

VIA E-MAIL
ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW

February 2, 2009

Dogwood Initiative
PO Box 8701
Victoria, BC, Canada
V8W 3S3

Subject: Notanker.ca Removable Sticker on Canadian Circulation Coins

Dear Sirs,

The Royal Canadian Mint (the “Mint”) has recently learned that Dogwood Initiative is producing removable stickers (“decals”) portraying the image of an oil slick with the website notanker.ca printed on it. The decals are intended to alter Canadian one dollar circulation coins minted by the Mint pursuant to the *Royal Canadian Mint Act*.

According to the Dogwood Initiative website, www.dogwoodinitiative.org, these decals are intended to “spread the word about oil spills from proposed Tar Sands Tankers on British Columbia’s coast.” The decals, when placed on coins, are clearly intended to protest tar sands tankers, to communicate this protest to the public, and by directing internet traffic to the Dogwood website, to advertise Dogwood Initiative as an organization.

Section 11 of the *Currency Act* (R.S.C., 1985, c. C-52) prohibits using Canadian coins for purposes *other than as currency*. Protesting, communicating, and advertising all constitute uses other than as currency. Contravention of this section of the *Currency Act* can lead to liability on summary conviction to a fine and or imprisonment.

As well, we have noted that the Dogwood website contains several images of the one dollar Canadian circulation coin. We wish to advise you that the Mint holds ownership of the trademark (TMO0916288) on the image of the one dollar coin. We therefore request that you cease and desist using the image immediately without the Mint’s permission. You may consult our Intellectual Property Guidelines online at www.mint.ca to obtain additional information on obtaining permission to use the Royal Canadian Mint’s intellectual property.

We also request your written confirmation, within the next 5 business days, that you will abide by our request. Please contact Kathryn Reynolds at 613-949-7347 or at reynolds@mint.ca for further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathryn Reynolds
Legal Counsel

c.c. Intellectual Property Committee