David Suzuki says environmentalism failed. I don't think so...

Markham Hislop | January 3, 2014 | 0 Comments

Beacon News



Beacon News publisher Markham Hislop that David Suzuki has been far more successful than he thinks. Photo: David Suzuki Foundation.

Environmentalists fighting same old battles, says David Suzuki

David Suzuki has taken recently to declaring environmentalism, a cause he has championed all his life, to be a failure, a lost battle. He couldn't be more wrong.

Canada's green icon is a very despondent Chicken Little these days. Not only is the sky falling, but humans have miserably and utterly failed to change their Earth-destroying lifestyles. We are doomed. Woe is us!

"Many of the battles that we fought 30 or 35 years ago, that we celebrated as enormous successes...Thirty-five years later, the same damn battles have started again. That's where I think we failed," the 77-year old environmentalist told Maclean's Magazine for a November story.



Solar power is going mainstream! Rae-Anne Wadey of Great Canadian Solar working on the Eastgate Environnment Canada building in Edmonton. Photo by David Dodge, Green Energy Futures.

"We fundamentally failed to use those battles to get that awareness, to shift the paradigm. And that's been the failure of environmentalism."

I think David Suzuki has got it all wrong. He and his eco-activist colleagues have, indeed, irrevocably shifted the political, social and economic paradigm around the environment. And not just by a few degrees. The changes that have taken place in the past decade or two are momentous and auger well for the planet's health going forward.

My evidence?

Beacon advertiser, <u>Bow Valley Power</u>, now offers green electricity (primarily wind power) for the same price (give or take a fraction of a penny) as coal-fired power. When new technologies – and energy sources – approach the cost per unit of the dominant technology, that's a clear signal they're ready for prime time. Expect to see more and more consumers switching to renewable energy over the next few years as the remaining technical issues are resolved.

Energy economist Ken Green described in a <u>recent Beacon column</u> how much progress Canada has made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions during the past decade:

Even though the economy grew by 6.3 per cent between 2005 and 2010, GHG emissions decreased by 48 megatonnes (Mt) or 6.5 per cent. Between 2005 and 2010, Canada's GHG emissions for each billion dollars of gross domestic product (GDP) that Canada produced declined by about 12 per cent and GHG emissions per person have declined by about 11 per cent. These per-capita emissions are at a historic low of 20.3 tonnes (t) of carbon dioxide equivalent per person. This is the lowest level recorded since tracking began in 1990. In 2010, per capita emissions of CO2 were 2.6 t lower than in 2005.



Net-zero homes, like this one in Edmonton, are sprouting up all over Canada. Photo: David Dodge

The hundreds of news stories Beacon News has run over the past five years documenting various aspects of the paradigm shift Suzuki is claiming hasn't happened:

- Net-zero homes. Want a home that uses little energy for heating and cooling, produces its own electricity, significantly reduces GHG emissions, and is still reasonably priced? Landmark Homes has created an entire <u>net-zero community in southeast Calgary</u>.
- An absolute sea-change in the way oil and gas companies explore for and produce oil and gas. The Canadian energy sector, research scientists and innovative tech companies are hard at work developing new technologies to reduce the industry's environmental impact. The problem is most of this progress happens away from nosy reporters. But judging by the stories Beacon News has run and the steady flow of press releases I see every week, oil and gas has made significant progress and will continue to do so in coming years.
- Improved manufacturing processes (did you know <u>General Motors has 109 plants</u> that recycle everything and send not one ounce of scrap to a landfill?).
- Rapidly changing automobile technology: higher fuel standards, electric cars, hybrids, etc.

These are exciting times to be a car buff, as I am. Tesla Motors of California looks to be on the verge of revolutionizing the auto industry with its electric cars. But even a plug-in hybrid will be driven as an electric vehicle 80 per cent of the time by most drivers. Combined with green power or roof-top solar panels, and an EV or hybrid will soon be a practical choice for many Canadian families.

This is not to say there aren't still plenty of challenges to keep David Suzuki and his eco-activist colleagues busy – such as cleaning up the oceans, helping China cope with its growing environmental crisis, and ramping up developing world economies without overtaxing the global ecosystem.

But it is not fair to argue that there has been no paradigm shift.

Fundamental change – paradigm shift, in Suzuki's lexicon – doesn't come from activist victories, it comes from new technologies and new, better ways of doing things that over a long period of time transform the way we live and work.

David Suzuki has missed the forest for the trees. He is so consumed by the big picture – and, frankly, his own hubris – that he ignores the plethora of small but important changes that have taken place in everyday life.

He and his allies are winning the war, millions of small battles at a time. Too bad he doesn't recognize his own success

NORAHG RESPONSE

MOCK-TRIAL FOR SEDITION IS REPENTANCE FOR SUZUKI

On November 6th, 2013, David Suzuki, orchestrated a MOCK-TRIAL for SEDITIOUS LIBEL at the Royal Ontario Museum. This event was no more than a propaganda-fueled publicity stunt. However, it was more likely that this event was a form of REPENTANCE for Suzuki himself to ATONE FOR HIS FAILURES as an Enviro-Terrorist.

At the end of his life, it seems that David Suzuki has reviewed his acts of environmental subversion, and somehow needs to feel contrition and regret for the wrongs. It is too late for Suzuki to commit to personal change, and he can no longer resolve to live a more tolerant, ethical, non-partisan, and humble life. However, Suzuki's repentance is necessary for his attainment of salvation. He believes the mock-trial for sedition will make amends for his wrongs. For example, Suzuki was a principal architect in the wrongful conspiracy to prohibit against pest control products used in the urban landscape. His anti-pesticide partisan subversion extensively damaged and destroyed businesses operating in the professional lawn care industry. Suzuki mercilessly terrorized, baselessly smeared, falsely accused, grotesquely punished, innocently convicted, shamelessly persecuted, and wrongfully deprived the thousands of people dependent on these businesses. This represented a major success for Suzuki, as well as his depraved indifference towards destroyed businesses, lost jobs and hardship for people, and weakened communities. And yet another example, Suzuki's acts of political interference in the Ontario 2011 general election finally raised serious questions about his foundation's charity tax-exempt status. Consequently, he was quietly forced to step down from the board of directors of his beloved David Suzuki Foundation. This represented the ultimate humiliation for Suzuki, leading to his repeated public admissions of FAILURES. Suzuki felt a sense of bitter defeat. After a lifetime of being reckless, dangerous, destructive, hypocritical, insatiable, and partisan, Suzuki essentially became ostracized from his own beloved foundation. Typically, he has blamed business, government, skeptics, and everyone else for his FAILURES, and has acknowledged he wasted his life. His final action is a MOCK-TRIAL FOR SEDITION at the Royal Ontario Museum. Will it be enough to seemingly atone for his wrongs ?!?! Will he find salvation ?!?! No ! In fact, Suzuki deserves the spotlight of scrutiny and the terror of a REAL courtroom! Suzuki deserves a REAL courtroom and a REAL jail cell! Only then will all of his FAILURES be proven once and for all. In the event that criminal charges for fraud and conspiracy are laid against David Suzuki, legal experts say that there is sufficient information to lead to a successful prosecution! All Suzuki-Lunatics and his co-conspirators have been identified on the basis of their statements, activities, affiliations, and whereabouts. For the whole truth about SUZUKI'S MOCK TRIAL, please go to the following report ... http://wp.me/p1jq40-71 WILLIAM H. GATHERCOLE AND NORAH G http://pesticidetruths.com/ http://wp.me/P1jq40-2rr