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David Suzuki Foundation Heavily Funded By Founders of Billion-Dollar American Corporations?

"What are corporations for? The corporation exists for one reason and one only and that is to make money." - [David Suzuki](#)



Eighty one million dollars is what the David Suzuki Foundation has spent over the past decade, according to its [Canadian tax returns](#). No wonder the foundation is so influential. The question is, where did all that money come from?

Money doesn't grow on trees. Turns out, a lot of it comes from corporations, especially the millions from American foundations that fuel the environmental movement. Call it Old Growth Money.

Over the past ten years, about half of the David Suzuki Foundation's **\$81 million** was from tax-receipted donations. A total of \$8.7 million was from Canadian charitable foundations, including **\$6 million** from the Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Foundation. That's about 8 percent of the total revenue of David Suzuki Foundation over the past decade. In other words, for every \$25 that the David Suzuki Foundation has spent, \$2 came from the Bronfmans.

In the foundation's earlier years, Bronfman money was even more important. Between 2000 and 2002, 13 percent of the David Suzuki Foundation's revenue was Bronfman money. In 2002, for example, the Bronfman Foundation granted **\$925,000** to the David Suzuki Foundation.

Nearly 30 percent of the Bronfman's charitable giving has gone to the David Suzuki Foundation over the past decade, according to my calculations. In 2010, the amount that the Bronfmans granted to the David Suzuki Foundation was \$427,560.

The big mystery is where did the David Suzuki Foundation get \$25 million that is has reported to Revenue Canada over the years as "other gifts" and "other revenue." My guess is that quite a chunk of that money came indirectly from American foundations, through Tides Canada or Tides USA. Indeed, I've traced \$10 million that the David Suzuki Foundation has been paid by American foundations, according to U.S. tax returns. Millions more may have gone through Tides USA and Tides Canada which "canadianizes" U.S. money. See how it works?

Over the past decade, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and the David & Lucile Packard Foundation have granted \$91 million to environmental organizations in Canada, particularly for work on the strategic, north coast of British Columbia - Canada's gateway to Asia. The Hewlett foundation and the Packard foundation were created by the founders of the tech giant, Hewlett-Packard.

Through Tides Canada, Tides USA and the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Hewlett Foundation and the Packard Foundation have granted at least \$55 million to environmental organizations in B.C. The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation - created from the wealth of the founder of INTEL - has granted a further \$26 million to Tides Canada. That's a total of **\$81 million** that has gone - *indirectly* - from billion-dollar American charitable foundations to B.C. environmental organizations. My guess is that some of that money went to the David Suzuki Foundation - especially given that in at least one instance, the Vancouver address for Tides USA, as reported to the I.R.S. by the Hewlett foundation, was *exactly the same* as the address of the David Suzuki Foundation: 2211 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 219.

For a larger view, click on any one of the tables/figures below:

How Much Money Has The David Suzuki Foundation Received from the Claudine & Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation?

Year	Total David Suzuki Foundation Revenue	Total Grants Received by the David Suzuki Foundation From Canadian Registered Charities	Grants to the David Suzuki Foundation from the Claudine & Stephen Bronfman Family Foundation	Percent of David Suzuki Foundation Revenue from Bronfman Foundation	Total Bronfman Grants to All Qualified Donees	Percentage of Total Bronfman Grants Accounted for by Grants to the David Suzuki Foundation
2000	\$5,178,593	n/a	\$750,000	14%	\$1,820,196	41%
2001	\$6,201,910	n/a	\$750,000	12%	\$2,124,045	35%
2002	\$6,723,776	n/a	\$925,000	14%	\$2,638,772	35%
2003	\$5,828,377	n/a	\$390,050	7%	\$2,048,812	19%
2004	\$6,486,731	\$1,751,565	\$250,050	4%	\$1,854,436	13%
2005	\$5,219,006	\$1,573,582	n/a	n/a	\$2,151,100	n/a
2006	\$9,488,419	\$443,986	\$1,000,050	11%	\$4,777,219	21%
2007	\$7,240,062	\$580,213	\$512,786	7%	\$2,593,001	20%
2008	\$8,962,049	\$507,265	\$505,315	6%	\$3,057,717	17%
2009	\$8,923,444	\$1,312,147	\$600,510	7%	\$3,371,150	18%
2010	\$10,675,087	\$2,513,985	\$427,560	4%	\$3,156,176	14%
All years	\$80,927,454	\$8,682,743	\$6,111,321	8%	\$29,592,624	21%

Source: Compiled from Canadian tax returns. <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/chrts-gvng/ftnrgs/menu-eng.html>

Grants from the CLAUDINE AND STEPHEN BRONFMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION to the David Suzuki Foundation (2000 - 2009): \$6,111,321

Name of donee	Check if donee is an associated charity	Location	BN / Registration number of donee if a charity	Amount of gift (including specified gifts) (\$)	Amount of specified gifts (\$)
David Suzuki Foundation David Suzuki			1377567168R2001	750,000	750,000
Name of Qualified Donee: DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION Location: VANCOUVER BC BN/Registration Number: 1377567168 0001 Total Amount of Gifts: \$ 750,000 Amount of Specified Gifts: \$ 750,000 Associated Charity: 4 2					

2004

Name of donee	Check if donee is an associated charity	Location	BN (Registration number of donee if a charity)	Amount of gift (excluding specified gifts) (\$)	Amount of specified gifts (\$)
David Suzuki Foundation			127756714 BC 0001	1,277,567	0
Trans Canada Trust Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	130,000	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	130,000	0
Total amounts given to qualified donees (add lines 301 and 302)				2,547,567	0

Name of donee	Check if donee is an associated charity	Location	BN (Registration number of donee if a charity)	Amount of gift (excluding specified gifts) (\$)	Amount of specified gifts (\$)
David Suzuki Foundation			127756714 BC 0001	200,000	0
Trans Canada Trust Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	400,000	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	300,000	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	175,000	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	94,000	0
Total amounts given to qualified donees (add lines 301 and 302)				1,169,000	0

Name of donee	Check if donee is an associated charity	Location	BN (Registration number of donee if a charity)	Amount of gift (excluding specified gifts) (\$)	Amount of specified gifts (\$)
David Suzuki Foundation			127756714 BC 0001	270,000	0
Trans Canada Trust Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	574,251	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	434,100	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	134,230	0
John Deere Foundation			1374967618 BC 0001	80,000	0
Total amounts given to qualified donees (add lines 301 and 302)				1,458,581	0

Name of donee	Check if donee is an associated charity	Location	BN (Registration number of donee if a charity)	Amount of gift (excluding specified gifts) (\$)	Amount of specified gifts (\$)
David Suzuki Foundation			127756714 BC 0001	1,290,000	0
Total amounts given to qualified donees (add lines 301 and 302)				1,290,000	0

Name of Qualified Donee	Location	BN/Registration Number	Total Amount of Gifts	Amount of Specified Gifts	Associated Charity
DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION	VANCOUVER BC	127756714 BC 0001	\$ 4,050,930	\$ 0	
2006					
DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION	VANCOUVER BC	127756714 BC 0001	\$ 112,766	\$ 0	
2007					
The David Suzuki Foundation	Vancouver BC	127756714 BC 0001	\$ 528,311	\$ 0	
2008					
The David Suzuki Foundation	Vancouver BC	127756714 BC 0001	\$ 5,692,513	\$ 0	
2009					
The David Suzuki Foundation	Vancouver BC	127756714 BC 0001	\$ 427,560	\$ 0	
2010					

Note: For 2005, no grant to the David Suzuki Foundation is reported in publicly available information.
 Source: Canadian tax returns. www.fair-questions.com

Source of Amount Received (line item)	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2000 - 2010
Total Tax-recipient Gifts (100)	\$2,473,933	\$3,294,245	\$3,735,757	\$2,633,913	\$3,362,887	\$3,121,740	\$4,177,210	\$4,320,976	\$5,200,790	\$5,489,341	\$6,324,551	\$44,045,311
Registered Charities (4519)					\$1,791,565	\$1,973,582	\$443,986	\$580,213	\$507,265	\$1,315,647	\$2,513,985	\$10,595,243
Total Other Gifts (102)	\$2,609,272	\$2,899,471	\$2,888,564	\$2,650,458								\$13,732,633
Other Revenue (4650)		\$190,130	\$1,249,327	\$392,197	\$4,643,091	\$2,069,047	\$2,977,671					\$11,520,373
From outside Canada (2009/2010)									\$712,004	\$553,560		\$1,265,564
Other (see below)	\$105,658	\$104,362	\$99,695	\$345,876	\$122,952	\$131,577	\$224,132	\$279,826	\$276,353	\$189,638	\$408,405	\$2,279,474
For the Figure:												
Other Registered Charities	\$2,714,930	\$3,002,833	\$2,989,259	\$3,194,464	\$3,123,844	\$2,997,266	\$5,311,209	\$2,919,086	\$3,761,289	\$3,434,103	\$4,937,024	\$37,484,307
Gifts & Other Revenue	\$2,473,933	\$3,294,245	\$3,735,757	\$2,633,913	\$3,362,887	\$3,121,740	\$4,177,210	\$4,320,976	\$5,200,790	\$5,489,341	\$6,324,551	\$44,045,311
(A) Sub-total (of the above):	\$2,714,930	\$3,002,833	\$2,989,259	\$3,194,464	\$3,123,844	\$2,997,266	\$5,311,209	\$2,919,086	\$3,761,289	\$3,434,103	\$4,937,024	\$37,484,307
(B) Net realized capital gains	\$16,574	\$5,166	\$240									\$240
(A-B) Total Received:	\$2,698,356	\$2,997,667	\$2,989,019	\$3,194,464	\$3,123,844	\$2,997,266	\$5,311,209	\$2,919,086	\$3,761,289	\$3,434,103	\$4,937,024	\$37,484,307
Other Sources:												
Tax-recipient enduring property											\$586,488	\$586,488
Other fees and earned income	\$9,396	\$4,948	\$2,099									\$18,435
Payments thru fundraising	\$18,423	\$6,131	\$14,980									\$39,534
Interest & Dividends	\$43,554	\$45,841	\$71,177									\$160,572
Other income	\$32,285	\$27,450	\$11,439									\$71,174
Interest & Investment Income				\$59,965	\$98,707	\$169,855	\$206,325	\$255,027	\$255,415	\$20,859	-\$215,461	\$790,295
Rental Income (land, buildings)							\$6,574	\$6,487				\$13,061
Sale Goods & Services (4640)				\$205,908	\$24,245	\$21,722	\$17,807	\$9,225	\$14,451	\$162,943	\$30,977	\$567,278
Membership Dues & Fees										\$5,636		\$5,636
Sub-total:												
Total Received according to Revenue Canada (118 / 4706)	\$5,178,593	\$6,291,910	\$6,723,776	\$5,828,377	\$6,486,731	\$5,219,006	\$9,488,419	\$7,240,962	\$8,962,049	\$8,923,444	\$10,670,887	\$80,927,454
Source: Revenue Canada												

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