

Alanna Mitchell was the science and environment reporter at the *Globe and Mail* for fourteen years, until she left daily journalism to devote herself to writing on science. In 2000, she was named the best environmental reporter in the world by the Reuters Foundation and was invited in 2002 to undertake a guest fellowship at Oxford University. Out of this came her first book, *Dancing at the Dead Sea*, published in 2004.

Her latest book, *Sea Sick*, is the first book to explain how the global ocean — 99 per cent of the planet's living space — is undergoing vast chemical changes at the hand of man and why that matters. You thought the climate was the problem? Actually, it's the ocean. In a nutshell, some of the carbon dioxide we are putting into the air by burning fossil fuels is being absorbed by the ocean. That reverts it to a state it has not been in for millions of years: more acid, warmer, and more prone to vast oxygen-deprived dead zones. At risk is the very structure of life in the ocean and therefore, on the planet as a whole.

“**Sea Sick** is the most comprehensive book to date on the state of our oceans. With a writer’s eye for detail and a reporter’s expertise in pulling in disparate information, Mitchell has woven a powerful and deeply unsettling story about our collective abuse of the cradle of all life. Fortunately, she also gives us hope and a path forward if we have the wisdom to act.”

— Maude Barlow

Mitchell is an associate at the International Institute for Sustainable Development and is a frequent speaker and guest lecturer on environmental issues. She lives in Toronto with her husband and two children.

Lecture: ***Sea Sick: the Hidden Crisis in the Global Ocean***,

Date: March 3, 2010

Cost: \$10.00, Students \$8.00

Time: 7:00pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Bob Wright Earth and Science Centre, University of Victoria