



Right to Quiet

Society for Soundscape Awareness and Protection

4342 13th Ave W, Vancouver BC V6R 2T9, Canada | 1-778-737-2454 | www.quiet.org

Charitable Registration BN: 11915 4680 RR 0001

Right to Quiet is proud to join participants around the world in celebrating the 26th Annual International Noise Awareness Day (INAD) on April 28, 2021. INAD has publicized the effects of harmful noise on hearing, health and quality of life since 1996. Partners promote this common goal through educational, legislative and social media initiatives, which include observing one full minute of silence at 2:15 p.m. in their local time zone (<https://noiseawareness.org>).

Another awareness needs attention. Taking its cue from renowned Canadian composer R. Murray Schafer, the Society for Soundscape Awareness and Protection (SSAP) was founded in 1982; the name Right to Quiet emerged later. Solely supported by members, we have distributed hundreds of books and teaching packs to libraries and schools across British Columbia. Our efforts have led municipal and provincial authorities to establish quiet zones and ecological reserves designated free of anthropogenic noise, and progressive legislation such as construction-free Sundays and "quiet beach" policies in Metro Vancouver. These initiatives have influenced other Canadian jurisdictions to introduce similar policies.

Calls for help come from far and wide. They include unnecessary motor vehicle noise and various marine vessel noise issues affecting people across North America. The latter often involve overlap of multiple jurisdictions, which significantly complicates finding solutions.

Our current projects include urging governments to mandate noise level labels for consumer products, similar to policy in the European Union, where labelling of over 60 types of equipment has been in effect for decades, and introducing sound education modules in elementary, middle and high schools. Such programs have been piloted in New York City public schools, and related programs were just getting going in 2020 as COVID-19 emerged, when educational programs were postponed.

What can concerned individuals do? Forward this to friends and colleagues, talk about INAD, and support protection of natural soundscapes in your community. Visit Quiet.org to learn about our efforts and those of our affiliates toward reducing environmental noise.

Contacts

Karl Raab
CANADA
info@quiet.org
1-778-737-2454

Jeanine Botta
USA
editor@quiet.org