

Vancouver Olympics Claim First Victims: Arrests at Eagleridge Bluffs

Written by

Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52 - Last Updated Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52

Vancouver Olympics Claim First Victims: Arrests at Eagleridge Bluffs

CBC News - West Vancouver police arrested at least 20 protesters on Thursday morning at the Eagleridge Bluffs tent city that went up more than a month ago.

Some of the Eagleridge protesters put down their signs and left when police moved in and threatened to arrest them Thursday. (CBC)

<https://www.cbc.ca/gfx/images/news/photos/2006/05/25/bluffs-protest060525.jpg>

[Police arrest Eagleridge protesters](#)

Last updated May 25 2006 11:58 AM PDT
CBC News

They were the people who decided to stay and be arrested after Staff-Sgt Jim Almas read aloud both the court injunction ordering them to leave and the subsequent enforcement order.

RELATED STORY: [Police give West Van protesters last chance to leave](#)

There were about 70 people at the site at the time, and most of them walked away across the existing highway when he finished.

Police say those arrested will face possible civil charges for violating the court order.

Vancouver Olympics Claim First Victims: Arrests at Eagleridge Bluffs

Written by

Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52 - Last Updated Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52

Earlier in the morning, the leader of the protest said he was looking forward to the arrests.

"If this is going down today, we want it to be memorable. So I'm hopeful that it is going to be a media circus," said Dennis Perry, who heads the Coalition to Save Eagleridge Bluffs.

FROM APRIL 17, 2006: [Olympic highway foes set up tent city](#)

The Eagleridge tent city went up in April, in an effort to stop the construction of a new section of the Sea to Sky Highway through the rock bluffs in time for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

They say the highway project would destroy a sensitive wetland.

The protesters want the provincial government to build a tunnel through the area of multimillion-dollar homes instead of logging and blasting through the bluffs. But the government has refused, saying it would cost too much.

The contractor went to B.C. Supreme Court earlier this month, seeking and obtaining an injunction ordering the protesters to move out to allow his crews to begin work.

FROM MAY 15, 2006: [Eagleridge protesters told to get out of the way](#)

But the campers refused to leave, and appealed the decision, unsuccessfully.

The contractor then returned to court and obtained an enforcement order, which is being carried out at the protest site on Thursday.

LINK: [Coalition to Save Eagleridge Bluffs](#)

Vancouver Olympics Claim First Victims: Arrests at Eagleridge Bluffs

Written by

Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52 - Last Updated Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52

INTERVIEW: The Early Edition's Rick Cluff speaks with protester Liz Bird, West Vancouver police Sgt. Paul Skelton and B.C. Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon.

Police give West Van protesters last chance to leave

Last updated May 24 2006 08:04 PM PDT

[CBC News](#)

Two West Vancouver police officers have warned protesters trying to stop construction of a section of new highway through Eagleridge Bluffs that they must leave or face arrest.

West Vancouver police give the protesters their last warning.(CBC)

Staff Sgt. Jim Almas said he was delivering on his earlier promise to give the group lots of time to obey a court order to pack up the tent city.

He said police do have an operational plan to remove the protesters, and warned that the next time officers visit the site, there would be arrests.

Almas said that's not something he wants to do, and that he would prefer to drive people home.

The police visit followed a decision earlier in the day by a B.C. Supreme judge, granting an enforcement order of an injunction that ordered the protesters to leave.

FROM MAY 15, 2006: [Eagleridge protesters told to get out of the way](#)

Vancouver Olympics Claim First Victims: Arrests at Eagleridge Bluffs

Written by

Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52 - Last Updated Thursday, 25 May 2006 09:52

The Coalition to Save Eagleridge Bluffs is opposed to the construction of a section of the Sea-to-Sky highway expansion for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics. They set up their camp last month, blocking construction.

The construction company then sought and obtained an injunction ordering members of the coalition to move out.

On Tuesday, the B.C. Court of Appeal dismissed the coalition's bid to overturn that injunction ? clearing the way for the company to seek the enforcement order on Wednesday.

LINK: [B.C. Court of Appeal decision](#)

Coalition leader Dennis Perry had said he wasn't surprised by the judge's decision, but said he was disappointed.

He also said that most of the protesters are just "ordinary, average people" who do not want to be arrested. However, some of them have indicated that they can't wait to be arrested.

LINK: [Coalition to Save Eagleridge Bluffs](#)

The coalition wants the provincial government to build a tunnel instead of building the new road through the environmentally sensitive wetland.