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Where did Tides Canada get assets of \$30 million?

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Date: November 22, 2010 12:37:57 PM

Mr. Solomon & Mr. McMillan,

As you know, I have concerns about some of the activities that are funded by your organizations.

Recently, I noticed the remarkable changes that have taken place over the past ten years with regards to the total assets of Tides Canada and the Endswell Foundation.

I am writing to inquire about the origin of Tides Canada's assets which, according to your tax returns, have shot up from \$1 million in 2001, to over \$33 million in 2009. I would also like to know whether Endswell may have transferred assets to Tides Canada and whether any of the \$8.7 million (2003 - 2009) that Endswell has granted to Tides Canada, may have ended up in the long-term assets of Tides Canada.

Below, I have tried to lay out the the basis for these questions. If I have presented anything that is factually incorrect, or if I have missed any important points, please let me know. I can be reached either by e-mail or at 604.618.8110.

If I don't hear from you today, I will post this at my blog.

Sincerely,
Vivian Krause

BACKGROUND: Where did Tides Canada Get Assets of \$30 Million?

Since 2001, the total assets of Tides Canada increased from **\$1 million** to **\$33 million**. Considering that Tides Canada is a main source of funds for multi-million dollar campaigns to "reform" forestry, mining, **salmon farming** and the **Alberta oil industry**, I believe that it is fair for Canadians to inquire about where Tides Canada gets money.

Of the **\$33 million** in total assets that Tides Canada had as of 2009, **\$21.5 million** was in long-term investments. Given that this money is tied up, it seems to me that it is unlikely that Tides Canada will be using these resources in the near future in order to reduce poverty, advance education or for other such charitable purposes.

Even if Tides Canada would earn only 5 percent on a "nest egg" of \$20 million, that would provide earnings to Tides Canada of about \$1 million every year. A million bucks can pay for a lot (especially in a campaign) so it is fair for Canada to inquire about the origin of Tides Canada's resources - including its assets.

Over the same period that Tides Canada's assets increased dramatically, the assets of the Endswell Foundation decreased from **\$26 million** to **half a million**. In my opinion, this raises another question: where did Endswell's money go?

As it appears to me, the Endswell Foundation, Tides Canada and Tides US.A. are intimately related. In all three charities, key positions are held by the same people. For example, the **treasurer** of Endswell, the **treasurer** of Tides Canada Foundation and the **treasurer** of **Tides Canada Initiatives Society** is the same person: James Morrissey. Mr. Morrissey is also a long-time director of other Tides-affiliated foundations: **Salal** and **Nextwave**. Both Mr. Morrissey and Mr. Drummond Pike are **Sr. Advisors** to Renewal Partners, a small "investment firm" that seems to me to be run in conjunction with the Endswell Foundation.

	Tides U.S. (as of 2008)	Endswell Foundation	Tides Canada Initiatives Society	Tides Canada Foundation	Hollyhoock Farm Ltd.	Renewal Partners	Vision Vancouver	Salary Source & Amount (2008)
Drummond Pike	Founder & CEO	Chairman of the Board	President	"Founding Chair"		Sr. Advisor	Donor	Tides U.S. salary: \$275,566 (20 hrs per week)
Joel Solomon	Chairman of the Board	President	Director	Vice-Chair	President	President	Donor	Endswell salary: \$186,189
Carol Newell		"Founder" Secretary (2009)		"Founder"		Founding Investor & Principal	Donor	Endswell salary: \$49,921(2009)
James Morrissey		Treasurer	Chairman & Treasurer	Treasurer		Sr. Advisor	Donor	n/a
Ross McMillan				President as of 2007 CEO as of 2008			Donor	Tides Canada: \$143,236
Martha Burton		Sr. Vice President	Advisor	Advisor		Sr. Vice President	Treasurer	Endswell salary: 2007: \$72,036 2008: \$135,325
Gregor Robertson				Director 2002 - 2004	Treasurer 2002 - 2004	Investee (Happy Planet)	Mayor of Vancouver	---
Michael Magee (Vancouver Chief of Staff)				Sr. Advisor 2002 - 2007			Donor	---
Year registered in Canada	n/a	1991	1990	1999	1970	1998 Nova Scotia		
Year registered in the U.S.	1976	1993	n/a	2003				

Sources: U.S. and Canadian Tax Returns. Years of registration are according to public records and information from Guidestar.

Not only the treasurer of Endswell and the treasurer of Tides Canada is the same person, the **chairman of the board** of the Endswell Foundation, Drummond Pike, was the CEO of Tides U.S.A. for 34 years.

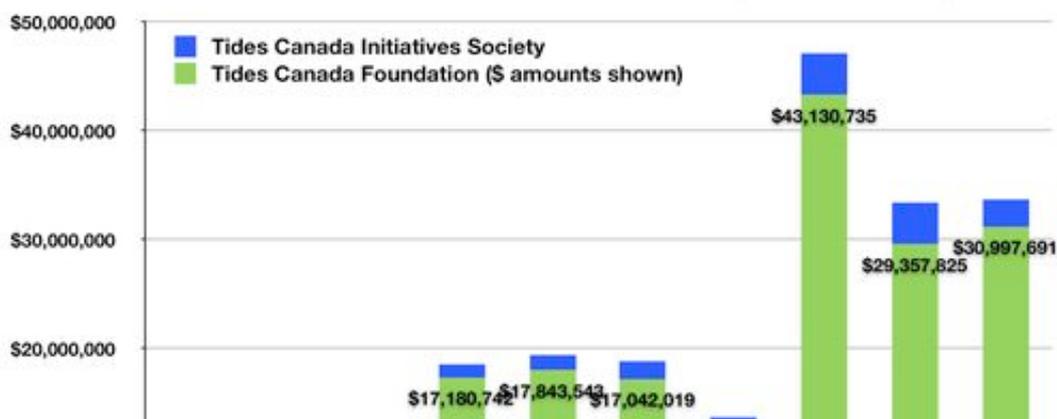
Joel Solomon has been reported to the I.R.S. as the former, **chair of Tides U.S.A.**. He is also listed as the **vice-chair** of Tides Canada and the **president** of the Endswell Foundation.

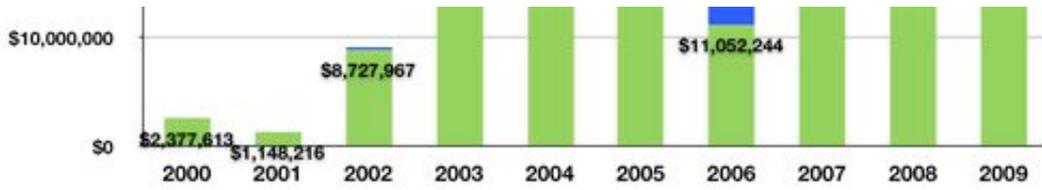
From the information that I have seen, it seems to me that several people at Vancouver City Hall - including Mayor Gregor Robertson, Michael Magee, the Chief of Staff, and the treasurer of Vision Vancouver, have all been intimately affiliated with Tides Canada's charities and related businesses.

Since 2003, Endswell reported grants for a total of **\$8.7 million**. Of that, **99 percent** was granted to Tides Canada. Were these funds fully re-granted to other organizations? Did any of the \$8.7 million end up in the long-term assets of Tides Canada?

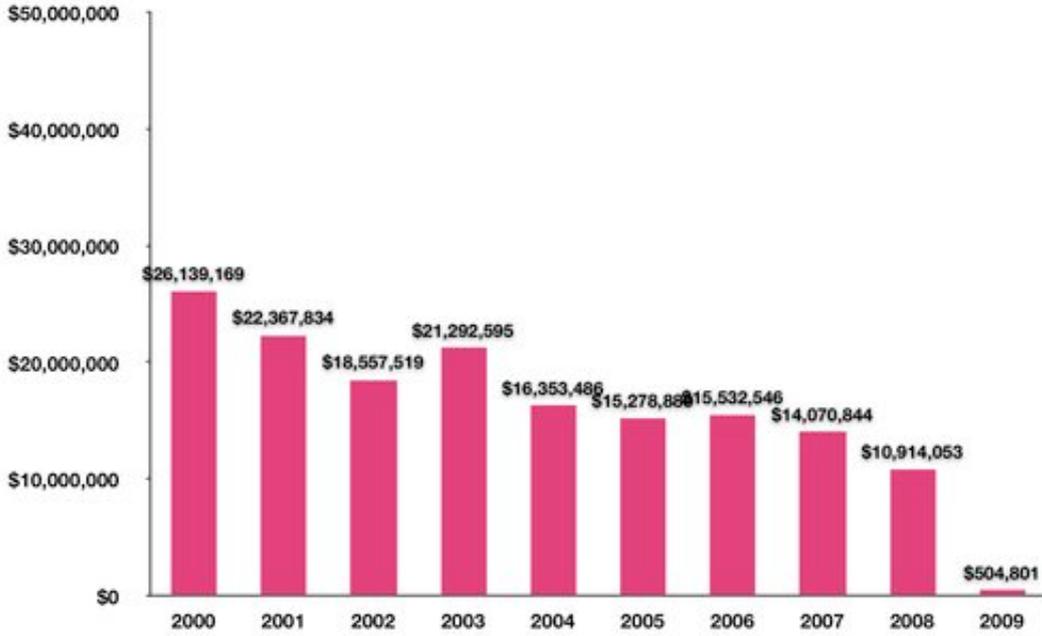
Considering that Endswell and Tides Canada are so closely affiliated and that **99 percent** of Endswell's grants went to Tides Canada, it seems appropriate to inquire as to whether any of the assets of the Endswell Foundation may have been transferred to Tides Canada. From 2008 to 2009, the assets of the Endswell Foundation went from **\$10.9 million** to **\$504,801** What happened to Endswell's \$10 million?

Tides Canada Total Assets (2000 - 2009)





Endswell Assets: From \$26 Million to \$504,801



Excerpts of Canadian tax returns for the Endswell Foundation:

2001

Assets

Cash on hand and in bank accounts	051	\$ 181,989
Amounts receivable from founders, directors/trustees, employees, members, or individuals and organizations not at arm's length to them	052	
Amounts receivable from others	053	\$ 4,499,356
Other investments	054	\$ 17,929,429
Fixed assets and inventory used in charitable programs	055	
Other fixed assets and inventory	056	
Other assets	057	\$ 3,528,395
Total assets (add lines 051 to 057)	058	\$ 26,139,169

2008

Assets

Cash, bank accounts, and short-term investments	4100	\$ 2,728,099
Amounts receivable from non-arm's length parties	4110	
Amounts receivable from all others.	4120	\$ 107,482
Investments in non-arm's length parties	4130	
Long-term investments	4140	\$ 5,221,820
Inventories	4150	
Capital assets (at cost or fair market value)	4160	
Other assets	4170	\$ 2,856,652
Total assets (add lines 4100 to 4170)	4200	\$ 10,914,053

Charities Listings

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2009

[Charities and Giving](#) > [Charities Listings](#) > Search

Schedule 6: Detailed Financial Information - ENDSWELL FOUNDATION

Was the financial information reported below prepared on an accrual or cash basis? **4020** ACCRUAL

Statement of financial position

Please show figures to the nearest single dollar. See the *Key Terms and Definitions* for a definition of the terms used.

Assets:

Cash, bank accounts, and short-term investments	4100	\$ 49,488
Amounts receivable from non-arm's length parties	4110	
Amounts receivable from all others	4120	\$ 400,918
Investments in non-arm's length parties	4130	
Long-term investments	4140	\$ 54,395
Inventories	4150	
Land and buildings in Canada	4155	
Other capital assets in Canada	4160	
Capital assets outside Canada	4165	
Accumulated amortization of capital assets	4166	
Other assets	4170	
Total assets (add lines 4100 to 4170)	4200	\$ 504,801

Excerpts of Canadian tax returns for Tides Canada:

Tides Canada Initiatives Society (2001)

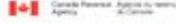
Assets

Cash on hand and in bank accounts	051	\$ -90
Amounts receivable from founders, directors/trustees, employees, members, or individuals and organizations not at arm's length to them	052	
Amounts receivable from others	053	\$ 3,283
Other investments	054	
Fixed assets and inventory used in charitable programs	055	
Other fixed assets and inventory	056	
Other assets	057	\$ 41,906
Total assets (add lines 051 to 057)	058	\$ 45,099

Tides Canada Foundation (2001)

Assets

Cash on hand and in bank accounts	051	\$ 931,333
Amounts receivable from founders, directors/trustees, employees, members, or individuals and organizations not at arm's length to them	052	
Amounts receivable from others	053	\$ 28,647
Other investments	054	
Fixed assets and inventory used in charitable programs	055	
Other fixed assets and inventory	056	\$ 129,901
Other assets	057	\$ 66,235
Total assets (add lines 051 to 057)	058	\$ 1,148,216



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Schedule 6: Detailed Financial Information - TIDES 2009
CANADA INITIATIVES SOCIETY

Was the financial information reported below prepared on an accrual or cash basis? **4020 CASH**

Statement of financial position

Please show figures to the nearest single dollar. See the Key Terms and Definitions for a definition of the terms used.

Assets:

Cash, bank accounts, and short-term investments	4100	\$ 184,393
Amounts receivable from non-arm's length parties	4110	\$ 178,156
Amounts receivable from all others	4120	\$ 130,568
Investments in non-arm's length parties	4130	
Long-term investments	4140	\$ 1,247,871
Inventories	4150	
Land and buildings in Canada	4155	\$ 760,946
Other capital assets in Canada	4160	\$ 102,956
Capital assets outside Canada	4165	
Accumulated amortization of capital assets	4166	\$ -48,425
Other assets	4170	\$ 68,740
Total assets (add lines 4100 to 4170)	4200	\$ 2,634,207

Schedule 6: Detailed Financial Information - TIDES 2009
CANADA FOUNDATION

Was the financial information reported below prepared on an accrual or cash basis? **4020 ACCRUAL**

Statement of financial position

Please show figures to the nearest single dollar. See the Key Terms and Definitions for a definition of the terms used.

Assets:

Cash, bank accounts, and short-term investments	4100	\$ 8,171,347
Amounts receivable from non-arm's length parties	4110	
Amounts receivable from all others	4120	\$ 1,148,462
Investments in non-arm's length parties	4130	
Long-term investments	4140	\$ 20,299,006
Inventories	4150	
Land and buildings in Canada	4155	
Other capital assets in Canada	4160	\$ 2,005,240
Capital assets outside Canada	4165	
Accumulated amortization of capital assets	4166	\$ -633,777
Other assets	4170	\$ 7,413
Total assets (add lines 4100 to 4170)	4200	\$ 30,997,691