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Tides Canada's one grant for \$7.7 million (2010) to Tides Canada Initiatives Society

From: VIVIAN KRAUSE <vivian.krause@me.com>
 To: Ross McMillan <ross.mcmillan@tidescanada.org>
 Date: March 07, 2012 2:00:20 PM
[TCF TCIS \\$7,762,427 border....jpg \(65.1 KB\)](#)

Mr. McMillan,

I noticed recently that the U.S. tax return for Tides Canada is now publicly available at the web-site of Guidestar.

I also notice that in your tax return for 2010, Tides Canada did not itemize specific grants to Tides Canada Initiatives Society's specific projects as you had done in 2009. In my opinion, this amounts to a move backwards on your part in terms of transparency and openness. In 2009, Tides Canada specified 25 grants to Tides Canada Initiatives Society for a total of \$5.3 million whereas in 2010, Tides Canada made only one huge grant for \$7.7 million.

Tides Canada Initiatives	13056 0188 RR0001	Canada	to support TCI's projects in the areas of social inclusion and civic engagement, leadership development and capacity building, food, environmental conservation, waters and oceans, climate and energy solutions	7,762,427
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Source: Tides Canada's U.S. tax return. 2010.

Would you please provide information about the specific projects that Tides Canada Foundation funded in 2010, through Tides Canada Initiatives Society, for a total of \$7.7 million?

At my blog, I have written about this. (Click [here](#)). For your review, I have provided this material below. If I have mentioned anything here that is factually incorrect or if I have missed any important points, please let me know.

You'll note that I have also posted the .pdfs of Tides Canada Foundation's U.S. tax returns for the years for which I have been able to obtain these. (Click [here](#)). Once again, I would like to appeal to you to please post your U.S. tax returns at your web-site so that Canadians can see for themselves what your organization is funding.

Sincerely,
 Vivian Krause
 604.618.8110

Less Transparency in Tides Canada's 2010 Tax Return

The CEO of Tides Canada, Ross McMillan, has called for "[open, honest debate about our energy future](#)." As groundwork for such a debate, I asked Mr. McMillan ([by Twitter](#)) if Tides Canada would please post its American tax returns at its web-site. For more than a year, I have been requesting by e-mail that Tides Canada would please make its [U.S. tax returns](#) publicly available. The I.R.S. requires greater disclosure than the C.R.A. so ironically, one needs to read the American tax returns of Tides Canada in order to find out specifically what it has been funding.

Tides Canada has two entities: [Tides Canada Foundation](#) (TCF) and [Tides Canada Initiatives Society](#) (TCIS). TCF has equivalency status in the U.S. and files U.S. tax returns but to the best of my knowledge, TCIS does not. In essence, what this means, as I see it, is that whatever Tides Canada spends under the banner of TCIS doesn't need to get reported to the I.R.S. - at least not in as much detail.

Over the years, TCF has transferred substantial funds each year to TCIS. In fact, for most years - except 2008 when TCF transferred [\\$27.3 million](#) to B.C. First Nations *in a single cheque* - TCIS has been the biggest recipient of funds from TCF.

In 2009, TCF made [25 grants to TCIS for a total of \\$5.3 million](#). The stated purpose of each of these grants was reported by Tides Canada in its U.S. tax return for 2009 so we could see how much money TCF allocated to each project. For example, in 2009 Tides Canada reported:

- [\\$848,966](#) on the [Rainforest Solutions Project](#) "in support of ongoing work to implement ecosystem-based management in the Great Bear Rainforest." The groups that make up the Rainforest Solutions Project are [Forest Ethics Canada, Greenpeace, and the Sierra Club of B.C.](#), according to the project's web-site.
- [\\$783,603](#) "for capacity building support of [Forest Ethics Canada](#)."
- [\\$505,134](#) for the [Turning Point Initiative \(Coastal First Nations\)](#) "to implement ecosystem-based management in the Great Bear Rainforest."
- And so on.... for more about Tides Canada's 2009 grants, click [here](#).

Last week, Tides Canada's [U.S. tax return for 2010](#) became publicly available at the web-site of [Guidestar](#), an American organization that routinely gathers and publicizes the tax returns of American foundations and charities.

In the list of grants for 2010 that Tides Canada included in its 2010 tax return, TCF simply reports one transfer to TCIS for a whopping total of [\\$7.7 million](#). The stated purpose of this grant is "to support TCI's projects in the areas of social inclusion and civic engagement, leadership development and capacity building, food, environmental conservation, waters and oceans, climate and energy solutions."

Tides Canada Initiatives	13096 0188 R60001	Canada	to support TCI's projects in the areas of social inclusion and civic engagement, leadership development and capacity building, food, environmental conservation, waters and oceans, climate and energy solutions	7,762,427
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Source: Tides Canada's U.S. tax return, 2010.

Because TCF does not itemize specific grants for specific projects run by TCIS, as it did in 2009, it is not possible to know how much TCF allocated to various projects such as Forest Ethics, the "Tar Sands Education campaign," Hollyhock, The Turning Point Initiative, Canopy, the Tye, and so on. In this way, it seems to me that there is far less transparency on the part of Tides Canada in its U.S. tax return for 2010 than there was in 2009.

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**Tides Canada Foundation's 2010 Grant to Tides Canada Initiatives Society:
One Grant for \$7,762,467 (2010)**

Name of Organization	SNR-Organization No.	Region	Purpose	Amount	Manner of Disbursement	Amount of Cash Assistance	Amount of Non-Cash Assistance	Method of Valuation
Stephen Leacock Foundation for Children	R600141	Canada	for general support, to assist the Lorne McLean Day Camp	37,886	cheque	0	0	
Stephen Leves Foundation	R6001408	Canada	for general support	21,960	cheque	0	0	
Steele Kids International	12980 7819 R60001	Canada	to support the "One Day I will do something else" Project	13,934	cheque	0	0	
T. Bush Rubin Environmental Foundation	13324 4224 R60001	Canada	to support the Cook Moby Project, the conservation of wild salmon on the north coast and Steene watershed of British Columbia and the Long Chain Society	98,136	cheque	0	0	
Take A Hike - Youth At Risk Foundation	R6001411	Canada	for general support	6,769	cheque	0	0	
Tides Canada Initiatives	13096 0188 R60001	Canada	to support TCI's projects in the areas of social inclusion and civic engagement, leadership development and capacity building, food, environmental conservation, waters and oceans, climate and energy solutions	7,762,427	transfer	0	0	
The Arts Scholarship Fund	R6001412	Canada	for general support	20,516	cheque	0	0	
The Power of Hoop Society	R6001413	Canada	for general support and to support the Teen Empowerment Project	10,660	cheque	0	0	
Toronto Transportation Institute Foundation	11425 1336 R60001	Canada	to support the Centre Walk	16,830	cheque	0	0	
Track Youth Initiatives Inc.	1408 0188 R60001	Canada	for general support	13,651	cheque	0	0	
UCC - Sander School of Business	14816 1776 R60001	Canada	to support the "Opening Windows Building Campaign"	18,418	cheque	0	0	
Urban Mission for Men	14219 2389 R60001	Canada	to support Second Step Housing	13,137	cheque	0	0	
University of Saint Columba - Ontario	14816 1776 R60001	Canada	to support Saint Charly Community Volunteer Council Project Fund	11,813	cheque	0	0	
Upper Grand Island Sp. Initiative #3	R6001416	Canada	to support the playground project at Aberfoyle Public School	9,739	cheque	0	0	
VanDusen Aquaponic Conservation Fund	R6001415	Canada	to support the creation of a work plan for development of an ocean-based coastal management infrastructure demonstration project	18,418	cheque	0	0	
West Coast Environmental Law Research Foundation	11425 1336 R60001	Canada	to support the Indigenous Traditions and Law project	7,825	cheque	0	0	
Wild Pacific Trail Society	R6001417	Canada	for general support	47,139	cheque	0	0	
Woodchuck Receptacle Fabric Foundation	R6001418	Canada	for the arena construction project	47,962	cheque	0	0	
Woodlands Fund Canada - Toronto	11425 1336 R60001	Canada	to support research around British Columbia public attitudes about implementation of the Lacey Waste Stream report	15,362	cheque	0	0	
York House School Society	11425 1336 R60001	Canada	for the waste campaign	24,273	cheque	0	0	
Young Women's Christian Assoc of Greater Toronto	19227 8963 R60001	Canada	to support the Sun Centre Campaign	30,874	cheque	0	0	
Yuan Conservation Society	11425 1336 R60001	Canada	to support the "Partnering to Protect the Past Watershed" and "Whitewater History" projects	8,291	cheque	0	0	

Source: Tides Canada's U.S. tax return, 2010.

Tides Canada Foundation's 2009 Grants to Tides Canada Initiatives Society: 25 Separate, Itemized Grants for \$5.3 Million (2009)

Grantee	Region	Purpose	Grant Amount (in USD)	Manner of Disbursement	Amount of Cash Assistance	Amount of Non-Cash Assistance	Method of Valuation
F. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation	Canada	to support the North Coast Energy Impact Education campaign, per Canada grant proposal dated October 30, 2009	30,549	cheque	0	0	
Take A Hike - Youth At Risk Foundation	Canada	for general support and in support of 2 expeditions for 40 youth in support of John Norquay Elementary's Multicultural Project's work with an Artist-in-Residence in order to publish dual language books for the school library	10,546	cheque	0	0	
The Board of Education of School District No. 39 (Vancouver)	Canada	to help with costs for sending Quinson Elementary's Tapestry Choir to the Edmonton Centennial Festival	5,254	cheque	0	0	
The Calgary Board of Education - Capitol Hill Elementary	Canada	for playground replacement at Capitol Hill Elementary	8,757	cheque	0	0	
The Calgary Board of Education - Capitol Hill Elementary	Canada	for general support	10,773	cheque	0	0	
The Right to the World Group	Canada	for general support	76,160	cheque	0	0	
Tides Canada Initiatives - Canadian Biotechnology Action Network	Canada	in support of CSAN's "Not in My Fridge - Not in Our Future" project	7,185	cheque	0	0	
Tides Canada Initiatives - Canadians for Climate Leadership	Canada	for general support of Canadians for Climate Leadership project	307,581	cheque	0	0	
Tides Canada Initiatives - Canopy (aka							

Grant	Region	Purpose	Grant Amount (in US\$)	Manner of Disbursement	Amount of Cash	Amount of Non-Cash Assistance	Description of Assistance	Method of Valuation
Markets Initiative)	Canada	for various conservation initiatives of Canopy	404,565	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Change/Medium Initiative	Canada	for general support of Change Medium project	13,130	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Contact Project	Canada	for the charitable work of the Contact Project	306,924	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Forest/Ethics Canada	Canada	for capacity building support of Forest/Ethics Canada project	783,603	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Headwaters Initiative Project	Canada	in support of the conservation work of Klabona Keepers in the Sacred Headwaters region	248,246	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Hollyhock Leadership Institute	Canada	in support of Hollyhock Leadership Institute project	40,701	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Hollyhock Scholarship	Canada	for general support of Hollyhock Scholarship Project	42,908	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Island Conservation Canada	Canada	for general support of Island Conservation Canada	342,918	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Naramata Conservation Initiative	Canada	for general support of Naramata Conservation Initiative	17,513	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Oceans Initiative	Canada	for Oceans Initiative's acoustic habitat quality for northeast Pacific marine mammals research project	51,697	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Pacific Wild Project	Canada	in support of Pacific Wild Initiative's various projects	264,262	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Rainforest Action Network Canada	Canada	for general support of Rainforest Action Network Canada	62,510	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Rainforest Solutions Project	Canada	in support of ongoing work to implement ecosystem-based management in the Great Bear Rainforest	845,966	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Reel Youth Project	Canada	for general support and in support of Reel Youth Film Festival in support of Rivers Without Borders work with the Taku Tribe for conservation of the Taku watershed	11,180	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Rivers Without Borders	Canada	to advance conservation in the Taku via the acquisition and operation of Taku Salles	177,319	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Shardsak	Canada	to provide research materials to local communities or groups, providing advice, consultation and resources to existing projects and the development of new ones with the focus on job creation via a contract with Social Capital Partners	192,548	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Social Capital Partners	Canada		350,270	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Social Venture Partners Toronto Project	Canada	for general support of SVPT Toronto Project	48,182	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Tar Sands Education Project	Canada	to support the Tar Sands Research project's research and communications work on Alberta's Energy Footprint	202,606	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Turning Point Initiative	Canada	for ongoing work to implement ecosystem-based management in the Great Bear Rainforest as requested in correspondence and supporting reports dated March 21, 2009	505,134	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Type Research Project	Canada	for The Type affordable housing research project and the creation of a climate change news desk	28,617	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - Urban Youth Making Project	Canada	in support of Urban Youth Rising Project's leadership and mentor programs with Aboriginal youth	10,305	cheque				
Tides Canada Initiatives - World Peace Forum Education Project	Canada	to support the charitable activities of the World Peace Forum Education Project in providing educational and cultural activities and an opportunity for broad segments of the population to discuss global peace issues	6,340	cheque				
Toronto Rehabilitation Institute Foundation	Canada	for general support	175,135	cheque	0	0		
Trail's Youth Initiatives Inc	Canada	for general support and for Trails Equipment Programme	29,433	cheque	0	0		
United Way of Greater Toronto	Canada	for general support	10,508	cheque	0	0		
University of British Columbia	Canada	in support of UBC Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (a division of the Department of Medicine) in fulfillment of first instalment of \$100,000 pledge in support of the "Opening Worts Building Campaign" at the Sauder School of Business	10,508	cheque	0	0		
University of British Columbia - Sauder School of Business	Canada		17,513	cheque	0	0		
University of Toronto	Canada	to support research into the origin of LAM cells by William L. Stanford, Ph.D. - Canada Research Chair in Stem Cell Bioengineering & Functional Genomics, Institute of Biomaterials & Biomedical Engineering	8,425	cheque	0	0		
Vancouver Ethic Ethic Hill Foundation	Canada	to support your capital campaign to construct a new Hill House at UBC	17,513	cheque	0	0		

Source: Tides Canada's U.S. tax return, 2009.

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