



DAVID SUZUKI
FOUNDATION
One nature.

2017 WINS

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT





THANK YOU

This report highlights some of the many successes you made possible in 2017.

You brought us closer than ever to protecting our right to fresh air, clean drinking water and healthy food in federal law.

You stood with the people of Grassy Narrows in their fight for clean water and social justice.

You helped expand pollinator-friendly Butterflyways throughout the country, protect snapping turtles in Ontario and ban grizzly bear hunting in B.C.

You made it possible for three scholars to bring their exciting climate research to the Foundation.

You helped expose pollution in B.C.'s fracking industry, protect the St. Lawrence and end the largest pipeline project in North America.

And, thanks to you, for the first time ever, the federal government included money for natural asset projects in its budget.

These are your wins.

Together we can protect the legal right to a healthy environment for all people in Canada, continue to combat climate change and assist the many creatures and diverse ecosystems on which we depend.

Thank you again for your contributions. Our work is only possible because of your support.

I look forward to our continued partnership in 2018.

Sincerely,

Stephen Cornish, CEO



2017 WINS

ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

“The basic necessities of health, well-being and life shouldn’t be subject to the shifting agendas of political parties. That’s why Canada should recognize the right to a healthy environment.”

DAVID SUZUKI



SECURING ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

The Blue Dot movement is a national grassroots campaign based on the idea that everyone in Canada deserves the right to clean air and water, safe food, healthy ecosystems and a say in decisions that affect our health and well-being. Our goal is to have these rights recognized in federal law for the benefit of all people in Canada.

In October, the federal government announced it will review proposed changes to the Canadian Environmental Protection Act by June. We're hopeful that in 2018, the right to a healthy environment will be included in federal law for the first time.

Thanks to you, since 2014, more than **110,000 people throughout Canada** have added their voices to the call to have these rights protected.

Together we've:



Helped reach **163 municipal declarations** in support of environmental rights throughout the country — representing almost half of Canada's population!



Generated more than **21,000 letters to members of Parliament** asking them to enshrine the right to a healthy environment in federal law.



Enabled the submission of more than **80 letters to local newspapers.**



Sparked **dozens of online videos** telling the environment minister why we need to amend Canada's Environmental Protection Act.



Generated more than **600 tweets to government** asking it to grant a holiday wish by recognizing the right to a healthy environment.



STANDING WITH GRASSY NARROWS

The people of Grassy Narrows First Nation fought for more than 40 years for access to safe water. In 1962, a pulp and paper mill dumped 9,000 kilograms of untreated mercury waste into the Wabigoon River system they rely on.

We campaigned to support the people of Grassy Narrows in their quest for social justice. You added your voice and made it possible for us to hand-deliver more than 10,000 signatures to Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne in support of Grassy Narrows.

In February, Premier Wynne committed \$84 million to clean up the toxic mess. The provincial government also recently committed funding for a mercury treatment home, after the Foundation and others supported the people of Grassy Narrows' demand. Although it is long overdue, we look forward to seeing this remediation and restoration work completed.

CLEAN WATER FOR ALL

Everyone in Canada has a right to clean water, yet more than 100 drinking water advisories are regularly in effect in Indigenous communities across the country.

The federal government promised to end all First Nations' long-term drinking water advisories by 2020.

With your help, we led a coalition of organizations to monitor federal progress and found that the government is not on track to fulfil its commitments. We're continuing to ask the government to live up to its promise to end the First Nations water crisis.

The facts:



As of fall 2016, Canada had **156 drinking water advisories** affecting **110 First Nations communities**, many of which are recurring or ongoing.



At **81 advisories**, Ontario claims the highest number in the country. Some advisories have been in place for more than 20 years.



The 2016 federal budget included **\$1.8 billion** to help resolve the crisis by 2020, in addition to funding it has already invested in First Nations water infrastructure, operations and management, yet the government is not on track to meet its commitment.



2017 WINS

PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY

“When we forget that we are embedded
in the natural world, we also forget
that what we do to our surroundings
we are doing to ourselves.”

DAVID SUZUKI



PHOTO: JODE ROBERTS

BLOOMING BUTTERFLYWAYS

The Butterflyway Project is a citizen-led movement that is growing highways of habitat for bees and butterflies through neighbourhoods in five communities.

Last spring and summer, more than 150 volunteer Butterflyway Rangers spent countless hours creating welcoming spaces for pollinators in Markham, Montreal, Richmond, Toronto and Victoria.

We trained Rangers in pollination science, plant species and sustainable gardening practices. They went out into their communities to plant seeds, wildflowers and ideas.

The Rangers held educational community events and celebratory musical parades, shared information on social media, and planted pollinator-friendly patches in home gardens, schoolyards and neighbourhood parks, on rooftops and balconies. They even followed the flow of a long-buried river with canoe gardens!

With your help, this project truly blossomed this year. So we're expanding it to more neighbourhoods in 2018.

We are a part of nature and must live within its limits. It is our responsibility to **respect, **protect** and **restore** all our relations in the natural world.**

Globally, since 1970:



Terrestrial species have declined by **39 per cent**.



Marine species have declined by **39 per cent** and freshwater species have declined by **76 per cent**.



Wildlife populations have declined globally by an average of **58 per cent** since 1970. This is projected to reach **67 per cent** by 2020.



Insect populations have declined by **45 per cent** since 1974.

ENDING THE SNAPPING TURTLE HUNT

In 2012, the Foundation released *The Road to Extinction: A Call to End the Snapping Turtle Hunt*, in partnership with Ontario Nature and the Kawartha Turtle Trauma Centre.

Science showed the hunt was unsustainable, in part because it can take 17 to 20 years for a female to lay her first clutch of eggs, making populations exceptionally vulnerable to increased adult mortality. Snapping turtles also have low egg and juvenile survival rates and are at risk due to lost wetland habitat. Hunting them only makes matters worse.

We met with Ontario government officials in February 2017 to share the science. Thousands of Foundation supporters also asked the government to close the hunt.

In April, the Ontario government ended the hunting of snapping turtles, a necessary move to protect this species of “special concern.”

Snapping turtles have been around some 40 million years. Thanks to you, they now have a better chance of surviving.



PHOTO: MICK THOMPSON

BANNING GRIZZLY BEAR HUNTING

The David Suzuki Foundation has campaigned for an end to **the** killing of grizzly bears for close to 15 years. We've published numerous scientific studies on grizzly bear management, mobilized thousands of B.C. residents in opposition to the trophy hunt and successfully convinced B.C.'s auditor general to open an investigation into the trophy hunt and other grizzly bear policies.

Thanks to your support, the B.C. government officially banned grizzly bear hunting, initially in B.C.'s Great Bear Rainforest and later throughout the province. Hundreds of grizzly bears will be spared. Their pelts, paws, heads and other body parts will no longer be displayed by foreign or local hunters as trophies.

2017 WINS CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

“Protecting Earth’s climate is the challenge of our time. There is no more important obligation to the world.”

DAVID SUZUKI





EXPOSING B.C.'S FRACKING INDUSTRY

Our groundbreaking research, in partnership with St. Francis Xavier University, revealed that methane pollution from well drilling and tapping in B.C.'s oil and gas industry is at least 2.5 times higher than the former provincial government claimed or reported for the entire industry (well drilling and development, gas capture and processing).

This massive underestimate is the climate pollution equivalent of burning more than 4.5 million tonnes of

coal, or putting more than two million cars on the road in B.C.

Your support helped show Canadians that fugitive methane emissions in the oil and gas industry are much higher than anyone previously anticipated. We look forward to working with the new government to reduce methane emissions in the province and lead the transition to a clean-energy economy.



Over a 20-year period, methane is **84 times more potent** as a greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.



Methane is responsible for **25 per cent** of already observed changes to Earth's climate.



Cutting methane emissions from oil and gas is one of the **cheapest** and **most effective** ways to address climate change.



PHOTO: BRANDON LAM

COUNTING NATURE IN

Healthy natural systems provide everything we need to survive. Trees store carbon and cool cities. Watersheds clean the air and water. Wetlands are the best defence against floods.

For the first time ever, Canadian natural asset projects will have access to funding.

We successfully lobbied the federal government to count nature in. When it released its 2017 budget in March, it included a \$9.2 billion Green Infrastructure Stream.

With your support, we also developed tools for communities to include natural infrastructure in their decision-making. And we worked with five municipal governments across Canada to show the efficiency of this approach.

Now governments have the data and tools to help them decide when and how to include natural capital assets in their operating budgets. Instead of building water treatment plants and stormwater systems, they're letting nature do the work, often at lower cost.

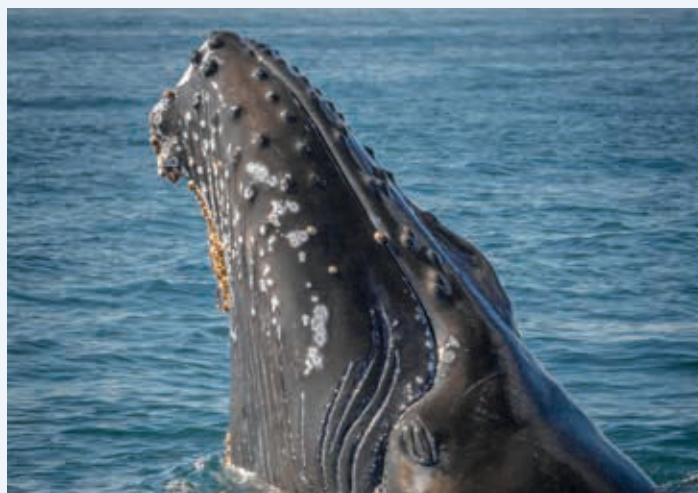
PROTECTING THE ST. LAWRENCE

After years of campaigning, 2017 saw a number of victories for the St. Lawrence, the people who live along its shores and the creatures that live in its waters, including the iconic beluga whale.

In August, the Quebec government cancelled oil and gas exploration on Anticosti Island. The largest island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence will now be proposed as a UNESCO world heritage site.

In September, TransCanada cancelled the Energy East pipeline project, which threatened the drinking water supply of 3.7 million people in Quebec.

With your support, the Foundation had been campaigning to stop the pipeline project since 2013. Tens of thousands came together in an unprecedented mobilization of environmental groups, citizens,



scientists, artists, unions, elected municipal officials and Indigenous communities.

The fact that the economics of this major fossil fuel project no longer make sense is a major statement that Canada is in the process of transitioning to a clean energy economy.



PHOTO: WWW.SHANNONRUTHDIONNE.COM

FUNDING THE FIRST FELLOWS

David Suzuki Fellowships offer the chance for young scholars to continue their research while being mentored by David Suzuki and Foundation staff. The spirit of the fellowships is to embody David Suzuki's special strengths: science excellence and the ability to inspire people to action.

Thanks to your support, three inaugural fellows joined the Foundation. Melina Laboucan-Massimo, Jérôme Laviolette and Brett Dolter are each working on unique climate research respectively focusing on Indigenous knowledge, transportation and economics.

In September, they presented their climate research projects and participated in professional development workshops, learning about media and government relations, communications and more.

After a successful first year, three new fellows will be joining us soon. They'll continue finding climate solutions to accelerate Canada's transition to a low-carbon future, focusing on:

- How climate change communications can ignite the movement toward a lower-carbon future
- Ways to integrate traditional Indigenous knowledge into climate change solutions
- Research into climate change adaptation and the development of sustainable cities

We're excited to see the program continue in 2018.

FINANCIALS



DONORS

Thank you for your generosity. We depend on thousands of individual Canadians, foundations and businesses to make our work possible. This list includes donors who contributed \$10,000 and above between September 1, 2016, and August 31, 2017.

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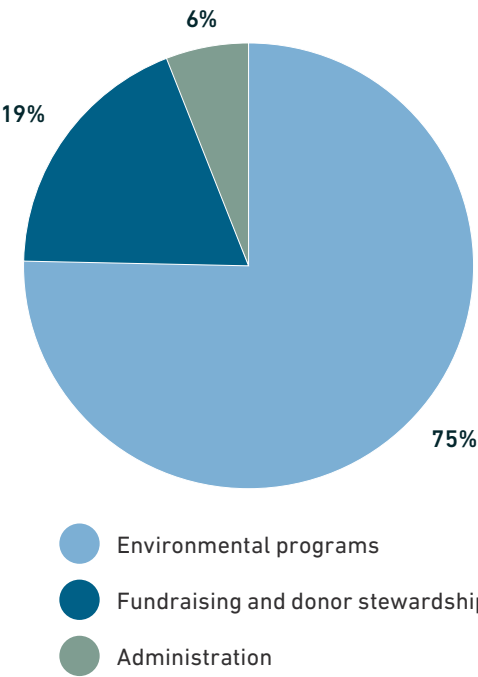


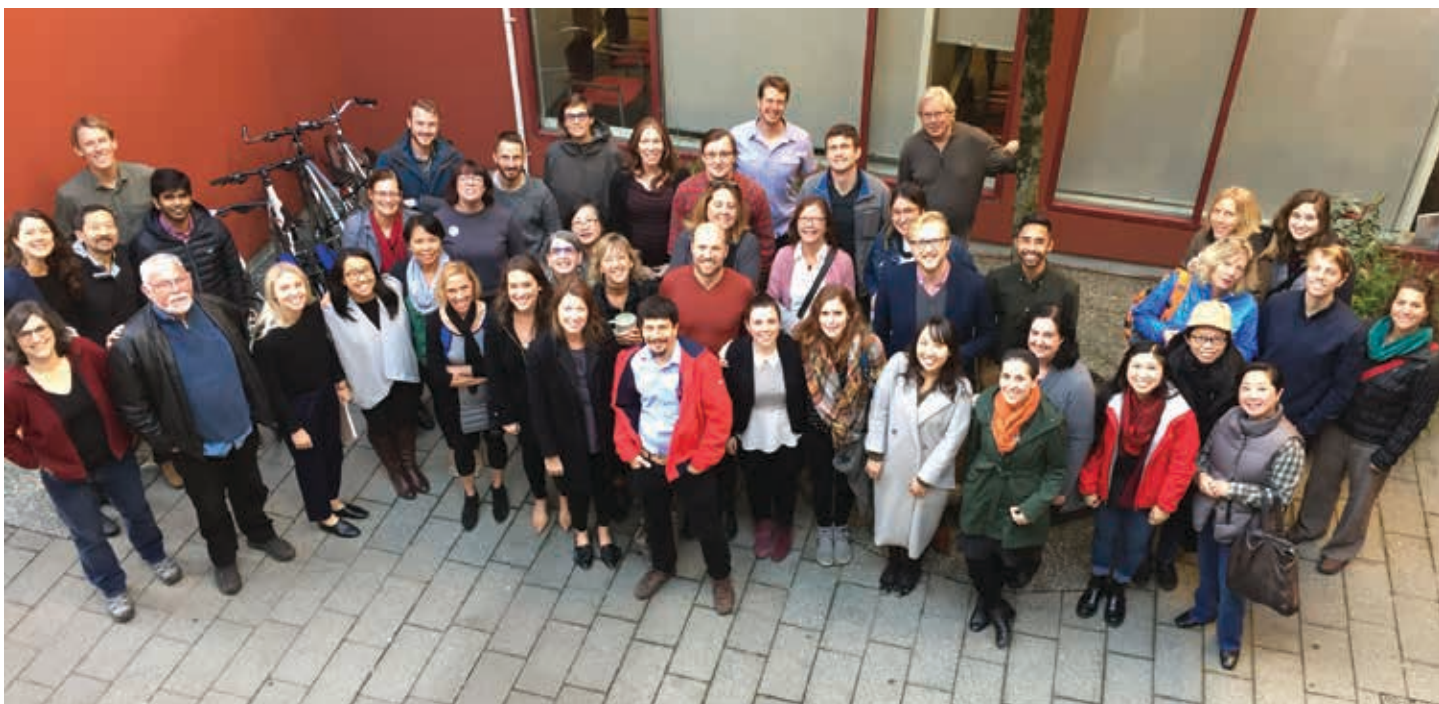
YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

A wide range of sources, including tens of thousands of small, individual donations, power our work. This grassroots form of fundraising and donor stewardship allows us to be fully independent.

Year ended August 31 2017,
with comparative figures for 2016

	2017	2016
Revenue	9,706,208	10,335,958
Expenses	9,802,099	9,947,313
Gain on endowment fund investments	641,032	597,350
Excess of revenue over expenses	545,141	985,995





Staff at our Vancouver office.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR DONATIONS OR THE PROGRAMS YOU SUPPORT?

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