

PASS IT ON



**DAVID SUZUKI
FOUNDATION**
One nature.



PHOTO: JOHN FORDE



A message from Tara

In 1989, David's radio program *It's a Matter of Survival* inspired an unprecedented number of handwritten letters to the CBC — I think it was 16,000. The show was about what was then known as “the greenhouse effect.” People were alarmed and wanted to know what they could do.

David had already been on the air for decades. I don't like to toot my own horn, but I told him it was time to stop harping on problems and start offering solutions! Our family had already been working full time on environmental issues around the world, in the Amazon, in Japan. I thought we'd just be carrying on, but with more allies.

We wanted our new organization to be big-picture oriented, to battle problems on a deeper level, at their sources. We set out to gather people together and, in the face of these big, difficult issues, keep each other going.

In the beginning it was just me and a handful of dedicated volunteers. First I had a desk at a friend's office. Then we “graduated” to an office above an autobody shop. Now the Foundation has become more than either David or I imagined — fully bilingual, offices in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. I'm so proud of its work, its achievements.

“I've learned that much of what we've dedicated this work to requires enduring vigilance. That's why David and I are Foundation legacy donors — for our children and grandchildren. They are our conscience and our inspiration.”

TARA CULLIS



ENSURING A FUTURE FOR EVERYONE

Victor (last name) grew up in Mexico City. He loved playing outside and climbing trees in his neighbourhood. But he had limited access to wild landscapes.

Now his children have a different experience. When they first arrived in British Columbia, the family took a 22-day camping trip around the province and beyond. They covered 7,000 kilometres of “continuous amazing scenery and wild animals we never imagined possible,” he said. Now they go camping to a new spot every year.

Victor gets peace and sense of belonging from spending time outdoors. “Most people don’t realize the depth of our relationship with nature,” he said. “Everybody, especially economists and politicians, should take an annual course on ecology.”

He worries about the future. “Humans greedily take without giving back,” he said. “That cannot go on forever. Future generations will live in harder conditions with fewer opportunities. The wonders of life, of billions of years of evolution, will be lost. And it will be our fault.”

He likes the Foundation’s wide range of projects that protect nature while encompassing technology, human behaviour, and Indigenous rights and traditional knowledge. “Complex problems don’t have a single solution,” he said. “We must work from multiple fronts to create solutions that complement each other and that consider everyone.”



Young and healthy, Victor and his wife decided to leave a gift to the Foundation in their will. Like most parents, they care about protecting their two sons. “When the notary asked, ‘what if your kids are missing, too?’ we immediately thought of the David Suzuki Foundation,” he said. “After our kids, ensuring a future for everyone was the most sensible thing to do.”

Your legacy for the planet

When did you first experience nature?

My earliest memory is when I brought a tent with my dad. I was four. Growing up, dad always shared his love of camping and hiking with me, and I spent a lot of my childhood outside.

In summer I explored fields, forests, streams and swamps, all teeming with life. I watched salamander eggs hatch, trekked forest trails, brought home all kinds of critters. My mom welcomed them with open arms!

My winter memories are blanketed by the restful silence brought by snow. I skated on frozen ponds, and watched my breath form clouds in the icy air.

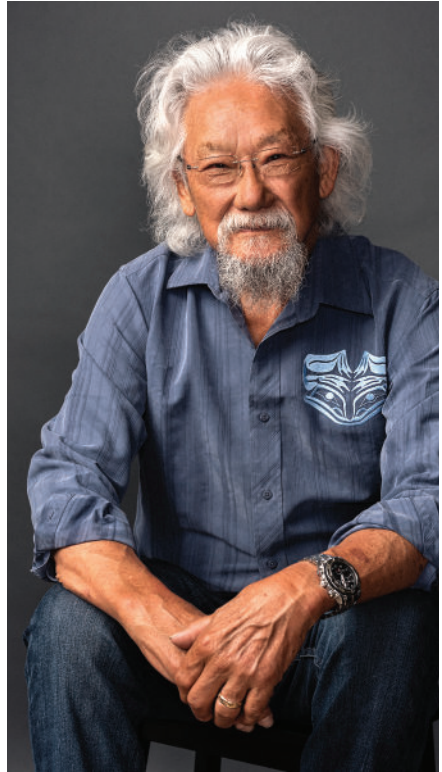
Nature was part of my upbringing, and I owe a lot to my parents for teaching me how to respect, appreciate and protect nature.

I hope I've instilled the same values in my children.

But I worry that my grandchildren won't experience nature as I have. I believe it's my duty to do everything possible today and into the future to safeguard nature and our children's future. I know I'll never stop fighting to protect what we all need to survive.

“I believe the role of elders is to look back over a lifetime lived and try to distil lessons learned to pass on to future generations.”

DAVID SUZUKI



Support the future, now

When you think about the ways you want to be remembered, have you thought about how you can shape Canada's future?

Now that I'm in my 80s I wonder about my legacy.

I trust that my family will continue to promote my life's work. After them, the Foundation is my most important contribution. I want it to continue advocating for sustainable economies and societies where humans thrive within nature's limits.

But I also urge people in Canada to ask themselves: What can I do today to leave behind what I want to be remembered for tomorrow? Your legacy doesn't begin at some age. It starts now.

We can all make a lasting impact on what we care about. A gift in your will to the Foundation is a gift of hope for future generations.

It will safeguard species, habitat — entire ecosystems. It will fight for every person in Canada's right to breathe clean air, drink safe water and eat toxic-free food. It will support urgent, innovative solutions to the greatest threat to life as we know it: climate chaos.

When you remember the David Suzuki Foundation in your will, you're protecting the living planet, now and into the future.



**“What do I need to do today to leave behind what
I want to be remembered for tomorrow?”**

DAVID SUZUKI



Make your mark

We all want to protect the planet for the generations after us. We want them to have what we've had: A future where they can stand on a mountainside, in a lush forest or on a vast prairie, watch wild birds soar and swim in clean waters. **We owe them a future of possibilities.**

Leading on climate solutions

Our climate programs are leading the way to a safer, sustainable Canada. With people like you by our side, we've been championing renewable solutions, tougher sanctions on fossil fuels and raising youth voices.



Protecting species

When people think of Canada, they picture awe-inspiring landscapes and majestic animals, like orcas, beluga whales, caribou and grizzly bears. These are tightly woven into our identity. We are so fortunate to have some of the last wild spaces left on Earth. It's our responsibility to the world to protect them.

In the years ahead, we'll continue to protect wild spaces by building support for sustainable seafood, pushing governments to create areas that safeguard species and habitat, and promoting awareness so protecting nature becomes everyone's priority.

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Nature is important to me. I enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of unspoiled areas and the creatures that live there. Nature also provides the food I eat, the water I drink and the air I breathe. There is a need to protect it because so much of it has disappeared or been irrevocably damaged.

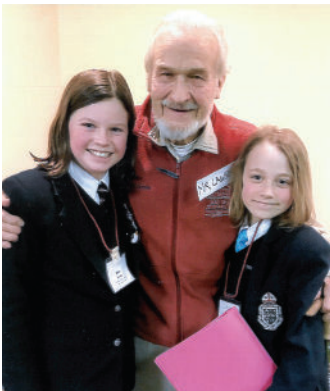
Future generations will inherit a diminished planet and connection to nature. Earth is being ravaged by unchecked population growth, reckless policies in support of economic gain for the very few, complete lack of serious measures to protect the environment and a generally uncaring citizenry.

I feel commonality with David Suzuki and the people who work for his organization. I especially like your campaign to make Canada adopt a law protecting the right to a healthy environment. I have no children, and so I would like most of my money to go to organizations that need it and can put it to good use.

GUY FAUBERT LONG-TIME SUPPORTER, LEGACY DONOR AND VOLUNTEER



FIGHTING FOR A BETTER FUTURE FOR MY GRANDCHILDREN



I believe what we do to nature we do to ourselves. The way we are behaving, Earth would be better off without us. Time is running out. I support the Foundation because David's work embodies everything we are doing to save the living planet, our only home. This is a picture of my grandchildren, because they are the ones who matter most.

THOMAS

HOW TO LEAVE A GIFT TO THE DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

Your commitment to our living planet is inspiring, and we would be honoured to receive a gift from you in your will. We promise to use your gift responsibly and effectively to create sustainable solutions to the climate crisis today and for future generations.

FIND A LEGAL ADVISER

Although not always necessary, we recommend consulting a legal professional before creating or updating your will.

WHAT KIND OF GIFT CAN I LEAVE?

A specific sum or percentage of your estate

An easy way to help is to leave a percentage or specific sum from your estate.

You can choose whatever dollar amount you decide or a percentage of the residue (amount remaining after other beneficiaries, expenses and taxes are paid) in your will.

Suggested sample wording: I give the David Suzuki Foundation, charitable number BN 127756716RR0001, ___ per cent of the residue of my estate (or the sum of \$___).

A share of your life insurance or retirement plan

You may be able to name the Foundation as the owner or beneficiary of your life insurance or retirement plan. Contact your retirement plan administrator or life insurance company to add the Foundation. Contact your life insurance administrator to find out if this is right for you.

Using a charitable remainder trust

A charitable remainder trust allows you to secure a charitable gift for the future while retaining income interest on your assets throughout your life.

LET US KNOW

You don't have to, but if you'd like to let us know it helps us plan for the future. We will keep you up to date with our latest news and how your gift will help support important climate action.



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED?

For more information about how you can
leave a gift in your will, contact us:

☎ 1-800-453-1533

✉ legacy@davidsuzuki.org

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