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Fwd: Vision Vancouver

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

To: Gregor <Gregor.Robertson@vancouver.ca>

Cc: dana.bertrand@vancouver.ca

Date: May 19, 2012 1:11:48 PM

Mayor Robertson,

While I appreciate that you took time to respond to my correspondence of May 9, 2012 I find that your letter of May 17, 2012 does not answer my questions.

1) The Rockefeller Brothers' "Tar Sands Campaign"

As we know from a detailed power point presentation that came to light earlier this year, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund Inc. is co-ordinating a sophisticated, multi-million dollar "Tar Sands Campaign" that would block oil tanker traffic on the B.C. coast and stop the construction of pipeline and port infrastructure that would allow Canadian oil exports to Asia.

Your letter acknowledges that while in New York in June of 2010, you met with Mr. Michael Northrop, the co-ordinator of the Rockefeller Brothers' "Tar Sands Campaign." You say that your discussion (which was over breakfast, according to your agenda) "focused solely on Mr. Northrop's work as a member of Mayor Bloomberg's Sustainability Advisory Board and New York's PlaNYC 2030 initiative."

Weeks after your New York visit in 2010, you called a peculiar meeting over tanker traffic in Vancouver waters even though the City of Vancouver has no jurisdiction over this issue. Last month, your political party launched an on-line [petition](#) against the expansion of the TransCanada pipeline through Vancouver. The question that I am trying to ask of you is whether these moves on your part are in any way related to the Rockefeller Brothers "Tar Sands Campaign."

The U.S. Tides Foundation is intimately involved in the Rockefeller Brothers' "Tar Sands Campaign, according to the Rockefeller document that I mentioned earlier.

Through the U.S. Tides Foundation, another U.S. foundation, the Bullitt Foundation, paid the Dogwood Initiative \$30,000, "**To strengthen and enforce a 34-year moratorium on oil tanker traffic in the mid and north coast of British Columbia, and to prevent expansion of oil and gas infrastructure in Georgia Strait and the lower Fraser Basin.**" Your biographical profile with the N.D.P. states that you are a former director of the Dogwood Initiative.

Through the U.S. Tides Foundation, the Bullitt Foundation also granted \$50,000 to support Vision Vancouver's "Greenest City Initiative." The Bullitt Foundation is listed as a client (click [here](#)) of the P.R. company of your chief of staff, Mr. Magee.

In light of the above, I would like to know whether your stance against oil tanker traffic is related to the agenda of your American contacts, funders and the clients of the P.R. firm of your chief of staff?

2) Vision Vancouver Campaign Finance:

Your letter of May 17, 2012 says, "Vision Vancouver has communicated to you (to me) last year the fact that we do not accept donations from charities directly, indirectly or through third parties." However, that is not what Vision Vancouver said last year. In the e-mail that I received from Mr. Baillie, the executive director of Vision Vancouver, there is no statement whatsoever about accepting donations indirectly or through third parties. Below, for your reference, is the only e-mail that I received from Mr. Baillie.

In his e-mail to me, dated May 24, 2010, Mr. Baillie writes, "Vision Vancouver does not receive money from charitable sources." That's a no-brainer. And that is not the question that I have been trying to ask. One only has to read the campaign finance disclosure statements to see that the names of registered charities are not on the list. My question is about whether Tides Canada/Endswell may have indirectly funded Vision Vancouver

through a series of P.R. firms and so-called "investment firms."

In your November meeting with the editorial board of the Vancouver Sun, you were asked by Mr. Harvey Enchin about campaign finance contributions from Interdependent Investments Ltd. You were also asked if you know what the company does. You replied, "I don't drill down to the details and the operating backgrounds of all our donors." I would find it hard to believe that you don't know or can't find out about Interdependent Investments Ltd. since its principal, Mr. Joel Solomon, is one of your biggest financial backers.

In relation to Interdependent Investments Ltd., I would also like to know why the name of the treasurer of Vision Vancouver, Ms. Martha Burton, was hastily removed from the list of the directors of Interdependent Investments Ltd., merely six days after I wrote to you about it on April 7, 2011. (Click [here](#)).

In summary, Mayor Robertson, it seems to me that you are continuing to dodge the question about whether whether Vision Vancouver may have indirectly received campaign finance that originated from Tides Canada/Endswell, funneled through a series of P.R. companies and so-called "investment firms."

Sincerely,
Vivian Krause

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ian Baillie <ian.baillie@votevision.ca>
Date: May 24, 2011 11:13:25 AM
To: vivian.krause@me.com
Subject: **Vision Vancouver**

Dear Ms Krause,

I wanted to address some questions you have raised online about donations to Vision Vancouver. Specifically, you have asked about the company Interdependent Investments and its donations to Vision.

Interdependent Investments is a Vancouver based company that provides investment, real estate and project management support to private businesses, charities, and non-profits. My understanding is that it has been operating for over 15 years. Joel Solomon is the principal of the company and has been a supporter of Vision Vancouver since its inception.

As for your questions about charitable donations, Vision Vancouver does not receive money from charitable sources, and has said so publicly in the past. As well, our donations were disclosed several months ago. Vision Vancouver continues to go above and beyond the requirements for reporting and we are the only Vancouver municipal political party to file a comprehensive disclosure in addition to the 2008 election disclosure.

Thanks for your interest.

Sincerely,

Ian Baillie, Executive Director

Vision Vancouver