

finding SOLUTIONS



David
Suzuki
Foundation

fall 2014
www.davidsuzuki.org



David Suzuki will share a lifetime of learning during the Blue Dot Tour this fall.

Join David Suzuki on a fall cross-Canada tour

David Suzuki says it's the most important thing he's ever done. And you can be part of it.

This fall, David Suzuki and Foundation staff and volunteers will join prominent Canadians and well-known musicians on a cross-country tour to build a movement to give all Canadians the legal right to live in a healthy environment.

From September 26 to November 9, the Blue Dot Tour will cross the country, celebrating Canadians' desire to protect the people and places we love on this small blue dot we call home.

Musicians joining David Suzuki on-stage include Joel Plaskett and Jenn Grant in Halifax; Gord Downie, Chantal Kreviazuk and the Barenaked Ladies in Toronto; Burton Cummings and Royal Canoe in Winnipeg; Bruce Cockburn in Saskatoon and Regina; Jim Cuddy in Calgary and Edmonton; and Neil Young, Raine Maida, Gord Downie, Feist, Grimes, the Barenaked Ladies and more in Vancouver. Renowned spoken-word artist Shane Koyczan will also take part in many events, along with Margaret Atwood, Brent Butt, Ovide Mercredi and more.

We live in an exceptional country, with amazing people and spectacular landscapes. But we need to protect and improve what we have. As many as 36,000 Canadians die every year from exposure to environmental hazards, and half of us live in areas with unsafe air pollution levels. Cancer rates are rising and we have no national standards to ensure our drinking water is safe. As well as putting people at risk, pollution costs Canada as much as \$100 billion a year.

During the tour, we're inviting Canadians from all walks of life to join the rising tide of people across the country who want our right to breathe fresh air, drink clean water and eat healthy food legally recognized at all levels of government. The aim is not to get in the way of industry but to start a meaningful national conversation about the kind of country we want. After all, Canadians deserve production and trade that meets or exceeds world-class standards.

And we're going to have fun! Check www.bluedot.ca for dates and times in your area and join millions of Canadians who are taking extraordinary steps to protect our right to a healthy environment!

 Ian Hanington



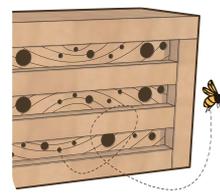
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Remarkable women share passion for nature



PHOTO: LEIGH R. HILBERT VIA FLICKR

In 1984, protests against clear-cut logging drew hundreds to Meares Island, including Cindy Robinson.

The Foundation is always hugely grateful to all our donors. After all, we depend on your generosity for everything we do.

But we never get to thank people who leave us gifts when they die — amazing, caring individuals who consider what they want the world to be for generations they'll never meet.

People like Anna Cathrall and Cindy Robinson.

Born in 1940, Anna Cathrall struggled with serious health problems as a youth, but that didn't stop her from graduating with an engineering degree — rare for women of her generation — at just 21. She travelled through Australia, Madagascar and Malaysia and taught English in Ethiopia. After arriving in Canada with only 40 British pounds in her pocket, she quickly landed a job with IBM as

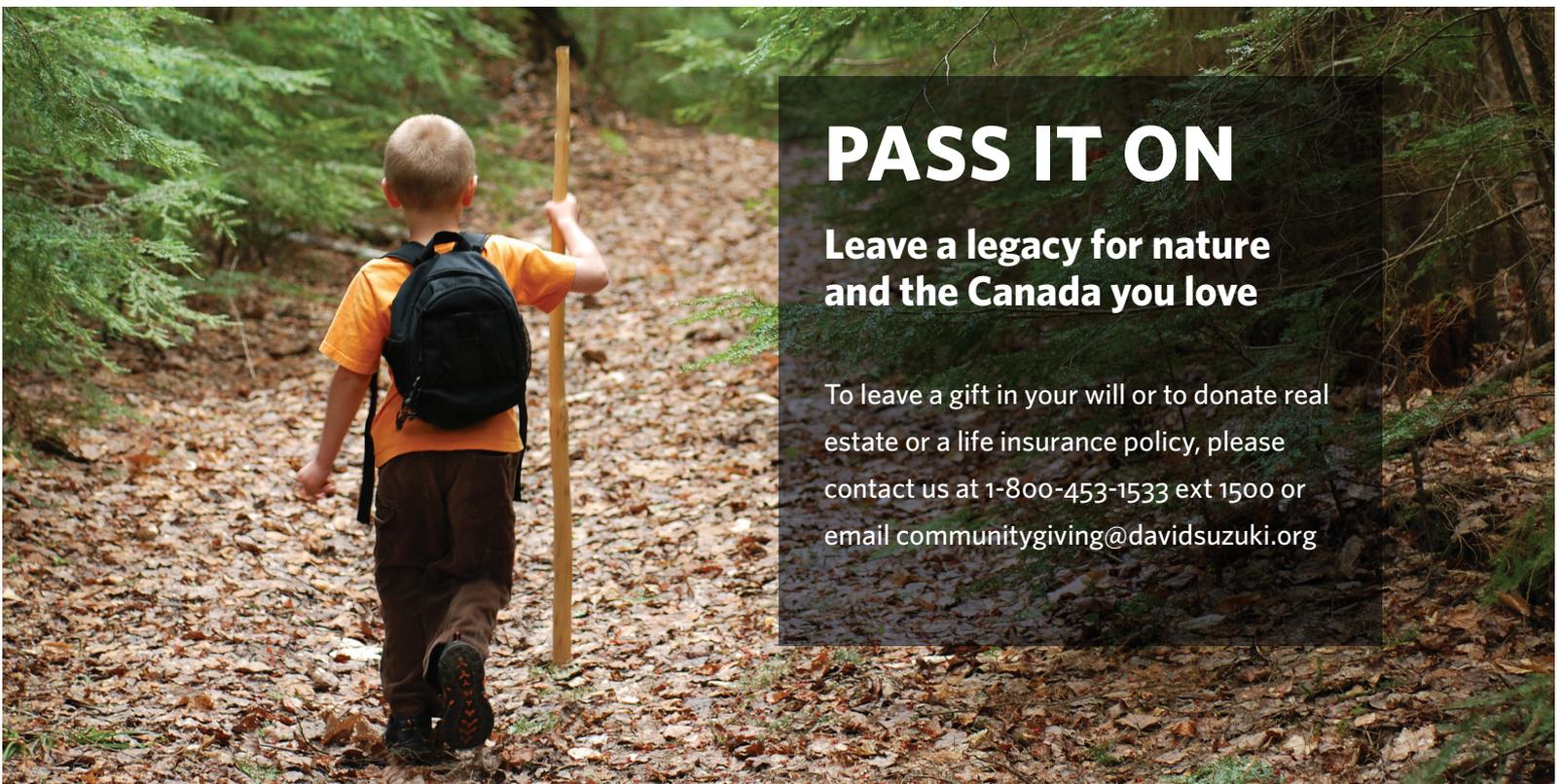
one of the country's few female computer engineers, had a long and successful career and eventually ran her own company. When she retired to the Comox Valley, she threw her energies into “repairing Mother Earth”, working to protect local streams and rallying against the Raven Coal Mine. She was an avid birder and grew an amazing garden. She asked that her ashes be buried under a linden tree.

Because she had juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, doctors said Cindy Robinson would never walk. She proved them wrong. She received her Bachelor's in Science from the University of Toronto, studied marine biology at the University of Victoria and, despite her physical limitations, enjoyed camping up and down the West Coast and sailing in her specially modified boat. She was active in several conservation groups and was especially concerned about water protection. When David Suzuki,

When David Suzuki, Robert Bateman and hundreds of others protested clear-cutting on Meares Island in 1984, Cindy Robinson was there.

Robert Bateman and hundreds of others protested clear-cutting on Meares Island in 1984, Cindy was there helping to hold the line in her wheelchair. Because of her condition, Cindy lived frugally on disability, making her gift to the Foundation all the more meaningful. She was 59 when she died.

Anna and Cindy lived very different lives, but they were both remarkable women who shared a profound passion for protecting nature. We remember them with gratitude.



PASS IT ON

Leave a legacy for nature and the Canada you love

To leave a gift in your will or to donate real estate or a life insurance policy, please contact us at 1-800-453-1533 ext 1500 or email communitygiving@davidsuzuki.org

St. Lawrence belugas get a break

May and June were busy months for our Quebec office. TransCanada's Energy East project had coastal communities along the St. Lawrence worried. The company wants to build an oil port in Cacouna, in the heart of beluga whale critical habitat.

A true emblem of the St. Lawrence, the beluga is the only resident cetacean found in the river year-round. Today fewer than 900 remain, making it an endangered species under the Species at Risk Act. Concerned for the belugas' survival and recovery, the Foundation, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Quebec, Nature Quebec and the Centre québécois du droit de l'environnement filed for an injunction against TransCanada. The company then agreed not to undertake any work until Quebec's environment minister rules on the certificate of authorization for drilling activities.

It was a huge victory for our Quebec team and our allies as our action directly contributed to stopping work that could harm belugas.

As part of the St. Lawrence Coalition, the Foundation also published an 80-page report on oil and gas activities in the Gulf. The report was launched through a joint news release with groups from all five Gulf provinces, including a First Nations coalition. Through an action alert, the groups called on government to establish a moratorium on oil and gas activities in the Gulf and



Beluga whales are the only resident cetacean found in the St. Lawrence River year-round.

to conduct an extensive panel review and public consultations on the issue. Close to 7,000 people signed the alert and more than 5,000 downloaded the report — a resounding success!

Thanks to your generous contributions, we've been able to protect the integrity of one of Quebec's most valuable ecosystems!

 Jean-Patrick Toussaint



Foundation senior research scientist Scott Wallace helped turn B.C.'s trawl fishery around.

Foundation senior research scientist Scott Wallace is creating an ocean of positive change. It's taken years of negotiation, but with your support, he's helped turn one of Canada's most criticized fisheries, the B.C. groundfish trawl, into one of its most well-regulated success stories.

Trawl shift good for habitat and fishery

The journey wasn't easy. Former adversaries — trawlers and environmentalists — had to agree on the issues and a shared goal to foster a fishery for future generations. The unlikely partners worked to get facts on the problems and create an agreement that reduces fishing impact, protects rare corals and sponges and is economically acceptable to the fleet.

Foundation projects like SeaChoice helped create market pressure to keep unsustainable seafood off supermarket shelves. The majority of B.C. trawl fishery products are sold to West Coast markets committed to sustainable seafood. But before this work, most were in the "red", or "avoid buying" category. The incentive was to move as much as possible to the "yellow" category, to meet retail sustainability criteria.

The trawl agreement is the world's first to set up a habitat quota system, an

innovative way to limit damage to sensitive corals and sponges. Now ecosystem-based trawl boundaries reduce fishing grounds, and sponge and coral catches are limited to less than 20 kilograms per tow. Video monitoring verifies 100 per cent of operations, a prior reform that made the trawl agreement possible.

The results were better than anyone expected. In the agreement's first year, from a total of 6,622 tows, there were just four boundary infractions and only 10 per cent of the coral and sponge bycatch limit was used. The fishery's seafood ranking is under review and we're hopeful the results will be good for the fleet.

What's the lesson? Protecting habitat is good for the ocean and for the future of our fisheries.

 Theresa Beer

Gateway conversation is not over

Despite the federal government’s conditional approval of Enbridge’s Northern Gateway pipeline project, opposition in B.C. and the rest of Canada and among First Nations remains high. The conversation on Canada’s energy and environmental future is far from over. In an open letter, David Suzuki urged people to advocate for responsible energy alternatives. More than 13,000 Foundation supporters sent emails to federal government leaders in support of a clean energy future that doesn’t include the Northern Gateway dual pipeline.



ARTWORK: TIN CAN FOREST

Milkweed for monarchs

On a sunny Sunday in May, hundreds of Torontonians came to Christie Pits Park to collect milkweed purchased through our popular #GotMilkweed campaign. More than 4,000 milkweed plants ended up in gardens, balconies, schoolyards and parks throughout the Homegrown National Park, in the city’s west end. The plants will provide much-needed urban homes for monarch butterflies — and nectar and pollen for local bees and bugs.

Save bees, ban pesticides

The Foundation has long campaigned against pesticides that put the environment and human health at risk. A study released this summer shows the neonicotinoid class of insecticides is killing bees and hurting butterflies, earthworms and birds. They may also harm people — especially infants. The news moved our community. Close to 40,000 of you sent letters asking government to ban neonics. We’ll let you know when we get a response.

Play without plastics

Inspiration for the Suzuki Elders’ curriculum of fun, plastic-free activities for children and families came from Erlene Woollard’s day at the beach. She realized kids get tremendous play value out of sticks, stones and sand — without plastic toys. The Elders are hosting workshops at Vancouver community centres and facilitating intergenerational dialogues and activities around plastic and fun ways to play without it. To learn more about the project or get involved, contact erlene_woollard@telus.net.

Canadian students are Connecting with Nature

This year, Grade 7 and 8 students throughout Canada will be out in their schoolyards, making s’mores in solar cookers while learning about renewable energy. Primary students will measure school air pollutants using only clothes hangers and tape, then brainstorm ways their families and communities can help reduce pollution. Meanwhile, kindergarten students will host impromptu playground band concerts with percussion instruments constructed out of natural materials they found.

These lessons and many more are part of a brand new suite of educational materials produced by the David Suzuki Foundation launching in September. The three *Connecting with Nature* educational guides for kindergarten, primary Grades 4 through 6, and Grades 7 and 8 will be available free online.

Our aim is to help teachers across the country foster a nature connection in their students. Studies show that spending time outdoors helps students succeed in school, improving memory, problem-solving and creativity. Children who spend time in nature are also physically healthier and more likely to protect nature as adults.

Connecting with Nature lessons were created and written by Foundation staff, Toronto District School Board educators and staff and students from Nipissing University’s Schulich School of Education. A group of dedicated TDSB teachers also piloted lessons in their classrooms, reporting back on outcomes so we could improve them accordingly.

Each lesson includes classroom and outdoor components, step-by-step instructions and ideas for taking lessons further and getting local communities involved. Download guides at getbackoutside.ca. French versions will be available in early 2015.

 **Rachelle Delaney**



PHOTO: SYLVIE DE SOUSA

Spending time outdoors helps students succeed in school, improving memory, problem-solving and creativity.

DIY backyard bee hotels

WHAT IS A BEE HOTEL?

A bee hotel is a sustainable resting space for solitary pollinator bees. These bees—which make up 90% of the extremely diverse bee species—are under threat due to toxins and pests in their environment, as well as the fragmentation of their habitat. These bee hotels support bee health by providing them with a much needed space to nest and rest their weary wings. The re-use of urban waste to construct these bee hotels means that a large volume of material will be diverted from landfills and used in an ecologically-productive solution.



? Did you know...

80% of our flowering plants reproduce as a result of pollinators

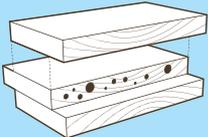
and

1/3 of the food we eat is from the work of pollination!

Toronto is a city known for its sprawl. Single family homes still dominate a majority of the area within Homegrown National Park. If one square foot of each of those homes was dedicated to creating a low-cost, DIY bee (m)otel, the amount of habitat added would be enormous. Even a small bed of native plants or a box of pithy plants will do!

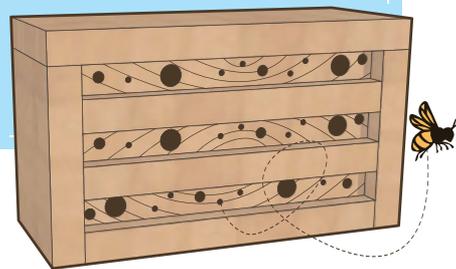
3-STEP BEE (M)OTEL

1. GATHER SCRAP WOOD AND DRILL 8" DEEP HOLES



2. STACK COMPONENTS OFFSET FROM ONE ANOTHER

3. SHOW IT OFF IN YOUR BACKYARD GARDEN!



Green design creates urban solutions

In partnership with Workshop Architecture, we launched the Homegrown Design Challenge this spring, challenging Toronto architects, designers and landscape architects to submit ideas for low-cost, easy-to-implement green design solutions for yards, alleys, commercial properties and schoolyards. The result was an innovative mix of design concepts, ranging from DIY backyard bee hotels and a naturalized “Carolinian Forest” alley to stormwater solutions for parking lots and laneways.

Two winning designs and eight invited submissions will be shown at various Homegrown National Park Project events. We hope the designs provide inspiration for homeowners, property managers and residents to green their neighbourhoods.

 Jode Roberts



PHOTO: ADAM BHINDER, VIVID DREAMS PHOTOGRAPHY

David Suzuki joined the annual Vaisakhi Parade in Vancouver.

Getting outside is for everyone

One thing that makes the David Suzuki Foundation unique is our relationships with diverse communities. Since 2010, we’ve expanded our reach by conducting public dialogues, media interviews and outreach campaigns in Punjabi, Mandarin and Cantonese.

One example is the annual Punjabi by Nature campaign, a tailored version of our 30x30 Nature Challenge, which encourages people to go outside in nature for 30 minutes a day for 30 consecutive days. By fusing bhangra (Punjabi folk dance) with nature, people are now dancing their ways through the woods.

Three things we’ve learned from Punjabi by Nature:

1. Treat nature like family — The Sikh text *Guru Granth Sahib* says, “*Pavan guru paani pita maata dharat mahat,*” which translates to “Air is the teacher, water the father, and Earth the great mother of all.” It really is true — nature crosses all cultures and geographical borders.
2. Wisdom from elders — Elders hold a wealth of knowledge from seeing the world change and grow. For those who’ve emigrated from other countries, the experience and perspective is especially rich. Some have seen their homelands go from lush forests and farmlands to desolate fields and pavement. Elders understand the need to protect our right to clean air, water and soil for future generations. They’re also big advocates for getting young people off their computers and enjoying the great outdoors!
3. Food, family and friends — The family that eats together goes outside in nature together. Whether it’s a sandwich or a roti, food is a great way to persuade family and friends to get outside. So pack your picnic basket, grab a Frisbee or cricket bat and get your daily dose of nature this summer. It’s good for all of us.

 Harpreet Johal

DAVID SUZUKI'S
**Queen
of
Green**



PHOTO: DEBBIE WONG PHOTOGRAPHY

Returning Calgary coach Evelyn is mom to two boys, volunteers as Canadian director of True Vision Ghana and makes a mean lip balm.

Coaches find courage to change

A painter, a Norwex consultant, a mommy blogger, a scientist and an Orthodox rabbi walk into a bar...

No joke!

They're five of my 22 passionate "volunteers for good" — Queen of Green coaches. Over eight weeks this spring they dedicated 30 hours to help families, friends and neighbours go greener, joining a community of 29 coaches from previous years.

It takes courage to make change and guide others toward change. My fellow green experts share their knowledge and experience and don't shrink from responsibility — on top of raising children, learning to make yogurt and planning green birthday parties.

They inspire me!

Meet a few of them yourself and tell me they don't make you want to do more:

Caroline, Trout Lake, N.W.T., lives in a community of 46 households that's

isolated for nine months of the year. She set up composting at a recent community feast and invited families and elders to use her organics composter until they can make their own.

Michelle, Edmonton, Alta., is a mom and master composter recycler who leads composting workshops. She had her families start with a garbage bag count to track their success over the eight-week program.

Corrina, North Vancouver, B.C., is a mom of two, photographer, avid gardener and nature lover. She's helped one family get its first blue bin while another started a green waste program for their townhouse complex!

Do you remember the first green step you took? Will you help someone else take their first step?

If you're interested in being a Queen of Green coach this fall, email lcoulter@davidsuzuki.org.

 Lindsay Coulter

funding solutions

Never too young to lead

"We know you are also worried about the Canadian Arctic and its animals, and we hope you can use this money."

~ Ruby Lyons (age nine)

Not yet out of elementary school, Ruby Lyons is already a fundraising maven. For the past three years, Ruby and the hard-working members of the Save the Bowhead Whale Club at Kitchener's Sheppard Public School have made crafts, baked goodies, produced promotional materials (including "stop whaling" posters in Russian and Japanese) — even wrote and performed a song — to raise awareness about threats to whales and raise money for the David Suzuki Foundation.

Now the whole school looks forward to the annual sale. "The combination of things kids are good at, like art and baking,

with helping something, really gets people excited," she said.

This year, Ruby recruited volunteers and divided them into three teams — one made art (posters and crafts), another wrote publicity announcements and a third found bakers and collected on their commitments. All reported back to Ruby. "The parents were awesome," she said. "Kids gave out the assignments and told them what to do."



PHOTO: TRICIA MUMBY

For the past three years, Ruby Lyons (left) and her intrepid Save the Bowhead Whale Club, including Gabbi Bailey and Ryan O'Donnell, have spread the word about the plight of Arctic mammals and raised money for the Foundation.

Next year, she'd like to expand the program beyond her classroom and involve everyone in the whole school.

Ruby's series of school craft and bake sales is hardly her first foray into Foundation fundraising. She's an old hand. In 2011, she sent us proceeds from her lemonade stand "to help protect Canada's coastlines from oil." She was six.

finding SOLUTIONS

A publication of the David Suzuki Foundation, a registered Canadian charity working to protect the diversity of nature and our quality of life, now and for the future.

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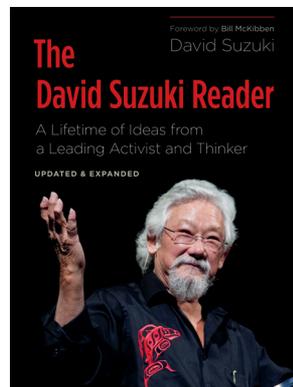
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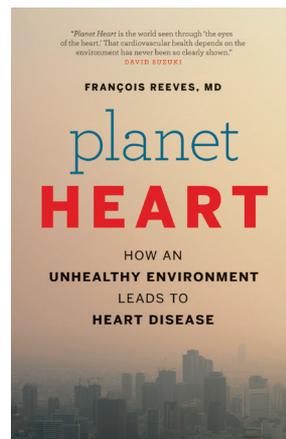
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The David Suzuki Reader, Revised Edition

David Suzuki / Greystone - DSF

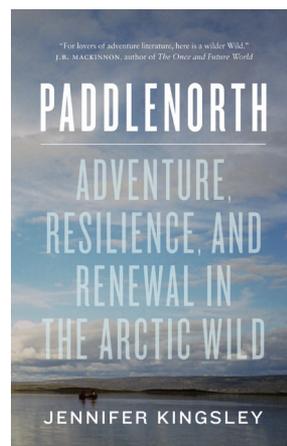
David Suzuki's been busy since the first *Reader* was published in 2003. In this expanded and updated edition (to be released in September), he explores the interconnectedness of all things, the false dichotomy between environment and economy, the role of science and urgent issues such as climate change. The new edition adds some personal touches, with essays about family, influences and the legacy he hopes to leave. A collection of passionate wisdom from one of Canada's most trusted thinkers.



Planet Heart

François Reeves / Greystone - DSF

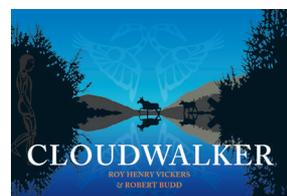
Healthy people need a healthy environment. François Reeves knows this more than most. A cardiologist and associate professor of medicine at the University of Montreal, Reeves has studied the connections between pollution, cardiovascular disease and heart attacks. This important and readable book, subtitled *How an Unhealthy Environment Leads to Heart Disease*, goes beyond the science of environmental factors and heart disease to offer solutions that will make people and the planet healthier.



Paddlenorth

Jennifer Kingsley / Greystone - DSF

Caribou migrating, grizzly bears fishing, icy dips in northern waters — these are just a few of the experiences Ottawa biologist and writer Jennifer Kingsley and her five companions had during 54 days rowing the Back River from the Northwest Territories through Nunavut to the Arctic Ocean. Weaving in narratives of earlier explorers, Kingsley offers not just a vivid account of the spectacular wilderness but an engaging reflection on our connection to the wilderness and each other.



Cloudwalker

Roy Henry Vickers and Robert Budd / Harbour Publishing

Following on the success of their national bestseller *Raven Brings the Light*, artist Vickers and writer Budd bring the origin story of B.C.'s Sacred Headwaters to life with beautiful illustrations and storytelling that will charm children and adults alike. After swans he's tried to capture carry a Gitksan hunter into the clouds, he finds a cedar water box and inadvertently creates the Nass, Stikine and Skeena rivers. The story also illustrates how "The salmon, the animals and the forests are all interconnected and the rivers run through them."



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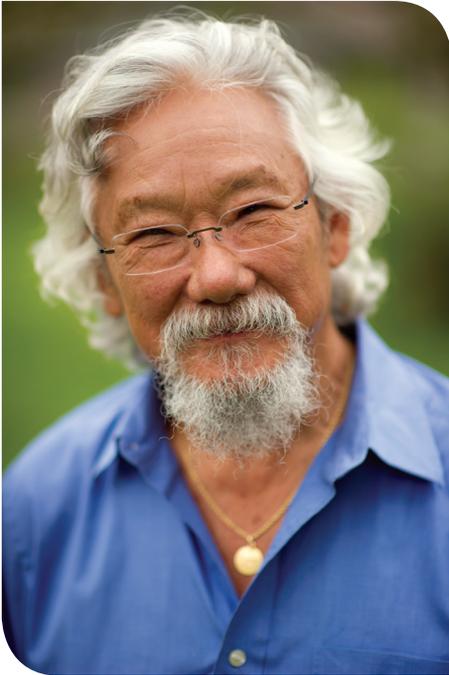


PHOTO: BRENDON PURDY

I hope to see you in person this fall

I'm fortunate to have enjoyed many opportunities to explore this great country, and I hope for many more. But I probably only have one grand coast-to-coast tour left in me, and so I'm setting out from September 26 to November 9 to visit communities from St. John's to Victoria, and many stops in between. I'm also inviting some friends to join me — those who have accepted include Neil Young, Gord Downey, Danny Michel, Shane Koyczan, Feist, the Barenaked Ladies, Margaret Atwood, Joel Plaskett, Raffi, Grimes, Jim Cuddy, Gord Downie and more.

It's going to be fun, but there's a serious message behind it all. Canada and the world are facing grave environmental problems, and the only way to resolve them is to get as many people involved in solutions as possible. It's becoming increasingly clear that we can't simply rely on corporate or government leaders to do the right thing. We're lucky in Canada to enjoy some of the cleanest water, air and soil in the world, with an abundance of wildlife, but we can't

take them for granted. Pollution kills as many as 36,000 Canadians a year and costs us \$100 billion, and half of us live in areas where air quality is often unsafe.

We're setting out on this tour to build a movement of millions of people across the country who want governments at all levels to recognize our right to breathe fresh air, drink clean water and eat healthy food. It's a bold and exciting plan, and we've heard from Canadians from all walks of life who want to be a part of it.

We're calling it the Blue Dot Tour, named for the picture of Earth taken in 1990 by *Voyager I* from six billion kilometres away. It's a reminder that we share a small planet with finite resources and that we have to care for it if we want to protect our health and well-being and leave our children and grandchildren a world that allows them to live rewarding and prosperous lives.

This is the most important thing I've ever done. I hope you'll join me. Please visit www.bluedot.ca for more information.

We want governments at all levels to recognize our right to breathe fresh air, drink clean water and eat healthy food.

YOU
ARE
HERE



SO BE THERE

St John's, NL — Sept. 24
Halifax, NS — Sept. 27
Charlottetown, PEI — Sept. 29
St. John, NB — Sept. 30
Markham, ON — Oct. 2
Toronto, ON — Oct. 3
Kitchener-Waterloo, ON — Oct. 6
Quebec City, QC — Oct. 10
Montreal, QC — Oct. 12
Ottawa, ON — Oct. 17

Thunder Bay, ON — Oct. 20
Winnipeg, MB — Oct. 24
Saskatoon, SK — Oct. 26
Regina, SK — Oct. 27
Edmonton, AB — Oct. 28
Calgary, AB — Oct. 30
Prince George, BC — Nov. 1
Victoria, BC — Nov. 7
Vancouver, BC — Nov. 9

JOIN THE MOVEMENT:
BLUEDOT.CA

