



Dark Green Money

A GLIMPSE INSIDE THE BIG GREEN FUNDING MACHINE

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The information in this report is drawn from publicly available documents cited within and summarized for purposes of providing an overview of funding sources and influences on public policy.

Dark Green Money

A Glimpse Inside the Big Green Funding Machine

Summary

There is a general, media-led perception in Canada that private industry has an undue influence on environmental policy through well-funded lobbying. This generally ignores the role played by major private foundations that use their wealth and power to influence social movements, or the large role played by government funding in delivering global warming-inspired programs and providing grants and contributions to environmental organizations.

This paper draws on three sources of information to offer a glimpse into, or anecdotal evidence about, the role of foundation and government funding that affects climate policy, and especially the thesis that Canada should undertake very costly measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The first is the work of Dr. Matthew Nisbet, Professor of Communications Studies at Northeastern University in the United States, on the strategic objectives and actual funding activities of U.S.-based foundations relating to climate policy. The second set of sources is publicly available Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Charity Directorate filings and an on-line database listing the grants made by the Oak Foundation, one of the largest sources of foreign funding to environmental groups in Canada. The third is the information about government funding of climate programs and communications activities and contributions as documented in the 2018-19 Main Estimates of the government of Canada and from related public sources.

In 1991, the Energy Foundation was established in the United States by a network of foundations including the Rockefeller Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, and MacArthur Foundation. It has been sustained since then by additional funding by the Hewlett Foundation, the Packard Foundation and other funders. The Energy Foundation is the main instrument used by private foundations to shape public perception of policy issues like global warming and to influence public policy. In 2008, a similar group of foundations established Climate Works, a regranting organization which intended to invest more than U.S. \$1 billion worldwide in influencing climate policies.

Dr. Nisbet's studies show that, over the period 2011 to 2015, U.S. foundations provided \$556.7 million to support activities at the U.S. federal, state and municipal levels related to global warming and energy.

The top five recipients of the funding were the Sierra Club, the Alliance for Climate Protection, Nature Conservancy, the Partnership Project, and the Natural Resources Defense Council. In 2017, the Hewlett Foundation announced it would spend \$600 million over the next decade to influence global warming policies and actions. Michael Bloomberg, via his foundation, is estimated to have contributed \$164 million to political and legal campaigns to shut down coal plants in the United States; he plans to spend \$50 million more to do the same in other countries. Billionaire Tom Steyer has spent \$150 million in successive elections to mobilize “climate” voters in support of Democratic Party candidates in the United States.

The environmental groups, in short, are rich. Still, they cannot compete for spending on environmental advocacy with federal and provincial governments. According to reports from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), the federal government operates almost 300 different programs (including subsidies, regulations, social marketing and taxes) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the provinces and territories have almost 280 more. There is no comprehensive, authoritative data available to the public on the total costs of these programs or their effectiveness. According to the 2018-2019 Main Estimates of the federal government, ECCC and NRCan alone will spend \$1.14 billion dollars this fiscal year on climate and sustainable development programs, grants and contributions.

Canadians should not have to find out about the funding by foreign foundations of political interest groups in this country as a result of a various citizens researching tax filings to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service; the Canada Revenue Agency should demand more accountability and make the information available to the public. Similarly, Canadians should not have to guess how much money is being spent by governments to fund the “Iron Triangle”¹ of climate change confirmation bias, with various large and small non-repayable grants and contracts to environmental groups, already subsidized by taxpayers through their charitable status. Billions of tax dollars are being spent in questionable ways to promote emissions reduction here, in a world in which Canada plays an extremely marginal role, if any, in the growth of global emissions. It is time to take the mask off the big green funding machine.

¹ <http://www.jpands.org/vol18no3/lindzen.pdf>

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A Glimpse Inside the Big Green Funding Machine



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The public discussion of environmental issues in Canada is often influenced by a pervasive belief, readily promoted by the media, that Canadian industry has undue influence on policies. With respect to global warming issues, for example, it is an article of media faith that the oil and gas industry provides significant funding for those who express skeptical views. The media and academia pay far less attention to the role that funding by private foundations and governments plays in promoting the view that humans are causing catastrophic climate change and that costly emissions reductions by Canadians will avoid these effects.

The situation is somewhat different in the United States, where a number of studies have been done on how private foundations shape social movements and on how philanthropists use their wealth

and power to influence events.² In a seminal article published by Wiley Periodicals in 2018, Dr. Matthew Nisbet, Professor of Communications Studies at Northeastern University, reviewed the actual strategies and spending practices of 19 major foundations on climate-related policy issues from 2010 to 2015. Dr. Nisbet's article, entitled *Strategic Philanthropy in the Post-Cap-and-Trade Years: Reviewing U.S. Climate and Energy Foundation Funding*, can be found here.

https://web.northeastern.edu/matthewnisbet/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Nisbet2018_ClimatePhilanthropy_WIREsClimateChange_Final.pdf

Arnold, Wooster, Sheehan, Horwitz & Laskin, Nisbet and others have followed the money in the United States. There are few similar studies in Canada. The funding of environmental non-profit charities is broad, wealthy, and, in Canada, has been coordinated to impede the activities of natural resource industries and the trade of their products.³

While the funding provided by private foundations is large, by far the largest source of funding to promote climate “mitigation” in Canada is by governments – federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal. The federal government does not publish a single report containing a list of all expenditures on environmental or “climate” programs including notably the communications programs intended to “raise awareness” and mobilize action”. The government’s financial reporting system contains a series of reports throughout the annual reporting cycle that potentially could be tapped to identify the actual expenditures, except that the terminology of the reporting and the sheer number of entries involved would make this a daunting task. The same would be true of any effort to inventory the names and expenditures on “climate” programs by the provincial governments. According to the Natural Resources Canada website, there are almost 280 climate mitigation programs currently being implemented by provincial governments; these include regulations, subsidies, taxes and other measures. In the most recent report of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to the United Nations on Canada’s progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, there was a list of almost 300 additional measures being implemented by the federal government. There is no information available as to the cumulative costs or benefits of these measures, and no assessment of the extent to which they overlap and duplicate with one another. Within the federal government itself, there is no single place to which one can go to find out how much is now being spent on GHG emissions reduction, or even a list of which departments and agencies are most involved. It appears that the principal spenders are ECCC and Natural Resources

² See Horowitz, D. and Laskin, J., *The New Leviathan: How the Left-Wing Money Machine Shapes American Policies and Threatens America’s Future*.

³ Files from Rob Scagel

Canada, but it is virtually certain that other departments like Transport Canada, Health Canada, Industry Canada, and the National Research Council have large environment-related budgets.

In the absence of authoritative or extensive sources of information and analysis on the funds that are going to support the global warming agenda in Canada, this note will simply offer some anecdotal evidence that may help to inform the public. It will summarize some of the most important findings of Dr. Nisbet's paper with respect to the strategies and spending of major U.S. Foundations. It will note some of the Oak Foundations' most consequential grants for Canadian environmental groups. It will use the most recent Government of Canada Main Estimates, which includes lists of planned rather than actual expenditures, to indicate the general range of spending by ECCC and Natural Resources Canada on climate-related measures.

The U.S. Foundations: Strategy and Funding

This section is essentially a synthesis of the main points from Dr. Nisbet's paper.

Private Foundations in the United States are able to mobilize vast financial resources to influence the public perception of policy issues like global warming. They actively shape how people view the "problem" and they champion specific methods through which the problem might be addressed. When left-of-centre and "progressive" foundations are covered in the U.S. press, coverage tends to be predominantly positive and uncritical, encouraging a lack of public scrutiny. Scholars and journalists focus instead on the role of conservative donors in blocking policy action and spreading doubt about climate science.

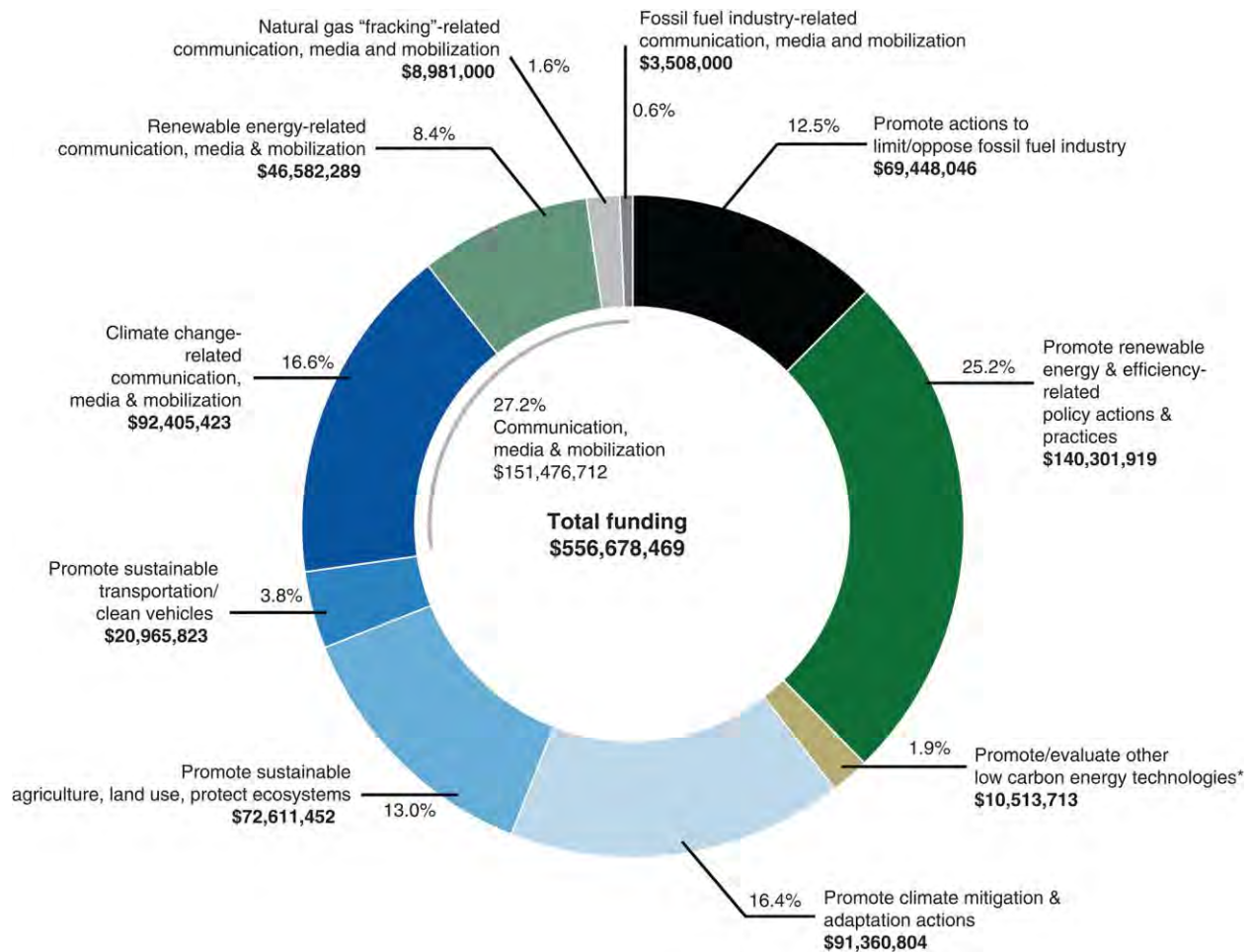
Since 1991, the Energy Foundation has been the main instrument that a network of influential U.S. foundations has used to define a portfolio of policy options, political strategies, and energy technologies to address global warming. It was set up by way of large block grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, and MacArthur Foundation, and supported in later years by the Hewlett Foundation, Packard Foundation, and other funders. The Energy Foundation's principal function is to *"leverage money in a highly concentrated pattern on behalf of policies that shift markets, industry, and consumers in the direction of renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency practices."*

In 2006, the Hewlett Foundation, along with several other funders, hired a consulting firm (California Environmental Associates) to produce the report *Design to Win: Philanthropy's Role in the Fight against Global Warming*.⁴ The report called for foundations to triple climate and energy funding from \$210 million in 2007 to \$600 million annually over the next decade. The report advocated creating the conditions that would lead private markets to invest more in global warming mitigation. In 2008, the

sponsoring organizations established Climate Works, a regranting organization intended to invest more than \$1 billion worldwide. This organization has continued to play the key coordinating function. The funding provided was highly concentrated, with just 25 groups receiving more than half the money distributed. Major recipients included the Environmental Defense Fund, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Bipartisan Policy Center. The Energy Foundation also created the GreenTech Action Fund as another conduit for funding Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (ENGOS). A certain amount of this activity now goes through the New Venture Fund and Tides Foundation.



⁴ http://www.climateworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/design_to_win_final_8_31_07.pdf



Source: Nisbet (2018) "These grant makers are also among the major patrons of academics for their work and are the main supporters of the rapidly growing non-profit journalism sector." (citing Reckhous 2013)

Dr. Nisbet provided a number of tables that summarize the funding by these organizations over the period 2011 to 2015. The following are the highlights:

- Over the period, the foundations provided \$556.7 million in grants to support activities at the U.S. federal, state and municipal levels related to global warming and energy;
- Just 20 organizations received over half the funds; the top five were the Sierra Club (\$48.9 million), the Alliance for Climate Protection (\$20 million), Nature Conservancy (\$19.4 million), The Partnership Project (\$17.7 million), and the Natural Resources Defense Council (\$14.1 million);
- \$106 million was granted to support measures reducing GHG emissions;

- \$92.4 million was spent to support global warming-related communication, media and public mobilization;
- \$140.3 million was spent to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- \$46.6 million in funding was devoted to directly supporting renewable energy-related communications, media and mobilization efforts;
- \$21 million was spent on actions to promote public transportation, fuel efficiency standards, and “clean” vehicles;
- \$10.5 million was granted to “hard energy” pathways, like improving the efficiency of present energy production;
- \$69.4 million in grants was focused on promoting policy actions and regulations to limit fossil fuel production and development, two-thirds of which were directed at coal; and
- \$8.9 million was devoted to public information campaigns seeking to ban hydraulic fracturing.

Some of the environmental charities donating and receiving funds have more money than political parties. Charities, both in Canada and the United State, have tax-free status, so that contributors get a tax rebate, a “tax expenditure” on behalf of all taxpayers.

Many of the larger foundations and ENGOs have, through carefully structured investment vehicles, accumulated enormous assets. This has freed them from the cash flow problems that are faced by many smaller charitable organizations. To cite one example, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation has assets of over U.S. \$7 billion and annual revenues of over U.S. \$600 million.

In the period since Dr. Nisbet’s study concluded, the U.S. foundations have added funding. In 2017, the Hewlett Foundation announced it would spend \$600 million over the next decade to combat global warming. Financial support for efforts restricting fossil fuel development and for turning public opinion against the industry is likely to expand. Examples include municipal lawsuits against fossil fuel companies allegedly to recover damages for global warming impacts, and decisions by states and cities to divest their pension plans of industry-related stocks. Michael Bloomberg, via his foundation and other donations, is estimated since 2011 to have devoted \$164 million to political and legal campaigns to shut down coal-fired plants in the United States and he recently announced an additional \$50 million to expand such efforts to other countries. See here:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/nov/09/michael-bloombergs-war-on-coal-goes-global-with-50m-fund>

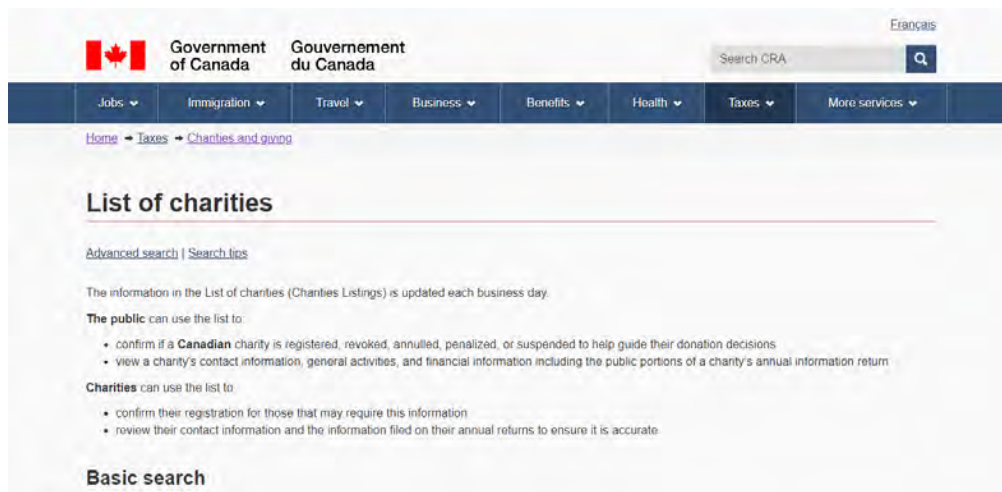
These efforts by foundations were complemented by a combined \$150 million spent by billionaire Tom Steyer in successive elections to mobilize “climate” voters in support of Democratic Party candidates in the United States.

Dr. Nisbet's study did not show that other U.S. foundations contribute large amounts directly to political parties or to individual candidates in the United States. They focus instead on swaying public opinion and supporting specific technologies. However, there may be political funding through Political Action Committees.

The Oak Foundation

The Oak Foundation published an online grant database and that is the source of the following references. The origin and stated purpose of the grants provided by the foundations to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service is detailed in this grant database. Sadly, that kind of information is not available to the Canadian public through the Canada Revenue Agency.

Both the IRS and CRA place elaborate annual reporting requirements on charities and non-profit organizations. There are some important differences between the two tax regimes. For example, the CRA does not require that a grant maker report the purpose of the grant, whereas this is optional on the IRS 990 reporting form. Both authorities require the grant maker to identify the recipient of the grant, but only if the recipient issues a receipt. Neither CRA nor IRS requires a recipient organization to identify who provided financial or other support.



<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/charities-giving/charities-listings.html>

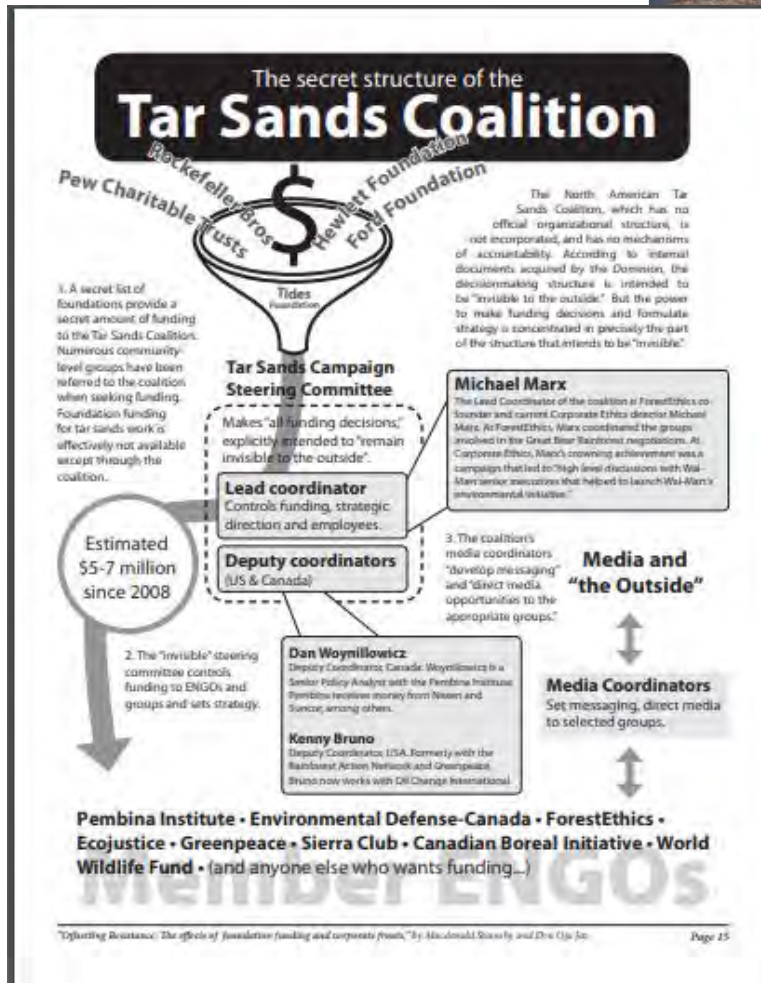
Information about Canadian charities, their finances and activities can be found here.

The online magazine “CounterPunch” exposes an anti-oil sands campaign funded by the Tides Foundation, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Oak Foundation and others that began in about 2010.⁵ The objective of this campaign was to embarrass Canada, weaken the Alberta government and “reduce the attractiveness of the Alberta oil industry for the companies themselves, investors and financiers”, as stated in the campaign’s original strategy paper.

TAR SANDS CAMPAIGN STRATEGY 2.1

Michael J. Marx, Ph.D.
Corporate Ethics International

OCTOBER 2008



This graphic is from “Offsetting Resistance” from a link within the Counterpunch article illustrates their perceived sources and flow of money and some of the parties.

⁵ <https://www.counterpunch.org/2013/10/16/how-tides-canada-controls-the-secret-north-american-tar-sands-coalition/>

Oak Foundation commits its resources to address issues of global social and environmental concern

Home »

Programme Environment ▼
 Year <Any> ▼
 Country canada

Keywords

Organisation	Programme	Country	Year	Amount
DeSmog Canada	Environment	Canada	2013	USD 217,960
West Coast Environmental Law Association	Environment	Canada	2013	USD 146,142
Dogwood Initiative	Environment	Canada	2013	USD 229,128
Tides Foundation	Environment	Canada	2013	USD 198,985
Tides Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2013	USD 59,512
Global Campaign for Climate Action	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 525,000
Global Campaign for Climate Action	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 75,000
New Venture Fund	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 1,000,000
Pembina Institute	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 404,533
Equiterre	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 304,290
Ecology Action Center	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 99,999
RAVEN (Respecting Aboriginal Values & Environmental Needs)	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 50,906
Tides Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 25,000
Tides Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2012	USD 301,993
Living Oceans Society	Environment	Canada	2011	USD 104,641
University of British Columbia	Environment	Canada	2011	USD 79,775
Global Campaign for Climate Action	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 73,746
Global Campaign for Climate Action	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 1,000,000
Climate Action Network Canada - Réseau action climat Canada	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 47,897
Environmental Defence Canada	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 426,857

1 2 3 next > last »

Source: Past screenshots of Oak Foundation online grant database up to 2013 showing Canadian grants.

Oak Foundation commits its resources to address issues of global social and environmental concern

Home »

Programme Environment ▾ **Year** <Any> ▾ **Country** canada
Keywords

Organisation	Programme	Country	Year	Amount
Tides Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 50,000
West Coast Environmental Law	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 97,131
Pembina Institute	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 484,106
Greenpeace Canada	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 424,373
World Wildlife Fund Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2010	USD 300,000
Global Campaign for Climate Action	Environment	Canada	2009	USD 2,500,000
Tides Foundation	Environment	Canada	2009	USD 700,000
Pew Charitable Trusts	Environment	Canada	2009	USD 300,000
World Wildlife Fund Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2008	USD 200,702
Climate Action Network Canada - Réseau action climat Canada	Environment	Canada	2008	USD 299,461
Ecology Action Center	Environment	Canada	2008	USD 280,584
Equiterre	Environment	Canada	2008	USD 376,861
Living Oceans Society	Environment	Canada	2008	USD 485,057
Ecotrust Canada	Environment	Canada	2008	USD 442,044
Greenpeace Canada	Environment	Canada	2007	USD 436,675
Environment Northeast	Environment	Canada	2007	USD 200,004
University of British Columbia	Environment	Canada	2007	USD 300,000
Pembina Institute	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 51,458
Equiterre	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 263,408
Ecotrust Canada	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 129,556

« first < previous 1 2 3 next > last »

Home »

Programme Environment ▾ **Year** <Any> ▾ **Country** canada
Keywords

Organisation	Programme	Country	Year	Amount
Pollution Probe Foundation The	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 86,780
New Brunswick Lung Association	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 86,397
Ecology Action Center	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 87,877
Ontario Sustainable Energy Association	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 98,239
Tides Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 440,587
National Environmental Trust	Environment	Canada	2006	USD 75,000
Pembina Institute	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 269,971
Tides Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 208,181
Sierra Club of Canada Foundation	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 217,893
Environment Northeast	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 138,090
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - BC Chapter	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 156,043
Ecotrust Canada	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 293,479
Living Oceans Society	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 200,000
University of British Columbia	Environment	Canada	2005	USD 242,000

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There is a special irony in that the U.S. records show that DeSmogBlog Society, whose online reports frequently allege that Canadian climate skeptics are funded by the oil industry, was originally endowed by the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation⁶ and received a grant of \$75,000 from the Tides Foundation in 2014.

DeSmog Canada Funding

DeSmog Canada is incorporated as a non-profit society under the B.C. Societies Act. We are funded by individuals and foundations that care about climate change, democracy, science and the environment. Since our launch, hundreds of readers have donated to support our independent journalism. In addition, we are grateful to accept funding from philanthropic foundations that support our mission.

In 2017, DeSmog Canada implemented policies on [editorial independence](#) and [donor transparency](#), based on those adopted by the Institute for Nonprofit News. As a part of our donor transparency policy, we disclose most donors who give DeSmog Canada more than \$5,000 in a fiscal year. Some individuals may request anonymity due to privacy concerns, but anonymous donations of more than \$5,000 shall not comprise more than 15 per cent of our total budget in any given year.

Here's how our funding breaks down for fiscal year 2015/2016.

Financial Year	Funder (Donor, Client, Partner)	Revenue Received	Project
2016	Wilburforce Foundation	\$154,165.71	Core Support
2016	Oak Foundation	\$79,190.00	Core Support
2016	Salal Foundation	\$26,857.14	B.C. Mining Research
2016	442 Individual Gifts Less than \$5,000	\$17,858.49	Core Support
2016	Spake Media House Inc.	\$9,523.81	Lobbyist Database Research
		\$287,595.15	

Source: DeSmog website

⁶ Wikipedia: The **Rockefeller Foundation** is a [private foundation](#) based at 420 Fifth Avenue, New York City.^[4] It was established by the six-generation [Rockefeller family](#). The Foundation was started by [Standard Oil](#) owner [John D. Rockefeller](#) ("Senior"), along with his son [John D. Rockefeller Jr.](#) ("Junior"), and Senior's principal oil and gas business and philanthropic advisor, [Frederick Taylor Gates](#), in [New York State](#) on May 14, 1913, when its charter was formally accepted by the New York State Legislature.^[5] Its stated mission is "promoting the well-being of humanity throughout the world."^[3]

The Oak Foundation is not the only U.S. Foundation actively involved in trying to shape the global warming debate in Canada. The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation is one of several funders of environmental activism in British Columbia. An organization known as the “International Funders of Indigenous Peoples” features an interesting collection of international players.⁷ In their 9th Annual Conference report of 2010, they openly explain how aboriginal and environmental groups plan to band together to block Keystone XL pipeline in order to shut down the oil sands.

As Nisbet reported, ClimateWorks makes large grants to certain ENGOs or to intermediary foundations like TIDES Canada, which in turn regrants to dozens of recipients – some of them for clearly charitable, humanitarian grounds, others apparently for tar sands campaign objectives.

There is no doubt that, of all the foreign presences, Tides and the Tides Canada Foundation historically have had the most far reaching effects on the Canadian economy. Tides Canada Foundation is a registered Canadian charity and is equivalent in law to a 501 c 3 charity in the United States. A significant share of the revenue of Tides Canada is from the U.S.

Tides Canada Foundation	
2015-17	
Revenues	\$ 78,337,712
Foreign	\$ 33,736,422
Current assets	\$ 67,586,824
Grants	815
Grant \$	\$ 33,719,414

Source: CRA Charity Directorate

The past three years (2015-17) of filings with CCRA indicate that Tides Canada Foundation has had aggregate revenues of over \$78-million, with over \$21-million from foreign donors. Over that same time Assets have grown to over \$67-million. Over this same period Tides has reported over 800 grantmaking activities worth nearly \$34-million. Over the past decade, Tides Canada Foundation has funded major campaigns against all of Canada’s main resource-based industries: forestry, mining, oil and gas, and salmon farming.

Conference Sponsors

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Kalliopeia Foundation
Kenny Family Foundation,
Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation
for the Americas
The Christensen Fund
The Mailman Foundation
SEEDS for Communities
Tides Canada
The Ocean Foundation
Walter and Duncan Gordon
Foundation**



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Elena Moreno, Executive Director, Circulos
Paul Kenny, Kenny Family Foundation
Susan Smitten, Communications Director, RAVEN, Respecting Aboriginal Values & Environmental Needs

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⁷ <http://internationalfunders.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/IFIPConferenceReport2010.pdf>

The Largest Source of Green Funding – Taxpayers

As I noted previously, even if one had unlimited time to research how much funding is provided by governments to pay for global warming-inspired mitigation measures and “social marketing” communications programs, it is not reported anywhere in a clear and comprehensive way. To gain an insight into the amount of money spent each year, I reviewed the Main Estimates (Part II) of the federal government. That document indicates the actual expenditures of the government of Canada for fiscal years 2016-17 and 2017-18 and the planned (i.e. budgeted) expenditures for 2018-19 under a number of purposes, or themes, and then in terms of specific grants and contributions. Table 2 shows the accounts for Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) as they relate to climate programs.

Table 2

2018-19 Expenditures by Purpose (million dollars)

<u>Department</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Capital</u>	<u>Transfer</u> <u>Payments</u>	<u>Total</u>
ECCC	Climate	75.9	5.6	494.3	575.3
NRCan	Sustainable Development	263.3	7.9	319.8	564.3

The totals listed in Table 2 include the effects of revenues and fees received, as well as expenditures made, by the departments.

Table 3 shows the ECCC transfer payments (grants and contributions) directly related to the climate theme.

Table 3

2018-19 Transfer Payments (\$ million)

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
Low Carbon Economy Fund	n/a	467.7
Climate Change and Clean Air	30.4	30.7
Sustainable Ecosystems	8.1	12.3
Total	38.5	510.7



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Table 4 shows the NRCan transfer payments directly related to climate, including financial support for renewable energy, alternative energy sources and energy efficiency.

Table 4
2018-19 Transfer Payments (\$ million)

<u>Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
Clean Technology Challenges	n/a	19.7
Outreach and Engagement	1.8	3.0
ecoEnergy for Renewable Power	119.6	106.7
Clean Growth and Innovation	n/a	46.1
Energy Innovation Program	106.1	46.0
Smart Grids Program	n/a	23.3
Emerging Renewable Power Program	n/a	23.2
Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuels	10.9	16.7
Clean Energy for Remote Communities	n/a	14.3
Energy Efficiency	3.6	9.5
Clean Technology Challenges	n/a	6.6
Climate Change Adaptation	1.0	5.9
Total	243.0	321.0

These expenditures do not include spending by the government on its own programs, but rather the money that it transfers to other orders of government or to private organizations. They cover a wide range of activities, not all of which relate to public communications and “engagement”. Together, however, they create powerful incentives for Canadians to buy into the prevailing policy message that climate change mitigation is an imperative and that that many citizens can benefit from the measures.

The increase in planned expenditures from 2017-18 to 2018-19 is especially striking. For just two departments of government, the increase totals \$550 million. Almost \$468 million of this is on the Low Carbon Economy Fund.

When announced in October 2017, the Low Carbon Economy Fund was described as an important part of the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change. According to the government’s announcement, it would “*leverage investments in projects that will generate clean growth and reduce greenhouse gas emissions towards meeting or exceeding commitments under the Paris Agreement.*” It will be split into two parts:

- The Low Carbon Economy Leadership Fund will provide \$1.4 billion to provinces and territories that have adopted the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change and have implemented the carbon taxes or cap-and-trade regimes consistent with the federal framework. Provinces that refuse to participate in the federally-mandated regime, like Ontario and Saskatchewan, will not be eligible to receive revenues from the Low Carbon Leadership Fund.
- The remainder of the funding of the Low Carbon Economy Fund will be available for the Low Carbon Economy Challenge. The Low Carbon Economy Challenge will support projects that are submitted by all provinces and territories, as well as municipalities, Indigenous governments and organizations, businesses and both not-for-profit and for-profit organizations.

When these programs were launched, the natural assumption might have been that they would be funded from revenues received from carbon taxes. If, as the Trudeau government is now claiming, the revenues from carbon taxes will be largely returned to Canadian households (but not Canadian businesses), the funding of these large new expenditures would have to come from new taxes yet to be announced or from increasing the federal deficit.

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Government funding - World Wildlife Fund Canada / David Miller, President and Chief Executive Officer

Government funding

End date of the last completed financial year: 2015-06-30

Government Institution	Funding Received in Last Financial Year	Funding Expected in Current Financial Year
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA)	\$8,400.00	No
Environment and Climate Change Canada (Environment Canada)	\$167,490.68	Yes
Government of Nova Scotia	\$8,528.00	No

[Government funding in previous versions](#)



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Professional activists

Richard Moss
involved with the IPCC for 20 years during part of that time he was employed as a Vice-President of the World Wildlife Fund

Bill Hare
considered a Greenpeace 'legend' one of only 40 people on the IPCC's "core writing team" for the 2007 *Synthesis Report*

Author Donna Laframboise reported in her book "The Delinquent Teenager" that Greenpeace and WWF 'legends' played key roles in UN IPCC climate panel reports that governments rely upon for setting climate policy and carbon taxes. See her presentation:

<https://friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=60>

Conclusion

As indicated by the title, this paper has offered only a partial glimpse into the funding of climate alarmist views in Canada. Far too much is hidden, or the records are simply not available to the public, to provide the basis for a better analysis. A glimpse, however, is better than what the Canadian media or our academics have provided so far.

Contrary to public, or at least media, perception, the organizations that support the more alarmist view of the climate change issue have enormous financial resources at their disposal to spread their message and to promote both increased use of non-fossil fuel alternatives and reduced investment in and use of fossil fuels. United States foundations are spending more than U.S. \$100 million per year; comparable amounts are being raised by European organizations like the Oak Foundation of Switzerland. The precise amount of funds coming to Canadian groups from foreign sources is not known, but clearly millions of dollars are involved, to add to the substantial funds they receive from private donations within Canada – in most cases, in return for a tax receipt. All of this pales by comparison to the over \$1 billion per year that the federal government spends to promote its climate vision and the counterpart funding of provincial and municipal governments.

Those who support the thesis that humans are causing catastrophic global warming and that Canada, despite its small share of global emissions, should pay dearly to transform its economy to a decarbonized one will respond that the Canadian petroleum industry spends large amounts to promote an alternative view. The only problem they face is the complete absence of any evidence to support their case.

The few organizations in Canada that express a skeptical view of the catastrophe thesis and of the need for costly measures to reduce Canadian emissions generally operate on bare bones budgets with part-time or volunteer staff, zero funding from governments, and very little if anything from private industry. Yet, they play a vital role in offering a counter-view to the prevailing orthodoxy, one supportive of Canada's economic wellbeing.

Regardless of where one stands on the global warming issue, it should be common cause to increase the transparency of the funding of political and policy proponents. There is no good reason why Canadians should have to go to the records of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to find out how much money is coming in from other countries to finance charities with major lobbying and activist roles in Canada; the Canada Revenue Agency should demand no less disclosure from charitable foundations here than those required in the U.S. Further, where it is clear that a substantial portion of a non-profit organization's funding is being used to support political activism and to lobby governments, it is not at all demonstrated why these organizations should be afforded the privilege granted to genuinely charitable non-profit organizations providing a public good. Finally, the federal and provincial governments should, as a matter of public transparency as well as fiscal prudence and good management, develop a comprehensive accounting of the public funds now being spent to promote the climate agenda, and of the cost-effectiveness of such expenditures.

It is time to take the mask off the big green funding machine.

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*About the Author*

Robert Lyman is an Ottawa energy policy consultant, former public servant of 27 years and a diplomat for 10 years prior to that.

**Friends of Science Society** is an independent group of earth, atmospheric and solar scientists, engineers, and citizens who are celebrating its 16th year of offering climate science insights. After a thorough review of a broad spectrum of literature on climate change, Friends of Science Society has concluded that the sun is the main driver of climate change, not carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>).

Friends of Science Society

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