

1641 Lonsdale Avenue Suite #1046
North Vancouver BC
V7M 2J5

October 30, 2010



To: Mayor and Council
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

Mayor Robertson,

RE: Vision Vancouver Campaign Finance 2011

As before, I am writing to inquire about whether Vision Vancouver may have accepted campaign finance that originated *indirectly* from a registered charity, Tides Canada or the Endswell Foundation. I am inquiring, for the first time, about campaign finance for the 2011 municipal election. I believe that my concerns are a matter in which the public has a legitimate interest, therefore, I will post this letter at my blog: www.fair-questions.com.

Previously, you have indicated that Vision Vancouver has not accepted donations from charities. With respect, sir, that much is obvious. One has only to read Vision's campaign disclosure statements to know that these charities are not listed as having contributed *directly* to Vision. This is why that's not what I have been asking. Rather, my question is whether Vision Vancouver may have received campaign finance from these charities *indirectly*, through Renewal Partners, Interdependent Investments Ltd. and a series of P.R. firms including Strategic Communications. For 2011, Vision disclosed substantial donations from these firms:

- \$27,500 from Renewal Partners
- \$18,230 from Interdependent Investments Ltd.
- \$25,000 from Strategic Communications

The co-founder of Endswell/Renewal Partners, Carol Newell, is reported to have contributed \$31,260. I also see that Bull Housser and Tupper, the law firm that services Endswell, contributed \$40,000.

U.S. tax returns show (see the next page):

- Tides Canada paid \$286,002 to Renewal Partners in 2010.
- The U.S. Tides Foundation paid Renewal Partners \$257,000 in 2011.
- Endswell paid Interdependent Investments Ltd. \$14,828 in 2011.

My question is this: Did campaign contributions from Renewal Partners, Interdependent Investments Ltd., and Strategic Communications originate with Tides Canada and/or Endswell? If not, where did this money originate? What sources of revenue do these organizations have other than the charities?

Perhaps you could ask Mr. Solomon to explain how he is re-investing the half million dollars that his "investment firm" received from Tides USA and Tides Canada in 2010 & 2011. If this money isn't going into the coffers of Vision Vancouver, where is it going?

At least one American donor refers to Tides Canada as a "division" of the U.S. Tides Foundation and has funded Tides Canada for "cross-border program development" through the U.S. Tides Foundation's Tides Canada Exchange Fund No. 1481 (see the attached).

Lastly, I notice that Andrew Weil contributed \$1,000 to Vision Vancouver for the 2011 municipal campaign. Didn't you say that Vision would not accept donations from foreigners?

Sincerely,
Vivian Krause

c.c. Mr. Joel Solomon

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
(1) Joel Solomon	Mr. Solomon is a	286,002	Tides Canada Foundation made an		✓
(2)	Director of Tides Canada		investment into Renewal Partner's		
(3)	Foundation and		Renewal2 Social Investment Fund		
(4)	President of Renewal		as part of Tides Canada		
(5)	Partners		Foundation's investment portfolio		
(6)					
(7)					
(8)					
(9)					
(10)					

ENDSWELL FOUNDATION

98-0131284

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors (continued)

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services (see instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
IIL LTD.	CONSULTING	14,828
Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services		

Sources:

- Tides Canada Foundation's 2010 U.S. tax return, page 35.
- Endswell Foundation's 2011 U.S. tax return, page 7.

Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

	(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
					Yes	No
(1)	Joel Solomon	Board Member	257,000.	Mission Related Invest		X
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						
(5)						
(6)						
(7)						
(8)						
(9)						
(10)						

Part V Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions).

Supplemental Information

Tides Foundation, following customary due diligence, committed to purchasing units in a private equity offering of Renewal2 Investment Fund, a limited partnership that invests in businesses with social and environmental innovation, as a mission related investment. The total subscription commitment was \$257,900 as of December 31, 2011 cash investments against this commitment were \$103,160. Total financing raised from all investors in this private placement was \$ 4,774,987, and Tides' percentage interest is 2.13%. Joel Solomon is a director of the Tides Foundation board and also Chair of the General Partner of Renewal2 General Partner, Ltd., in which he owns a 25% equity interest. He is co-chair of the Investment Committee in the limited partnership. Mr. Solomon recused himself from the discussion and decision regarding this investment, in accordance with the Tides' Conflict of Interest Policy.

Source:

- Tides Foundation's 2011 U.S. tax return, page 38.

Grant Details

Grantmaker

Grant Details

Recipient

Name Tides Foundation
Location San Francisco, CA
ZIP Code 94129-0198
Recipient URL www.tidesfoundation.org
Type of Recipient Foundations (public)
Additional Location Information County: San Francisco; Metropolitan area: San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA
EIN 510198509
Recipient 990 [2011](#) [2010](#) [2009](#) [2008](#) [2007](#) [2006](#) [2005](#) [2004](#) [2003](#) [2002](#)
The IRS has announced processing errors on electronically filed Forms 990 for filing years 2007-2009. [Learn More»](#)

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Grant

Amount \$52,500
Year Authorized 2010
Description For [Tides Canada](#) Division
Type(s) of Support Program development
Subject(s) [Canada](#); Foundations (public)

Grantmaker

Name Adobe Foundation
State DE
Geographic Focus CA; MA; NY; UT; WA

Grant Details	Grantmaker
Grant Details	
Recipient	
Name	Tides Foundation
Location	San Francisco, CA
ZIP Code	94129-0198
Recipient URL	www.tidesfoundation.org
Type of Recipient	Foundations (public)
Additional Location Information	County: San Francisco; Metropolitan area: San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA
EIN	510198509
Recipient 990	2011 2010 2009 2008 2007 2006 2005 2004 2003 2002 <p>The IRS has announced processing errors on electronically filed Forms 990 for filing years 2007-2009. Learn More»</p>
Grant	
Amount	\$16,000
Year Authorized	2010
Description	For Tides Foundation to be directed to Tides Canada Exchange Fund (No. 1481) for your cross-border
Type(s) of Support	Program development
Subject(s)	Canada; Foundations (public)
Grantmaker	
Name	Adobe Foundation
State	DE
Geographic Focus	CA; MA; NY; UT; WA
Tools	
 E-mail	
 Print/Save	
Tag this record:	
<input type="text"/>	
Submit	

Source: www.foundationcenter.org