to Bob Lovelace and others last summer. They were ordered not to block drilling. Bob's refusal to comply earned him the displeasure of the court.

On May 27, Bob appeared before a court of appeal in Toronto: his sentence and fines were reduced and he was set free. We are happy and privileged to have him back amongst us.. Tonight we celebrate Bob's courage and resolve.