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How Far Back Does Mayor Robertson Go With Tides?

From: VIVIAN KRAUSE <vivian.krause@me.com>

To: Gregor.Robertson@vancouver.ca, Ross McMillan <ross.mcmillan@tidescanada.org>

Date: 31 October 2011 1:03:27 PM

Mayor Robertson & Mr. McMillan,

I am writing to let you know that I have posted new material at my blog, titled, "How Far Back Does Mayor Robertson Go With Tides?"

For your review, I have presented this material below. If I have presented anything here that is factually incorrect, or if I have missed any important points, please let me know.

As before, I can be reached at 604.618.8110.

Sincerely,
Vivian Krause

How Far Back Does Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson Go With Tides?



**Joel Solomon (far left), Gregor Robertson, (2nd from the right in back row)
Drummond Pike (far right)**

Source: <http://tidescanada.org/whoarewe/staffandboard.cfm>

Over the past decade, American foundations have granted at least [\\$60 million](#) to Tides Canada, tax returns show. In 2010, [more than half of Tides Canada's total revenue](#) was from foreign sources, presumably, from the

USA.

In several instances, the "environmental" campaigns funded and orchestrated by Tides Canada appear to me to be protecting American market and trade interests - all in the name of protecting the environment. For example, the campaign against oil tanker traffic on the north coast of B.C., the gateway to Asia, would block oil exports to Asia and continue the monopoly that the U.S. has on Canadian oil exports. The campaign against farmed salmon sways market share towards wild and ranched salmon, most of which is Alaskan.

Mayor Gregor Robertson has been involved with Tides Canada since 2002, perhaps earlier. From 2002 to 2004, Robertson was Tides Canada director. Both Robertson and his wife, Amy, have been employed with organizations on Cortes Island that are heavily funded by Tides Canada and the American foundations that fund Tides Canada.

[Happy Planet](#), the small fruit juice company of which Mayor Robertson was CEO prior to politics, was an "investment" of Renewal Partners, an "investment firm" of sorts that appears to be run in conjunction with the Endswell Foundation, another charity in the Tides Canada network. Unanswered questions have been raised about payments from Endswell to the president and staff at Renewal Partners - to the tune of [\\$2.3 million](#). If Endswell, a registered charity was paying the salaries at Renewal Partners, the "investment firm," what else was it paying? Where did the money originate that Renewal Partners invested in Happy Planet? Did that money come from Endswell, a registered charity?



Internet archives show that Tides Canada posted several on-line profiles of Mayor Gregor Robertson at during the period from 2002 to 2004. The profile dated September 25, 2002 states, "*Gregor is the founder and Chair of Happy Planet Foods Inc., a producer of fresh and organic juices, smoothies and fruit salads across Canada. He also leads the company's philanthropic venture, the Happy Planet Fund. A strong advocate for sustainable agriculture, fisheries and forestry, Gregor works with the Glen Valley Organic Farm Cooperative, Wild Salmon Fund, Cortes Ecoforestry Society, Linnaea Farm Society, Tredom Inc. and the Hollyhock Leadership Institute.*"

Four of the five organizations that Gregor Robertson was involved with were heavily funded by Tides Canada and/or Tides USA. For example:

- **The Wild Salmon Fund** at Tides Canada has been heavily funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, an American foundation that has paid [\\$80 Million](#) to B.C. environmental groups since 2003. The Moore Foundation granted Tides Canada [\\$350,000](#) in 2003 and [\\$600,000](#) in 2004 for the Wild Salmon Fund.
- [Linnaea Farm Society](#) has been paid at least [\\$705,008](#) by Tides USA, Tides Canada and Endswell. From [2000](#) to [2005](#), the president of Linnaea Farm Society was Amy Robertson, Gregor Robertson's wife.
- [Hollyhock](#) has received at least [\\$444,470](#) from Tides USA, Tides Canada and Endswell, tax returns say. In [2003](#) and [2004](#) Gregor Robertson was the treasurer of Hollyhock Farm Ltd., a for-profit company that is operated in conjunction with Hollyhock, the high-end, ocean-front charity facility. Gregor Robertson was also the treasurer of Hollyhock Farm Ltd. in [2004](#).
- **The Cortes Ecoforestry Society** received small grants (<\$5,000) from Tides USA in 2004 and 2006.

Treedom Inc. may be a reference to "Treedom Ventures Inc." In his [financial disclosure statements](#), Mayor Gregor Robertson declares involvement with Treedom Ventures Inc., a company which owns 82 acres of ocean-front property on Cortes Island.

Profiles of Gregor Robertson at the web-site of Tides Canada Foundation

June 6, 2002	<p>Gregor Robertson Gregor is the founder and Chair of Happy Planet Foods Inc., a producer of fresh and organic juices, smoothies and fruit salads across Canada. He also leads the company's philanthropic venture, the Happy Planet Fund. A strong advocate for sustainable agriculture, fisheries and forestry, Gregor works with the Glen Valley Organic Farm Cooperative, Wild Salmon Fund, Cortes Ecoforestry Society, Linnaea Farm Society, Treedom Inc. and the Hollyhock Leadership Institute.</p>
April 15, 2004	<p>Gregor Robertson Gregor is the founder and Chair of Happy Planet Foods Inc., a producer of fresh and organic juices, smoothies and fruit salads across Canada. He also leads the company's philanthropic venture, the Happy Planet Fund. A strong advocate for sustainable agriculture, fisheries and forestry, Gregor works with the Glen Valley Organic Farm Cooperative, Wild Salmon Fund, Cortes Ecoforestry Society, Linnaea Farm Society, Treedom Inc. and the Hollyhock Leadership Institute.</p>
June 6, 2004	<p>Gregor Robertson Gregor is co-founder and Chairman of Happy Planet Foods Inc., a Vancouver-based fresh juice brand distributed across Canada. He also leads the company's philanthropic venture, the Happy Planet Fund, which donates 10% of company profits to humanitarian and environmental causes. Gregor is a clear voice in the BC business community for vibrant economic development with social and environmental benefits. He has served on the BC Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Business Advisory Council, and is active in civic affairs and electoral reform. A strong advocate for sustainable agriculture, fisheries and forestry, Gregor serves on a number of business and non-profit boards.</p>

Source: http://web.archive.org/web/*/Tidescanada.org

Here are the complete .pdf files from which the extracts shown above are taken:

- [June 6, 2002](#)
- [April 15, 2004](#)
- [June 6, 2004](#)

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