



David Suzuki

World's Greenest City

Here on the West Coast, we started working to protect the environment long before it was fashionable, and Vancouver has developed an action plan to be the world's greenest city by 2020. Here are just a few of our eco-friendly claims to fame.

DAVID SUZUKI

Tireless local scientist, activist and broadcaster David Suzuki has been sounding the alarm about climate change for decades. In 1990, he teamed up with Tara Culis to create the David Suzuki Foundation as a catalyst for social change in light of the world's environmental problems. Its goals include protecting our climate, protecting and reconnecting with nature, building community and transforming the economy through efficient resource use. Sounds dry? Not when Suzuki is doing the talking.

GREENPEACE

In 1971, the world's largest independent environmental organization was born in Kitsilano. The group's first endeavour was to sail to Amchitka, Alaska, to stop a nuclear weapons test. Money for this ultimately unsuccessful mission came from a concert, held the previous year at Vancouver's Pacific Coliseum, featuring Joni Mitchell and James Taylor. Greenpeace now has almost three million members worldwide.

GREEN PARTY OF BC

Who says politics and the environment can't mix? North America's first green party, founded in British Columbia in 1983, remains focused on the environment and social justice. There are now more than 100 green parties in the world.

THE 100-MILE DIET

When Kitsilano couple Alisa Smith and J. B. MacKinnon first began to write about their year of local eating for *The Tye* (www.thetyee.ca), they had no idea they were at the forefront of a global food trend. Now, eight years, one book (*The 100-Mile Diet: A Year of Local Eating*) and one TV show (*100 Mile Challenge*) later, their notion of helping the environment by consuming only foods grown within 100 miles of home has become almost mainstream. **w**

