

Profile of Environmental Grantmaking in Canada 2011/2012 **Highlights of the Findings**

For the third time since 2002, CEGN has mined its growing grants database to take a snapshot of grantmaking in our sector. While not reflective of the full scope of work in our field this latest report comprises an excellent sample of 6,803 grants made in 2011 & 2012 totalling \$211 million from 87 public and private foundations, 59 of which are members of CEGN.

This report will be followed by a qualitative report in 2015 that will showcase examples that illustrate the key findings.

The research breaks down in four ways: 1) strategies used by grantmakers; 2) issues addressed through funding; 3) size of grants; 4) geographic variations.

Below are some highlights:

Strategies Used Fluctuate Over Time

- Advocacy was the number one strategy used in environmental initiatives that received the most funding dollars in 2011/2012, whereas it wasn't in the top five supported strategies in 2007
- Capacity building received the most support in 2007 but experienced the greatest reduction of all strategies dropping by 24% over the five-year period
- Direct Activity was the most popular strategy employed in 2011 with 23% of grants supporting it but it received only 14% of the funding
- The under-employed strategies of Public Policy/Analysis, Litigation, Stewardship, Market Transformation and Communications remained at the bottom with little change

Some Issues Are Being Ignored

- Land (39%) and Water (28%) were the most funded issues
- Energy & Climate were near the bottom at 9% [significantly behind our counterparts in the US & the UK (climate support has increased five-fold in the UK while it has declined by 1.4% in Canada)]
- Market Transformation, Litigation and Other Areas received negligible support

Grantmaking is Wide as Opposed to Deep

- 44% of grants were for \$5,000 or less (88% were for \$50,000 or less)

Significant Gaps in Funding Across the Country

- BC received the most support in the country at 45% and was in stark contrast with the rest of western Canada (4.9% in Alberta; 2.3% in Manitoba and only .3% in Saskatchewan)
- Ontario was in second place at 22% and Quebec in third at 8.5%
- Atlantic Canada was sorely under-supported at 3% combined (a drop from 7% in 2007)
- Nunavut at .1% received the lowest level of funding overall