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Canada's children 'can't wait' for UN extended continental shelf claim

By Alex Kilpatrick



VANCOUVER (The News Desk) — As the holiday season approaches, children all across Canada have begun “counting the sleeps” until Dec. 6, the deadline for Canada’s extended continental shelf submission as specified in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Canada’s claim, which is hotly anticipated by international legal scholars and nine-year-olds alike, will reflect the country’s official position on a number of disputed sea boundaries.

“I can’t wait,” said Justin Kent, a fourth-grader from Queen Mary Elementary School in Vancouver, B.C.

“Finally Canada will clarify its place in the Arctic.”

Some parents, however, are growing concerned. Windsor, Ontario parents Ben and Kelsey Tettamanti said they are worried about their son’s Christmas list.

“Look, getting our hands on a Tickle Me Elmo was hard enough. How am I supposed to get an equidistance line in the Beaufort Sea?”

“A meridian line! A MERIDIAN LINE!” their son, Trent, corrected.

“You never listen to me!” he added.

Feverish anticipation for the submission, exactly 10 years in the making, is spilling into other holiday traditions.

“Let’s just say I’ve never seen a letter to Santa Claus so specifically and explicitly criticize an Arctic search and rescue agreement,” one father said.

Other parents worry that this fervor is the sign of a new generation leaving them behind.

“These kids, they don’t even speak our language. I told my 11-year-old daughter to make her Christmas list ‘realistic.’ She had a fit and told me that the emergence of an epistemic community demanded institutionalist analysis, and that I should click my heels three times and go back to the Cold War.”

“Like, what does that even mean?” ♦



THE SYRUP TRAP

The Syrup Trap was founded by a group of disenchanted but breathtakingly talented and humble students at the University of British Columbia who were interested in writing satire. Since then, the magazine has grown into one of the most successful humour publications of all time.

In addition to publishing short fiction, news satire, cartoons, lists and more, the Syrup Trap organizes events at UBC for magazine staff and students interested in humour writing and comedy.

SUBMISSIONS:

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