

THE
TYEE

2024
ANNUAL
REPORT

OPENING LETTER

*Hello,
dear readers,*

It's time again for us to check in with you to let you know how things are going at The Tyee. In our 21st year, we're pleased to report that things at the Big Fish ([look it up](#)) went, well, swimmingly.

Which, if you're at all familiar with the journalism industry, is a big statement. This is a space that is constantly getting rocked by technological change, fast-evolving reader attention, business model disruption, monkeying around with the social media algorithms by our tech overlords and now the challenge posed

by AI and misinformation, to boot. It's not at all uncommon for publications, even seemingly successful ones, to announce they are struggling to survive and for talented journalists to announce that they are getting out of the game.

But amazingly, our independent, non-profit newsroom is able to consistently publish high-quality work and slowly and sustainably add to our talented roster of journalists and reach more readers than ever.

It's only because we have the support of so many of our readers. In 2024, over 10,000 of you contributed financially to The Tyee so that we can continue our work, pay our staff and contributors and make it free for all to read without a paywall.

These days, we have specialized journalists who report on politics, civic issues, housing, labour, health, education, culture, forestry and more.

And we are steadily growing our offerings. With every new twist and turn that threatens to turn the business of publishing journalism upside down, it comes back to this — the best strategy is and always has been to create work that people truly value and cannot find anywhere else. We do this for you, and we hope you enjoy this look inside our shop and see what we've been able to do with your support.

*With
thanks,*

Jeanette Ageson,
publisher

David Beers,
editor-in-chief



*Top: The Tyee's publisher, Jeanette Ageson.
Bottom: The Tyee's founding editor and
current editor-in-chief, David Beers.*



2024 BY THE NUMBERS

1,258

Articles published

9,219,957

Page views

3,433,444

Site visitors

10,200

Individuals who gave through
the Tyee Builders program

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

AMANDA FOLLETT HOSGOOD

What was the most memorable story you worked on last year?

Throughout the fall, I worked on a [story](#) about a Wet'suwet'en totem pole that had been removed from Hagwilget Village nearly a century ago and taken to a museum in Paris, where it remains. Likhsilyu Clan members had recently visited it for the first time, which was an incredibly emotional experience. But it also raised difficult questions about how different cultures treat cultural heritage and how to move forward.

What makes it stand out?

The story was an opportunity to get out and meet with people in person. My work so often happens from behind a desk. That's partly the nature of the job, and there's a lot of interesting research that can be done online, but there's no substitute for visiting people at their home or office, maybe getting out for a walk. I think that's where you really begin to understand where they're coming from. I hope taking that time to connect allows those diverse perspectives to make their way into my reporting.

How would you describe your beat, and why have you gravitated toward it?

News is primarily reported through an urban lens and it can miss the human element of how decisions made in Ottawa or Victoria affect people living in more remote areas. As someone who has lived in northern B.C. for nearly 20 years, I want to share that perspective. Our region isn't just a huge resource bank that exists to feed the economy. There are people who live here and who are affected by these decisions. Those are the stories I want to tell.



How has your understanding or thinking about your beat changed since you started reporting on it?

My work with The Tyee really ramped up during the Coastal GasLink pipeline conflict in early 2020. Now, we're on the other side of that conflict. The pipeline is built. But the outstanding questions remain: Who decides what happens on the land? Who has a voice at that table? What values are prioritized and which are expendable? And when there is disagreement, is the response to find resolution or to use force? My reporting continues to explore those broader questions.

What's next for you on this beat?

I'm always looking for opportunities to get out and connect with people. I'll be on the road this summer and I hope to meet with people in Prince George and Williams Lake, maybe make it up to B.C.'s far northwest. There's a gathering planned for Kispixou, an absolutely stunning valley that is slated for pipeline development. I hope to make it there in August, to be on the land, enjoy the river and hear from the people who live there.

NEW FACES

In 2024 we were thrilled to add new members to The Tyee team, building out our reporting roster and strengthening the publishing arm of the organization.



Harrison Mooney joined as associate editor. He is an award-winning author and journalist from Abbotsford, B.C., who won the Rakuten Kobo Emerging Writer Prize for his debut memoir, *Invisible Boy*. The book was also nominated

for two B.C. and Yukon Book Prizes and the prestigious Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. His writing has appeared in the Vancouver Sun, the National Post, the Guardian, Yahoo and Maclean's.



In the fall, ace reporter **Ben Parfitt** came aboard. Ben has decades of journalism experience and a shelf full of prizes, including numerous Western Magazine, Webster and Canadian Science Writers awards plus two Canadian

Association of Journalists awards. Ben authored *Forest Follies: Adventures and Misadventures in the Great Canadian Forest* and co-authored, with Michael M'Gonigle, *Forestopia: A Practical Guide to the New Forest Economy*.



We also welcomed **Hina Imam** as our supporter engagement manager. Hina is also a multimedia journalist, writer, media facilitator and educator. She is interested in culture and art storytelling through a social justice lens with a focus on migration politics,

race and representation, gender and sexuality issues and labour rights. Her writing has appeared in the Walrus, Xtra Magazine, the Globe and Mail, CBC, The Tyee, Roads & Kingdoms and more. Previously, Hina was the spoken word manager at CiTR 101.9 FM, where she gained extensive experience mentoring youth and teaching them audio storytelling. She has also given several guest lectures on media ethics.



And we were fortunate to host **Jeevan Sangha** as our third Hummingbird immersion journalism fellow. Jeevan is a Surrey-based culture writer and editor. She enjoys writing about media, community and justice, with a lens that centres the experi-

ences of marginalized communities. Jeevan is a senior editor at Shado Magazine, a lived-experience community of artists, activists and organizers that publishes global perspectives on collective liberation. She also curates Shado's mentorship program, working closely to support first-time writers across the globe.

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

HARRISON MOONEY

What was the most memorable story you worked on last year?

I don't know if it's my most representative piece, but the [essay about Canadianisms](#) and efforts to publish a new Canadian English Dictionary was the most fun I've had at my desk since I got here last August.

What makes it stand out?

I'm a true word nerd, so when the University of British Columbia press release about the Canadian dictionary landed in my inbox, I threw everything else on my desk in the trash, so to speak. Maybe I'm alone here, but when someone offers you the opportunity to chat with the country's top linguists, oh buddy, you have to.



Everything about this linguistic project fascinated me. The criteria by which we define a “Canadianism”; the need to define our whole identity more clearly, especially amid the resurgence of nationalism; the troubling, colonial history embedded in the way we use words around these parts... there's a lot of *there* there, and it was thrilling to be given the freedom and space to make sense of it all.

How would you describe your beat, and why have you gravitated toward it?

I've been all over the map since I got here — politics, picture books, Nathan Fielder, horror movies. That's honestly just who I am. I never really know what will interest me or what I'll be inspired to write and file to my editors. I wish I did. As it stands, I'm as beatless as Brian Eno's *Music for Airports*. That said, I've settled into a satisfying role as an in-depth interviewer. I'm proud of every one, but some really stand out. My chats with Cory Doctorow, Vince Beiser and Jenny Heijun Wills are my favourites so far.

How has your understanding or thinking about your beat changed since you started reporting on it?

My focus has shifted from publishing a great interview to having a great conversation. If my subject and I are engaged, the result will be engaging.

I've been interviewed by people who did very little research. I hate that. I don't do that. I over-prepare. I love to read an author's work incredibly closely, then call the author up and ask a whole bunch of questions about what I read. It makes for lively conversation. For the reader, my aim nowadays is to publish a transcript that feels like you're in the room with us.

What's next for you on this beat?

More essays, of course, interspersed with more ambitious interviews. Bigger names, thornier subjects and so on. I take a lot of pride in every Q&A. My hope is that people can tell and, in time, my consistent track record opens a whole bunch of doors. Maybe one day I can interview Beyoncé's mom. That's how I'll know that I've made it.

JOURNALISM THAT MAKES AN IMPACT

As a non-profit newsroom, we're not aiming to maximize profits to shareholders (we don't have any). And we don't lock our articles behind a paywall. Our articles can travel far and wide and be read by everyone.

How can we tell those stories matter? We can see that thousands of people read just about every story we publish. More importantly, though, we want our reporting and analysis to add to our readers' understanding of what's going on, explore and explain complex topics and catalyze important conversations and actions.



To that end, we try to take notice and track when Tyee stories seem to cause a shift out there in the world. Here are some of the top impact moments we tracked in 2024:

Following [reporting from investigative journalist Charles Rusnell](#) in The Tyee, the Alberta NDP called for an independent public investigation into allegations of unethical conduct against a senior Alberta Health Services administrator.

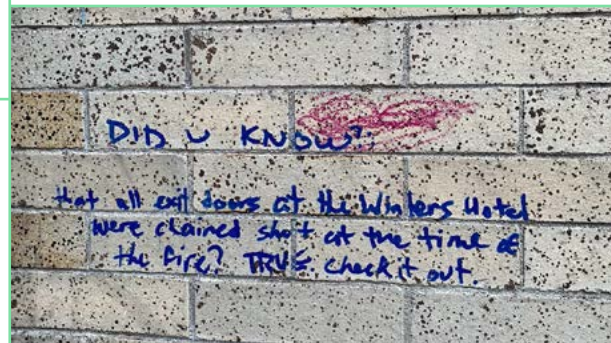
CBC wanted to know — how can journalism fight against polarization? So they invited Tyee founding editor David Beers for this [two part series](#).

The legal team for Lake Babine Nation complainants in a Canadian Human Rights Tribunal hearing used [reporting from Amanda Follett Hosgood](#) while questioning a witness with B.C.'s Public Safety Ministry. The lawyer highlighted that The Tyee was making the full report by the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP available to the public for the first time, despite the BC First Nations Justice Council asking the province to do this in a letter from March 8, 2023, and noted the amount of time that had elapsed without action from the province and others.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada cited [reporting from Bryan Carney](#) in its [special report](#) to Parliament on RCMP AI and Project Wide Awake tools.

Tyee reporting was heavily cited in a [B.C. human rights commissioner report](#), “Rights in Focus: Lived Realities in B.C.”

Meta has still blocked journalism on Facebook and Instagram in Canada, but readers are not deterred. Spotted in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside: a scrawled message sharing the details of Jen St. Denis’s reporting on the fires at the Winters Hotel.



JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

JEN ST. DENIS

What was the most memorable story you worked on last year?

The most memorable story I worked on last year was [a profile of Angelo Isidorou](#), one of the young men who recreated the Conservative Party of BC and positioned the party to slingshot out of the political wilderness and almost win the provincial election.

What makes it stand out?

I've been following Isidorou's career ever since I encountered him as a 20-year-old wearing a MAGA hat at the opening of the Trump International Hotel Vancouver in 2017. It was fascinating to dig into the world of online right-wing media and how it's changed over the years, influencing young men like Isidorou and shaping their political thinking. This generation is now a major force in modern politics in Canada.

How would you describe your beat, and why have you gravitated toward it?

I've traditionally been a reporter who focuses on city issues and housing, but in the second half of 2024 I switched up my beat to take a closer look at how right-wing political trends are influencing all levels of politics. Whether it's the mayor of Vancouver pushing bitcoin, Conservative Party of BC Leader John Rustad saying the government is going to make people eat bugs, or Pierre Poilievre talking about women's biological clocks, these ideas are constantly being introduced to voters. In my opinion, they need to be rigorously examined, and we're finding that readers have a huge appetite to read in-depth work on this topic.

How has your understanding or thinking about your beat changed since you started reporting on it?

I've had to really be aware of my own biases. For instance, when I was reporting on a B.C. ostrich farm that has been resisting an avian flu cull order, I was skeptical about some of the claims the

farm owners were making about antibody research — in part because the farm's cause had been taken up by convoy protest supporters, and those supporters were saying some pretty out-there stuff. But when I looked into it, they really were doing this research and it had value, according to the experts I spoke with. There was also more nuance than I expected when it came to the necessity of the cull.

What's next for you on this beat?

We're going to produce more reporting to help readers understand the information environment we're in. It feels like we've never had so much access to so much information — yet it's becoming harder and harder to tell when we're being exposed to mis- or disinformation, and with the ever-increasing use of AI, that's going to become even more challenging.



LIVING FOR THE WEEK- ENDER

Ciele Beau's artwork graces the sides of the former AlSCO building at 5 W. 4th Ave. in Vancouver's Mount Pleasant neighbourhood. The building was home to a uniform and linen laundry service. Photo for The Tyee by Jackie Wong.

In late November 2024, we launched The Tyee's Weekender, a new weekend culture magazine for the arts, life and ideas. The Weekender is live on The Tyee from Friday through Sunday night each week and features work by leading culture writers, including The Tyee's own talented staff roster and some of the most exciting freelancers working in our region.

With bold, immersive artwork and a new home page design, the Weekender's fresh visual presentation marks a departure from The Tyee's daily offerings and invites readers to kick back and celebrate the weekend with us. It aims to address a gap in independent arts and culture journalism in our region. Weekender offers bold ideas, incisive cultural analysis and a joyful approach to contemporary living that invites readers to think outside the box, see the world around them with fresh eyes and get creative with us.



[Subscribe to the Weekender newsletter](#) or tell a friend about it; Tyee culture editor Dorothy Woodend writes an unmissable weekly digest in the newsletter that many readers have come to anticipate as a Saturday morning treat.

SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM

Bottom left: Spincycle Yarns founders Kate Burge, left, and Rachel Price. They call themselves the Spinsters. Photo supplied.

Centre: Hanna Sholl makes art from fish leather in her quest to preserve the knowledge of her ancestors that colonizers attempted to 'put to sleep.' Photo via Facebook.



The Tyee has long been a hub for solutions journalism — a practice of journalism that goes deeper into systemic issues and seeks to ask how things might get better and who is leading the way.

In 2024, we showcased innovation in sustainable business practices in our bioregion (think: the region stretching from Alaska and B.C. all the way down the Oregon coast to northern California) through our [What Works](#) project, in partnership with Magic Canoe.

And we continued to host [Spotlight: Child Welfare](#), a collaborative journalism project hosted by The Tyee and managed by freelance journalist Brielle Morgan.



The project aims to improve the way media cover child and family well-being systems (a.k.a. the child welfare system). The Spotlight team is **building a model for community-driven, collaborative journalism** that can be applied to other regions and issues areas.

In 2024, the Spotlight team produced an online workshop series for journalists, delivered two community workshops, launched a collaborative reporting round and developed a resource guide.

The **workshop series for journalists** was attended by 75 people from across the country — including Melissa Ridgen, an award-winning Red River Métis journalist.

“If you’re serious about reconciliation you have to get involved in reporting on the child welfare industry — period,” Ridgen said. “Not enough [journalists] are getting in and doing this heavy lifting.... We have an obligation under the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s] Calls to Action to be doing this better.”



Spotlight: Child Welfare community workshop participants in Treaty 1 territory (Winnipeg).

[APTN](#), [Black Press](#), [IndigiNews](#), [The Discourse](#), [The Eastern Door](#), [The Independent](#), [The Tye and Village Media](#) — by facilitating

monthly meetings and offering story ideas, connections to lived experts and ongoing editorial support.

Finally, in response to community demand, Spotlight hired lived expert Nebula Shen to produce **a resource with guidelines about working with media for folks in/from care** (to be launched in fall 2025).

“There’s nothing to prepare a young person who’s in a vulnerable position to engage with the media,” said lived expert (and Spotlight adviser) Cheyenne Stonechild during a workshop.

In Treaty 1 (Winnipeg) and on unceded Coast Salish territory (Vancouver), Spotlight held **two community workshops**. Lived experts (i.e., people who have been through government “care”) said they appreciated the chance to question and challenge journalists about standard practices. They want opportunities to work with journalists on investigations, and support to create their own media.

Throughout the year, Spotlight **supported journalists from eight media organizations** —

AWARDS



Illustration for *The Tye* and Global Reporting Centre by Nora Kelly, from the article "A Migrant's Nightmare: Five Months Captive in Istanbul's Airport."



DIGITAL PUBLISHING AWARDS -
HONOURABLE MENTION

**General Excellence
in Digital Publishing
Award (Medium)**
The Tye



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
OF JOURNALISTS - SILVER

**Freedom of Information
Journalism**
Amanda Follett Hosgood

[BC Illegally Collected Personal Info
Tied to the Wet'suwet'en Conflict](#)



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
OF JOURNALISTS - NOMINATED

**CWA Canada/CAJ Award
for Labour Reporting**
Zak Vescera

[Poisoned Waters: The War Between
BC Ferries and Its Union](#)



DIGITAL PUBLISHING AWARDS -
HONOURABLE MENTION

**Best Topical Reporting:
Climate Change**
Peter Fairley

[They Had to Break the Law to Try
to Save Humanity](#)



DIGITAL PUBLISHING AWARDS -
HONOURABLE MENTION

**Best Feature Article:
Long category**
Amy Romer

[A Migrant's Nightmare: Five Months
Captive in Istanbul's Airport](#)

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

BEN PARFITT



What was the most memorable story you worked on last year?

There are a lot of bad things happening to our forests, and I spend much of my time writing about that. But in exposing what is going wrong, it also helps to shed light on how we might get to a better place. That's what I tried to do last year in writing "[What If BC Has Got It Totally Wrong on Forest Management?](#)" After enumerating how a one-size-fits-all approach to logging British Columbia's forests has triggered far-from-over economic and biodiversity crises, the piece explored how we might conserve more forests, begin the job of restoring damaged forest lands and set aside some areas of land where logging could continue. The piece pointed out that zoning is not a new idea but has been resisted in the past, making the stakes even higher now.

What makes it stand out?

The piece stands out, I think, because comparatively little is written about the impoverished lands we inherit following industrial logging. The piece showed just how much of the province's publicly owned forests have been drastically altered by logging, while also showing what the benefits would be in actively working to restore such lands. But restoration work is costly and will be for naught if restored lands are not zoned for future protection.

How would you describe your beat, and why have you gravitated toward it?

My beat is mostly covering forestry and other natural resource industries like natural gas and hydroelectric developments. I got interested in these things as a boy growing up in southern Ontario and travelling north each summer to visit my grandparents in the Timmins area, where my grandpa was the chief engineer at a large copper and gold mine.

How has your understanding or thinking about your beat changed since you started reporting on it?

What has really changed for me is my appreciation of just how extensive the industrial forest enterprise has been and how quickly we have burned through a resource that we will never see the likes of again.

What's next for you on this beat?

A bunch of things. Writing about threatened wildlife species like bull trout and northern goshawks and how in protecting them we protect a whole lot more. I also want to write about the fracking industry's rush for water in northeast B.C., a region where drought is increasingly common.

HOW WE PAY FOR IT

Our model is super simple:

We have a core steward who provides foundational funding to our operations. We bring in additional money through advertising, government funding and grants, and contracts for journalism fellowships and projects. And the rest, about half of our budget, comes from readers.

Last year, 10,200 people gave monthly, annual or one-time contributions ranging anywhere from \$2 to several thousand dollars.

A special thank you to The Lake Family's All One Fund, Rick and Della Strooboscher, and Eric Peterson and Christina Munk.

In 2024 we continued our partnership with Magic Canoe to publish What Works, The Tyee's series of stories about sustainable businesses in our bioregion. We were also pleased to receive renewed support from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation for reporting on Indigenous Marine Protected Areas. Grants were awarded by the Institute for Journalism and Natural Resources.

We were honoured to offer the third Hummingbird Immersion Journalism Fellowship, supporting a six-month paid opportunity for an emerging journalist with support from Rick and Della Strooboscher.

As mentioned previously, The Tyee is proud to host an innovative project, "Spotlight: Child Welfare," helmed by journalist Brielle Morgan. In 2024, this project was supported with grants from Inspirit Foundation, McConnell Foundation and the Law Foundation of BC. Their support of the project does not imply endorsement of or influence over content produced.

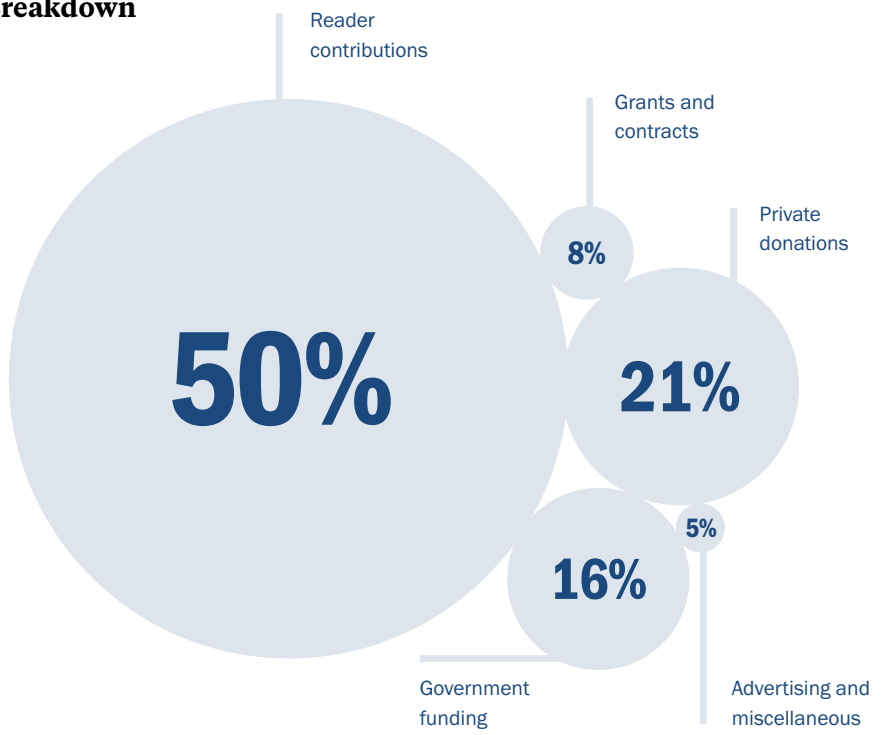
The Tyee is a qualified Canadian journalism organization, which means we have access to a refundable labour tax credit for part of our editorial salaries.

The Tyee's health reporter and labour reporter are supported through the Local Journalism Initiative, a program funded by the Government of Canada.

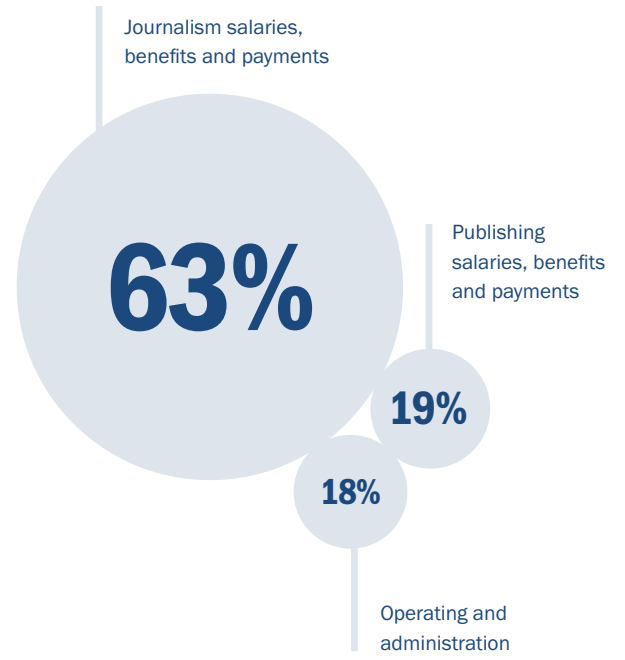
Canada



Revenue Breakdown



Expenses Breakdown



THANK YOU!



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**THE
TYEE**