

PHOTO: MICHAEL HANCHARYK & ELIZABETH SHEARER

A historical first for your environmental rights



In June, the federal government's Standing Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development ended its 16-month review of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act. It made 87 recommendations to strengthen the law, including:

- Recognizing the obligation to protect vulnerable populations (e.g., children, the elderly)
- Reversing the onus of proof for toxic substances
- Requiring national standards for air quality and drinking water
- Instituting mandatory labelling of toxins in consumer products
- Improving access to information, public participation and justice
- Recognizing your right to a healthy environment

If implemented, these updates would mark the first time Canada recognized your right to a healthy environment in federal law!

This is an amazing opportunity. **But there's still more to be done.**

In October, the government agreed the act needs improving. *But if the bill isn't tabled by its June 2018 deadline, the next federal election could put a halt to it.*

The Blue Dot movement is keeping the pressure up.

Tens of thousands of volunteers throughout the country are helping people take action to ensure government follows through on its commitments.

Go to bluedot.ca/stories/cepa to learn more about how you can help.



Q&A with Stephen Cornish, our new CEO

Formerly executive director of Médecins Sans Frontières Canada (Doctors Without Borders Canada), Stephen officially joined us November 1.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF.

I grew up on a hobby farm east of Ottawa, riding horses, trekking, canoeing and kayaking. When I was 12, I went to Mexico as an exchange student. The experience opened my eyes to difficulties in the world. I realized how much richness we enjoy in Canada and how much responsibility we have as global citizens for protecting nature and for extending care to others.

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT?

My first overseas mission was environmental — bringing solar panels and waste reduction management plans to the Sherpa in the high Himalayas. Then, at MSF, I experienced what it's like on the front lines, responding to issues we all face — climate-change-related natural disasters, changing disease patterns — giving relief at the moment of crisis. That inspired me to invest my energy in prevention, to reduce negative outcomes *before* they happen. I feel I can do that here.

WHERE CAN THE FOUNDATION HAVE THE MOST IMPACT?

I think we can continue to strengthen the Foundation's campaign for the legal right to a healthy environment, promoting community-led renewable energy and deepening relationships with Indigenous communities. All can have far-reaching, long-term benefits — for the country and the whole world.

What this work has in common is it provides ways for people to take collective action. That's powerful.

WHAT'S YOUR MESSAGE TO OUR DONORS?

You are our invaluable partners. Beyond funding the work, you help us extend our voice by advocating for important policies. You bring us new ideas. You get involved in your own communities. You amplify our reach by telling others about the Foundation's programs and how you're involved. You help us connect with people who need convincing, to see their relationship with nature with new eyes. We're together in this struggle and we hold a collective responsibility for tomorrow. Thank you for your support!

Is something fishy here?

Fish fraud and poor seafood labelling are rampant worldwide. *How do we know what's actually in the package behind the label?*

To uncover the truth, SeaChoice* and the University of Guelph Centre for Biodiversity Genomics' Life Scanner program mobilized 300 volunteer citizen scientists across the country.

Using DNA testing kits you helped provide, they took samples of seafood purchases and sent them back, along with photographs of the labelling details. Some results:

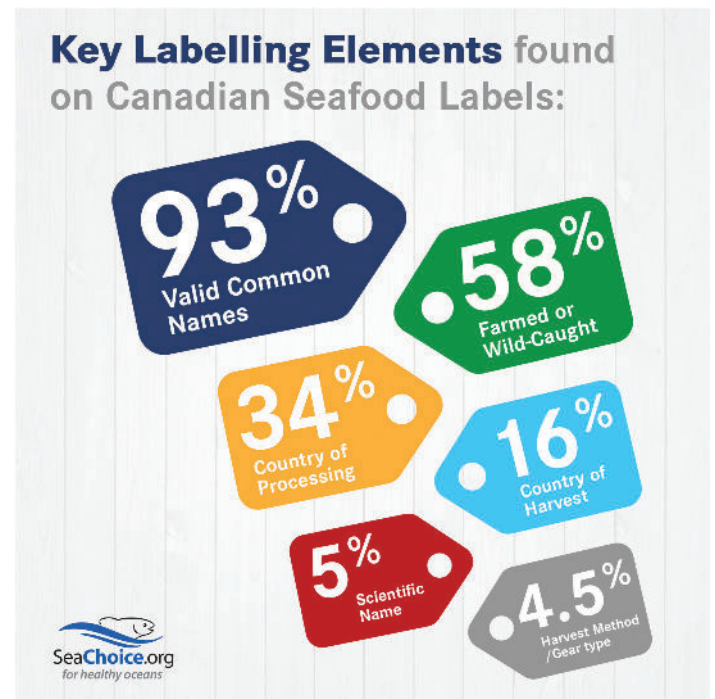
- Life Scanner tested 500 samples
- One per cent was not what the label claimed

- About seven per cent did not meet Canadian Food Inspection Agency labelling regulations
- Less than two per cent of labels would meet international best practice standards

Fish fraud doesn't appear to be a big problem here. But Canada has a lax standard. Consumers want more: Is it local? Is it wild or farmed? Was it sustainably harvested?

Thanks to you, we're pushing even harder to improve seafood labelling in Canada.

For full research results:
lifescanner.net/dashboard/SeaChoice.



**SeaChoice is a David Suzuki Foundation, Ecology Action Centre, Living Oceans Society collaboration.*

Learn more about the work you care about

Check out our new website! Your support is helping find climate solutions and protecting the people and places you love. Sign online petitions, browse tips for sustainable living and get to know our experts.

davidsuzuki.org

You're powering Canada's renewable energy revolution

"Protecting Earth's climate is the challenge of our time. There is no more important obligation to the world." DAVID SUZUKI

You may have heard about people all over the world harvesting energy in their own backyards. But do you know what's happening in renewable energy where you live?

Check out Charged Up at <https://davidsuzuki.org/project/charged-up/>

! With your help, it's:

- Empowering communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Helping Canada become 100 per cent powered by renewable energy before 2050
- Building a nationwide community of renewable energy champions

Early next year, our online interactive map will showcase stories of successful, community-driven renewable energy initiatives, such as:



The Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay, helping the community of Skidegate achieve energy independence

PHOTO: EMILY FISTER



Nelson, B.C.'s solar energy garden, owned by local faith groups, homeowners, renters and co-ops

PHOTO: DAVE BORINS



Gunn's Hill Wind Farm in southern Ontario's Oxford County, powering 7,000 homes and conserving agricultural land

PHOTO: MIRANDA FULLER



SolarShare's Abbey Dawn renewable energy co-op in Kingston, Ontario, which is also providing habitat for birds and pollinators

PHOTO: SOLARSHARE

Nix neonics

Neonicotinoid pesticides hurt wildlife and ecosystems. They harm bees and many other species, including aquatic insects, earthworms and common birds.

A new study shows three-quarters of the honey produced in the world contains neonics! The highest levels were in North America — 86 per cent.

The EU imposed a moratorium on three neonics. France aims to ban them all starting in September 2018. Canada has proposed phasing out one — but not until 2021 at the earliest.

This is not good enough!

With your support, we:

- Sent more than 40,000 messages to Canadian decision-makers demanding a ban
- Hosted a September neonics symposium attended by international scientists, MPs from all five parties and the French environment minister
- With our partners, continue to bring the issue to widespread public attention in all media

Go to action2.davidsuzuki.org/neonics to raise your voice.



Participants in Camp Suzuki: Howe Sound enjoy a spectacular ocean paddle and swim

Camp Suzuki: Howe Sound — reconciliation in action

“We built relationships of trust and understanding around our common humanity.” JENNIFER DEOL, CAMPER

For the third year, the Foundation and Squamish Nation hosted Camp Suzuki: Howe Sound on Cháʔelkwnech (Gambier Island, B.C.).

Children and young adults attended separate sessions. All learned about the region’s rich biodiversity through science and traditional Squamish cultural values and

practices. Activities included a welcome pole oiling, Squamish language lessons, ocean canoeing, a morning shokum (ocean dip), local stories, songs and dances.

Young adult campers also received training from Foundation staff and other experts. They learned community organizing, environmental leadership, stewardship and advocacy. Now they’re conservation leaders, working on six-month projects to help highlight Howe Sound’s conservation value.

The next generation of environmental leaders

Thanks to generous donors, the three inaugural David Suzuki Fellows introduced their exciting climate research projects at Vancouver’s Beaty Biodiversity Museum on September 18.

The fellows also met with Foundation staff for professional development workshops. They learned about media and government relations, communications, fundraising and more.

We’ve also launched the search for three new fellows. *Know someone?* Go to fellowships.davidsuzuki.org for details on how to apply.

Research themes for 2018-19:



PHOTO: SHANNON RUTH DIONNE MILLER

Fellows (left to right) Melina Laboucán-Massimo, Brett Dolter and Jérôme Laviolette with David Suzuki

- Climate communications
- Indigenous knowledge and climate change
- Climate change adaptation and cities

Stay tuned! The fellows will share their research findings at a spring symposium.

'Tis the season to de-clutter

If you aren't using your things, get them into the hands of people who will. Only hang on to items that serve you now. (Pieces in excellent shape make great holiday gifts!)

Here are eight starting points:

1. **BEDROOM** Starting in a corner, clear one surface at a time. Donate what you don't want.
2. **HOME OFFICE** Clear everything off your desk except your computer. Choose three items you must have within arm's reach. Sort the rest into three piles: review, donate, toss. Take old computers to a second-hand shop.
3. **KITCHEN** Look for "forgotten" things tucked away in hard-to-reach places.
4. **GARAGE, CARPORT OR STORAGE LOCKER** See if your neighbours want your unused bikes and sports equipment. Or snap photos and post for sale online.
5. **CAMPING, BBQ EQUIPMENT** Offer for free online. (Clean goods go faster than dirty ones.)
6. **ANYTHING WITH WHEELS** Post online.
7. **CLOSET** Local shoemakers may be able to use parts of shoes in reasonable shape. The rest: Consign, sell online through second-hand marketplaces or donate to local charity thrift stores.
8. **PET GOODS** Rescue organizations need animal transport crates, old towels, leashes and dishes.



THE BUYERARCHY
of NEEDS
(with apologies
to Maslow)

ART BY SARAH LAZAROVIC

The sharing economy helps build community and keep useful items out of the landfill. Great, close-up photos are key to successful online transactions. Create a descriptive, enticing post. Be sure the stuff you're selling is in season.

Commit to bringing less into your home. In her book *A Bunch of Pretty Things I Did Not Buy*, Sarah Lazarovic's "Buyerarchy of Needs" puts "use what you have" as most important followed by borrow, swap, thrift, make and finally buy. Switch your thinking from "I want that. Where can I buy it?" to "Do I really need that?" and "Can I find it another way?"

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

Want to make a donation?

Update your address?

Tweak your monthly gift?

Check on your tax receipt?

Our Community Giving team is here for you:

1-800-453-1533 ext. 1500

communitygiving@davidsuzuki.org

We're available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., PT, Monday to Friday

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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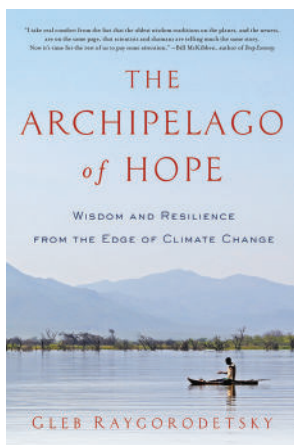
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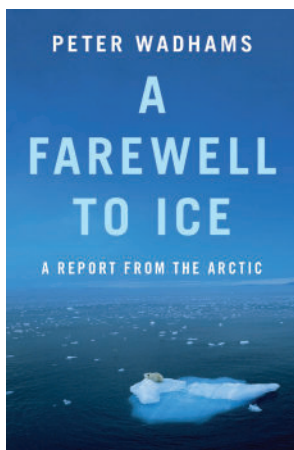
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The Archipelago of Hope

Gleb Raygorodetsky / PEGASUS BOOKS

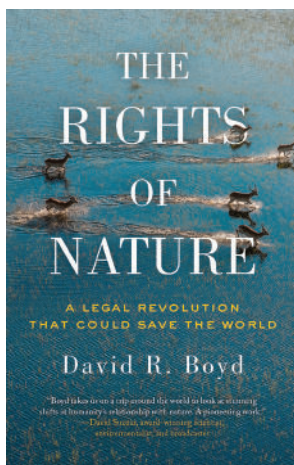
Gleb Raygorodetsky spent two decades learning from Indigenous peoples around the world, from the Skolt Sami in Finland to the Karen of Myanmar to the Sapara in Ecuador to the Tla-o-qui-aht in Canada. In this book, subtitled *Wisdom and Resilience from the Edge of Climate Change*, he shares teachings about the profound changes Indigenous peoples have seen and the creative solutions they're applying to many human-caused problems. The wisdom and ingenuity of people who have seen Earth changing offers hope for us all.



A Farewell to Ice

Peter Wadhams / OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

University of Cambridge ocean physics professor Peter Wadhams has studied polar ice since 1970. What he's observed is not good. The polar ice caps are melting. The North Pole could well be ice-free within a few years, and land ice on Greenland and Antarctica is also vanishing. As ice melts, more dark seas and lands are exposed, absorbing more solar radiation, causing a feedback loop that accelerates global warming. As frozen sediments thaw, they release plumes of the potent greenhouse gas methane. The book is a powerful warning and a thoughtful call to action.



The Rights of Nature

David R. Boyd / ECW PRESS

Environmental lawyer David Boyd, author of *The Optimistic Environmentalist*, offers a hopeful examination of *A Legal Revolution that Could Save the World*, as the book is subtitled. Boyd, who has worked with the David Suzuki Foundation and Ecojustice on their Right to a Healthy Environment campaign, details the history of environmental rights worldwide, including the rights of animals, species and nature. It's an inspiring look at how far we've come in recognizing our dependence on nature and other beings and where we need to go from here.

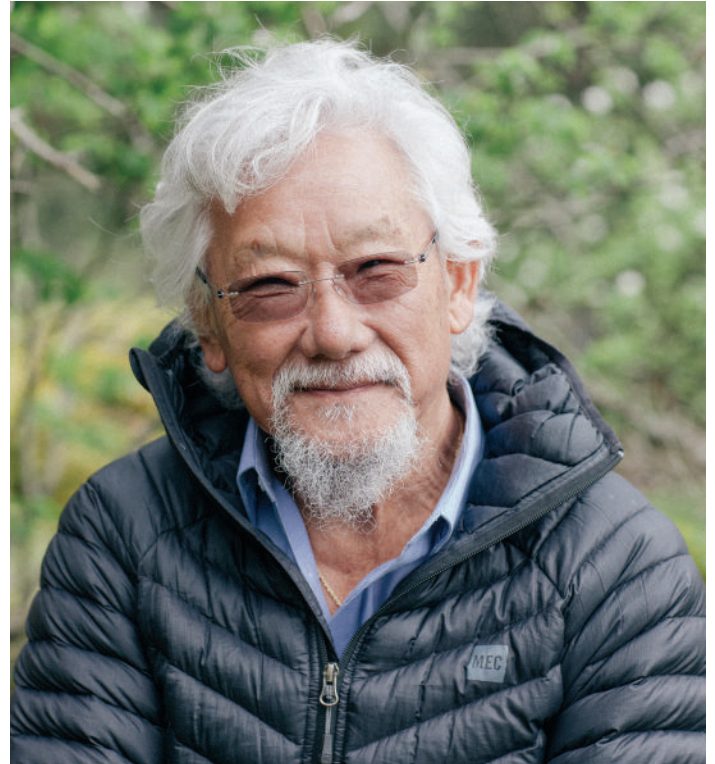
Starting a new year with positive change

I'm excited about changes taking place at the Foundation. With a new CEO, new website and several new staff members on-board, it's well-positioned to take on the many environmental challenges Canada faces. Just as diversity in nature is crucial for our survival, so it is within an organization, within a movement.

We're grateful to Peter Robinson, who served as CEO for 10 years, and to Andrea Seale, who took over after Robinson left. Now we're incredibly happy to welcome Stephen Cornish. He brings a broad range of experience, from his recent role as executive director of Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières Canada to senior leadership positions with CARE Canada and the Canadian Red Cross. He's also a board member of Youth Challenge International and an honorary board member of Canadian Physicians for the Environment. And he speaks French, Spanish and English!

Stephen says he's always "been driven by the need to reduce suffering and to contribute toward social and environmental progress." We're proud to attract his kind of talent.

Stephen will focus on strengthening the Foundation's campaign for a federal environmental bill of rights, promoting community-based renewable energy initiatives, deepening relationships with Indigenous peoples and protecting biodiversity.



As we welcome Stephen, we're also saying goodbye to Andrea Seale, who has been with the Foundation for seven years as development and strategic partnerships director, communications director, deputy CEO and acting CEO. Although we'll miss her, we know she'll do great work as the Canadian Cancer Society's B.C. and Yukon region executive director.

I'm happy about the Foundation's new leadership and new ways to communicate. Most of all, I'm happy for your support. We couldn't do it without you!

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Each 12-card pack contains a variety of exclusive greeting cards, plus envelopes. All are made from 100 per cent post-consumer-waste recycled fibre. Cards are blank inside — ready for your heartfelt words.

store.davidsuzuki.org

