

Rights Action
May 25, 2015

Declaration by Mayan Plaintiffs to Hudbay Minerals Investors and Shareholders

Thank-you to all who helped Rights Action pay for and then host three courageous Mayan Q'eqchi' people – German Chub, Rosa Ich, Angelica Choc – who travelled from eastern Guatemala to Toronto, to meet with their lawyers (Klippensteins Barristers and Solicitors), to speak to the media and public, and to speak directly to shareholders gathered on the 16th floor of 150 Kings St W, in downtown Toronto, at Hudbay Minerals annual shareholder meeting. (Thanks to Breaking The Silence, <http://www.breakingthesilenceblog.com/>, for helping facilitate the visa application process; thanks to MISN, <http://mininginjustice.org/>, for empowering education, agitation and advocacy work related to this and so many mining injustice related struggles.)

- **Media Coverage:** CBC "The National" coverage, May 24, 2015, starting at 37:51 minute mark: <http://www.cbc.ca/player/Shows/ID/2667820033/>
- **Below:** Statement read in Hudbay shareholder meeting by Angelica Choc, with German Chub and Rosa Ich. Grahame Russell (Rights Action), accompanied and translated for them.



(After reading their "declaration" to the Hudbay Minerals AGM – see below – Rosa Ich, German Chub and Angelica Choc participated in street rally, organized by Rachel Small (centre) and the Mining Injustice Solidarity Network. Sign: "Adolfo Ich Chaman", the husband of Angelica Choc, who was murdered by Hudbay Mineral's head of security; Sign: "[Guatemalan President] Otto Perez is Corrupt – Mining companies out of Guatemala.")

German, Rosa and Angelica are 3 of 13 plaintiffs in the precedent setting "Hudbay Minerals Lawsuits" before Canadian courts, to hold Hudbay Minerals (and CGN, its former Guatemala subsidiary) accountable for the murder of Adolfo Ich (Angelica's husband), the shooting paralyzing of German Chub, the gang-rapes of Rosa Ich and 10 other women from the Lote 8 community. (www.chocversushudbay.com)

Since 2004, Rights Action has been funding community development, environmental and human rights defense projects in the home communities of these and other Mayan Q'eqchi people. Since 2010, Rights Action has been funding their efforts for truth and justice in Guatemalan and Canadian courts for the mining-caused repression and harms they have suffered.

- Please share and repost this information
- More information / How to support their on-going struggle for justice in Guatemala and Canadian courts – See Below

Declaration by Angelica Choc

Hudbay Minerals AGM, Toronto, May 22, 2015

My name is Angelica Choc. I am indigenous Mayan Q'eqchi' from Guatemala. I have come to Canada to speak directly to you, the shareholders, the owners of Hudbay Minerals. I come to this meeting with respect for you and your meeting, and do not want to take much time. I ask only that you listen with open hearts and minds. I am here to tell you about what happened at Hudbay's mining project in Guatemala.

My husband Adolfo Ich is dead. He was hacked with machetes and shot in the head by Hudbay security personnel during a community protest near Hudbay's mine on September 27, 2009. Hudbay security personnel also shot German Chub that same day. German, who is here today, is paralyzed from the chest down. The bullet remains lodged next to his spine, and he lives his life in a wheel chair. Rosa Ich is here. She, along with 10 other women, were raped during a

violent eviction of her village in 2007, carried out at the request of the mining company.

Since that time, Hudbay has done nothing to accept responsibility for what happened at and near its mine, nor to make amends for the harms suffered by my family, by Rosa and the other women, by German and his family. Instead, Hudbay hides behind its lawyers and propaganda statements. Hudbay has said Rosa is lying about being raped. Hudbay has said that German "fabricated" a story about how he was shot. Hudbay says I threatened witnesses to force them to provide false testimony.

These false accusations against us make me sad and angry. We are here in person to tell you our truth as we lived it.

If you want to know about the rapes of 11 women by mining company security personnel, Rosa is here and she will tell you what happened to her and the 10 other women. German is here and he can tell you about the day he was shot by the head of security of Hudbay, and left for dead, and of what his life is like now as a paraplegic.

For my part, I was at home with my husband on the afternoon of September 27, 2009, when he went out for the last time, telling me he would be back soon! I can tell you that my son Jose Ich watched as my husband was surrounded, beaten, hacked with machetes and then shot in the head. I can tell you about the overwhelming grief I felt when my son told me my husband was dead, and when my husband's body was brought to my house.

Hudbay denies all of this happened. Yet Hudbay does not provide an explanation for how my husband was killed or who shot German, leaving him in a wheelchair. Hudbay knows that on September 27, the only people with handguns and shotguns were mine company security personnel, and yet it denies that its security forces were involved.

I wonder if you, the shareholders, the owners of Hudbay know about what happened to us in Guatemala. I wonder if you have been told the truth. I wonder if you are OK being the owners of a company that denies the very real harms that has been suffered by us, and does nothing to address it.

My question for you is, do you acknowledge the harms suffered by me, Rosa, German and our families and communities? And what will you do to address these harms?

More Information: Grahame Russell, info@rightsaction.org, 416-807-4436

What To Do

Tax-Deductible Donations (Canada & U.S.)

Rights Action continues to fund the victims/plaintiffs so they can pursue justice in Guatemalan and Canadian courts and help break the wall of impunity that Hudbay/CGN enjoy in Guatemala, and see that a measure (however so small) of justice is done. Make check payable to "Rights Action" and mail to:

- United States: Box 50887, Washington DC, 20091-0887
- Canada: (Box 552) 351 Queen St. E, Toronto ON, M5A-1T8

Credit-Card Donations (Canada & U.S.): <http://www.rightsaction.org/tax-deductible-donations>

To donate stock, contact: info@rightsaction.org

Civil Lawsuits in Canada Against Hudbay Minerals and CGN

Klippensteins Barristers and Solicitors, www.chocversushudbay.com

“Defensora”

Screen this award winning film by Rachel Schmidt that documents the lives and vision of the Mayan Qeqchi people and their efforts to seek justice in Canadian courts against Hudbay Minerals and CGN. Trailer/Information:

www.defensorathefilm.com

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