

Media Release
May 19, 2015 – Toronto

Guatemalan Lawsuit Claimants Travel To Toronto To Respond In Person To Hudbay Mineral's Denials, Deflection & PR Spin

Three indigenous Mayan Guatemalans, who are suing Canadian mining company Hudbay Minerals in precedent-setting litigation (<http://www.chocversushudbay.com/>), will be in Toronto from May 19-23 to respond in person to Hudbay's continued deflection, denial and PR spin about company human rights abuses.

In 2007 and 2009, mining security personnel committed severe human rights abuses at Hudbay's former mining project in Guatemala including the gang rape of Rosa Elbira Ich Choc and 10 other Mayan women, the killing of Adolfo Ich, and the shooting and paralyzing of German Chub. (The rapes occurred when Canadian company Skye Resources controlled and managed the mining project. Skye Resources has since merged with Hudbay Minerals to form one company.)

These incidents are the subject of three related lawsuits filed in Ontario Superior Court against Canadian company Hudbay Minerals Inc.

Instead of taking responsibility for its actions, Hudbay has adopted the strategy of hiding behind blanket denials, and making absurd counter accusations against the victims:

- Hudbay accuses survivors of rape, including Rosa Ich, of lying about being raped. Hudbay says on its website that it does "not believe" that the allegations of rape are "credible", and has denied in court documents that the rapes happened at all;
- Hudbay accuses Angelica Choc and German Chub of "fabricating" and "concocting" "stories" about how Adolfo Ich was killed and how German Chub was shot;
- Hudbay takes the absurd position that Angelica Choc "coerced or intimidated witnesses into lying about what happened on September 27, 2009 by threatening to take away their land in La Union if they did not provide false testimony"; and
- Hudbay disavows any and all responsibility for any violent acts committed by security personnel at its formerly wholly owned and controlled mine in Guatemala.

All of the above are entirely false. Angelica, Rosa and German are saddened and angered by Hudbay's false accusations, and are in Toronto to respond in person directly to Hudbay's shareholders and the Canadian public. In particular Angelica intends to speak directly to Hudbay's shareholders at Hudbay's Annual General Meeting on May 22, 2015.

On Thursday May 21 at 6-8pm, Angelica, Rosa and German will participate in a public forum with other communities from across the Americas who have been impacted by Hudbay Minerals at Friends Quaker House, 60 Lowther Avenue, Toronto (near St. George subway station).

On Friday May 22, Angelica Choc will directly address shareholders at Hudbay's Annual General Meeting at 10 am.

For More Information, or to speak directly to Angelica, Rosa, or German, contact:
Grahame Russell, 416-807-4436, info@rightsaction.org

Public Forum

- WHERE: Friends Quaker House, 60 Lowther, Toronto, ON (near St. George subway station)
- WHEN: Thursday, May 21, 6-9pm (There will be refreshments after the main event)

Protest

UNITED AGAINST HUSBAY MINERALS: a protest at Husbay's Shareholder Meeting

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1633716630185446/>

- WHEN: Friday, May 22nd, 10:30am
- WHERE: 150 King St. W., Toronto

FUNDS NEEDED

Rights Action seeks funding for the community, human rights and environmental defense work (including this trip to Toronto) of these Mayan Qeqchi [Kek-Chi] plaintiffs that we have long supported and worked with since 2004.

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & United States)

Make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8
- USA: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091

Credit-Card Donations: <http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>

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