

THE
TYEE



2025 IMPACT REPORT

OPENING LETTER

*All cover photos by
Kayla Isomura.*

*Hello,
dear readers,*

It's that time again for our annual check-in to let you know how things are going at The Tyee. Our 22nd year was a wild one. A snap federal election kept our reporting team sprinting for weeks, and we spent much of 2025 tracking unprecedented provocations aimed at Canada from our neighbours to the south.

Through it all, we kept calm and carried on building.

At a moment when newsrooms are shrinking, we welcomed some all-star talent to our editing and operations teams.

At a time when the arts are hard hit by cuts and dwindling exposure, we've grown our cultural coverage through the Weekender section and newsletter of the Tyee site. Arts and ideas are engines of positive change. That's why we regularly profile "creative forces" making a difference.

While our roots are firmly in B.C., we're increasingly essential to folks living elsewhere in Canada, showing up in more places than ever. Led by Edmonton-based veteran investigative reporter Charles Rusnell, our Alberta coverage is making waves by holding the government and its separatist wing accountable. "Indispensible" is a descriptor more than one reader has given our Alberta Edge political e-newsletter.

And in an era when sustainable models for journalism seem elusive, we achieved a milestone years in the making: The Tyee is now officially a registered journalism organization. That means we can issue tax receipts to our Tyee Builders. Readers responded by upping our membership to over 11,000 individuals this year. Every new Tyee investigation, expansion of coverage and decision to experiment is possible only because of this growing community support.

If 2025 was a wild year to be an independent digital news organization, well, what else is new? Fast-flowing change has always been the norm in this industry where evolving technology meets social tumult. But The Tyee's strategy stays the same. Do work readers can't find anywhere else, and trust that they will show up and value what we provide.

Yet again, you have proved us right, and we are grateful. We hope you enjoy this look inside our shop and everything your support makes possible.

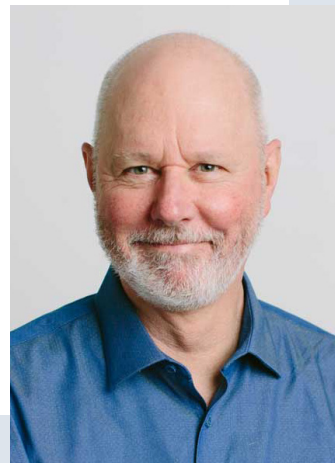
*With
thanks,*

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.



2025 BY THE NUMBERS

1,386

Articles published

12,593,812

Page views

4,852,298

Site visitors

11,310

Individuals who gave through
the Tyee Builders program

COVERING ONE WEIRD ELECTION

Illustration by
Indiana Joel.

When the 2025 federal election was more than a year away, Tyee editor-in-chief David Beers pronounced this one would be “like none before.” Reasons included a surge of right-wing populist sentiment mirroring the U.S. mood, rise of online “rage-farming” fuelling the movement, and the collapse of traditional media.



“The Tyee will deliver even more fact-based reporting and analysis that promote thoughtful, constructive discourse,” Beers pledged. “That’s our core mission because it strengthens democracy rather than tearing it apart.” He said this as Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre vowed to defund the CBC as prime minister and billionaire Mark Zuckerberg blocked news from being shared on Facebook and Instagram. If ever there was a time for independent media to step up, it was now.

Readers rallied to help fund our election coverage.

We delivered more than 60 original pieces on subjects ranging from “the Trump effect” to “reconciliation and the backlash” to “labour and wealth divide” and “energy and pipelines.” And then we [gathered all of them in one handy place](#) to help inform citizens’ choices.

Reflecting The Tyee’s commitment to homing in on issues national media might ignore, we provided a [special report](#) on controversies rocking Conservative candidate Aaron Gunn. He played cat and mouse with Powell River-area voters by avoiding public meetings, preferring friendly rallies in private settings. He also refused to speak with The Tyee. But we pressed on, laying bare his past and extreme social media posts, including attacks on reconciliation that had First Nations calling him unfit.

A split vote among Liberals, NDP and Greens enabled Gunn to win the Powell River riding. A year later, when the newly minted MP shocked many by denouncing land acknowledgments, no one who’d read The Tyee’s election coverage could have been surprised.

We also published a four-part series, “[On the Ballot: Survival of the CBC](#),” giving voice to

defenders of the national broadcaster and its key role in informing the citizenry. That was a no-brainer for The Tyee. We’ve always advocated for a diverse news media ecosystem where high standards flourish. What would Canada be without the CBC?

As the writ dropped, The Tyee relaunched its election newsletter, “The Run,” which has amassed 10,000 subscribers. All in all, our election stories received about a half-million page views.

Reflecting on what The Tyee’s newsroom accomplished, Beers summed it up this way: “We can feel proud that we made good on our promise. Our coverage was an ongoing reality check against false claims and disinformation running rife during the election. We served our readers well.”

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

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

[Insiders Detail Ways Alberta's For-Profit
Surgery Push Is Failing](#)

What makes it stand out?

I always strive to produce definitive journalism, which is irrefutable. This story was definitive because its narrative was based on interviews with two anesthesiologists working in the system and several senior Alberta Health Services officials who had direct knowledge of, and who had given direct warning about, the consequences of a health-care policy that ignored evidence, including evidence of suffering and death. It also contained irrefutable data from several sources, including leaked internal AHS data.

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

I have specialized in political and police accountability investigative journalism for my entire career — more than 40 years. I gravitated toward it because I realized early on that in addition to being extremely important in terms of holding power to account, there also never would be a shortage of work, and that is still the case.

The biggest change I have noticed over the years is the death of shame among people in power. Many politicians have no qualms about lying, even after the lie has been called out publicly.

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

I have always believed that investigative journalism was about effecting change in the public interest. In recent years, I think the goal is now simply to counter the tidal wave of misinformation and disinformation from governments and bad-faith actors that is undermining democracy everywhere.

**What's next for you on this beat?**

I generally don't talk about what I'm working on, but I will definitely be producing more stories about the separatist movement in Alberta and the province's dysfunctional health-care system.

NEW FACES

In 2025 we welcomed some stellar new additions to our journalism and operations teams.



Isaac Phan Nay joined The Tyee as a reporter covering the labour beat. He previously was a reporter/editor at CBC News in Vancouver, where

he covered local news for web and broadcast. Before that, he reported and produced *The Road* podcast for Canada's National Observer.



We were pleased to welcome **Tyler Olsen** as a senior editor this year.

He helped start the Fraser Valley Current and ran the outlet for four

years, receiving nominations for National Newspaper Awards in three consecutive years, winning once.

Before the Current, he was a reporter at community newspapers in Vernon, Chilliwack and Abbotsford.

He has won B.C.'s highest journalism honour, the Jack Webster Award, four times and been a finalist on three other occasions. Over his career, he has covered crime, health care, education, sports, business and various other topics. In addition to community publications, his writing has appeared in national newspapers and magazines.



Carla Pellegrini started as our first chief operating officer, helping to support the operations of our

growing organization and staff team. Prior to joining The Tyee, she worked in non-profit management and operations in Canada and abroad for over 15 years across a wide range of sectors, including agriculture, education, affordable housing, food security and social finance.

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

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

A series of articles on school liaison officer (SLO) programs putting police officers in schools. In 2023, the Vancouver School Board restarted its SLO program with the Vancouver Police Department. The previous school board cancelled the program over concerns about the impact on Black and Indigenous students.

Then in 2025, the education minister fired the Victoria school board over a district safety plan, after the board's decision to cancel its own SLO program in 2023.

The series included a two-part explainer on the role B.C. police play in schools. I also reported on using freedom of information requests to gather more information on Vancouver's new SLO program.

What makes it stand out?

No other media outlet examined the relationship between B.C.'s 60 public school districts and police. We were able to establish how many districts had formal programs, informal police relationships or no police interaction at all beyond calls for assistance.

My reporting pushed Vancouver Police to publish the names and school assignments of their SLOs, information that was public under the old SLO program. But when I asked for it for the new program, Vancouver Police said this would potentially put officers' safety at risk.

I also revealed what training SLOs receive, after previous reporting found officers under the old program did not receive specialized training, as police claimed.

How would you describe your beat, and why have you gravitated toward it? Has it changed over the years?

Until last fall, my beat was public education from early childhood to post-secondary.



Photo by Kayla Isomura.

I have also previously reported extensively on B.C.'s child welfare system and its impact on kids, families and communities. An incredibly heavy but important topic that unfortunately I had to step back from.

Last November, my beat changed to Vancouver civic reporting in anticipation of the Oct. 17 municipal elections. After 15 years of reporting on school boards, it's been interesting to look at city hall and park board. All are elected bodies overseeing public institutions. But the way they operate — and how willing they are to talk to me — is different.

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

Before 2010, my only public education connection was as a student in Newfoundland and Labrador. I didn't know who was on the school board. I was unaware B.C. invested public money in private schools. I didn't know the teachers' union was among the most powerful in B.C.

It seems obvious now. But before reporting on decolonizing education, and the importance of ensuring First Nations and Métis students see themselves, their cultures, languages and ways of knowing reflected in curriculum, I was oblivious to the issue.

What's next for you on this beat?

Municipal elections are in October. They have the lowest voter turnout, even though these bodies have the most direct impact on residents. Expect more coverage this fall on candidates, platforms and the major issues facing communities.

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 article we publish, but page views are not the whole story. 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.

'A Vancouver Landlord Keeps Being Allowed to Evict Tenants. Why?' by Jen St. Denis. Photo for The Tyee by Kayla Isomura.



**To that end, we try to take notice
and track when Tyee stories seem to
cause a shift out there in the world.**

TOP IMPACT MOMENTS WE TRACKED IN 2025

Following [reporting](#) by Katie Hyslop on cuts to settlement programs, an organization stepped up to fund youth programs at a neighbourhood house featured in the article.

A focus on housing: Following [reporting](#) by Maya ElHawary on a renter facing repeated eviction threats, compliance and enforcement officials from the Residential Tenancy Branch told tenant advocates they would look into the case. After [reporting](#) by Jen St. Denis on renters facing repeated eviction threats, Vancouver Coun. Pete Fry [introduced a motion](#) calling for the city to explore stricter tenant protections. The motion, which cited The Tyee's and other news media's reporting on multiple cases, passed unanimously.

Stories first published on The Tyee extend far beyond our pages. In 2025 we tracked our original articles getting picked up or discussed on radio shows at CKNW, CBC, Kootenay Co-op Radio, CHED 880 and 1130 NewsRadio, on an episode of TVO Today and in further reporting by the Vancouver Sun and the Walrus. Through the Local Journalism Initiative, our health and labour articles were reprinted in outlets all over B.C.

After an [article](#) by Isaac Phan Nay about the Burnaby Public Library shuttering its DEI working groups, the library's board of directors [put forward more funding](#) to keep the groups working.

After an initial article in 2022 by Katie Hyslop about the death of Darwyn Danesh, the B.C. ombudsperson [investigated](#) the lack of palliative care services available for him.

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

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

My essay exploring our fascination with the reality TV series *Selling Sunset* struck a chord with our readers I didn't expect it to! As I faced questions like affording housing and where to live long-term, I pondered my ironic bingeing of this show and the difference between some innocent escapism and the potential dangers of long-term avoidance. Fantasizing vicariously through these characters provided relief from my renting woes, but the clash between what I saw in my media diet and walking out my door and in my city became too dystopian to ignore.

What makes it stand out?

A few months after publishing, TVO asked to interview me on the subject, so I went into their Toronto studio to talk about rewatching



Photo by Kayla Isomura.

our favourite nostalgic TV shows and why we love escapist reality TV — and how to know when it goes too far. The co-president of Proper Television was also on that panel, and it was fascinating to hear the behind-the-scenes of how reality TV gets casted and made. I was also so proud to end up winning The Tyee's first National Newspaper Award in the category of arts and entertainment for this essay, alongside my essay on nostalgia for AI slop.

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

I describe my areas of coverage as media, tech and culture. I've reported on Canada's regulation of Big Tech (or lack thereof); I've covered social media platforms and their impact on the journalism landscape; I've written reviews of video games and episodic series; I've written about the impacts of generative AI on how we engage with media and each other. I gravitate toward these subjects because I'm deeply interested in storytelling, access to information and how we as individuals are affected by the world of media and tech. These are sprawling subjects, so I tend to have an open mind for covering different kinds of stories. Whether it's writing essays on how we process grief or investigating a potential AI freelance scammer, the stuff I get to write about is always so dynamic and so fun.

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

It feels like my stance on generative AI changes every day. On one hand, I hear the forward-thinking perspectives

of journalists who believe in the power of new technologies to help us alleviate the crises faced by the journalism industry. On the other hand, I hear the negative effects that AI cooling centres have on the environment or the dangers of a sycophantic tool further isolating folks who need mental health support. What troubles me most, though, is probably the egotistical intentions behind these artificial intelligence tools invented and propagandized by individuals who wish to immortalize themselves in some way and set the world on fire before they go.

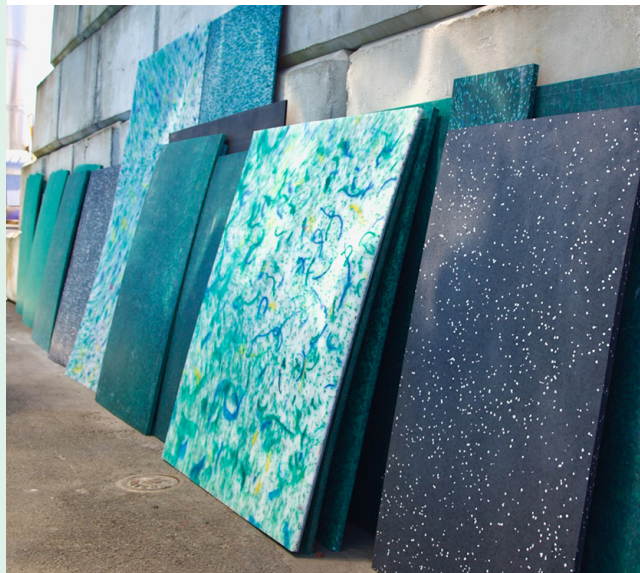
What's next for you on this beat?

I'm interested in how technology, work-from-home culture and globalization have resulted in increasing isolation among members of society. I'd love to write more about the analogue trend and wellness culture, and I'm also interested in returning to profile writing. The Tyee's Weekender has been an incredible place to explore these kinds of writing, and I'm so grateful for the Tyee readers who enjoy pondering these subjects alongside me over their morning coffees.

SOLUTIONS JOURNALISM

Bottom left: Boards made of recycled rope and other plastics recovered by Ocean Legacy are sold as part of patio furniture and even wall art. Photo for The Tyee by Katie Hyslop.

Centre: Chloé Dubois, Ocean Legacy co-founder and executive director, in the warehouse office in Richmond, BC. Photo for The Tyee by Katie Hyslop.



The Tyee has long practised something called solutions journalism, which is a process that asks not only “What happened yesterday?” and “Who is to blame?” but also “What might go right tomorrow?” and “Who is showing the way?” Put simply, it’s a path out of the doom-and-gloom drumbeat that can take up so much of the real estate of news sites while still grappling with serious issues. We’re so fond of the practice that we maintain a whole section on our site labelled “Solutions.”

In 2025, we continued to showcase innovation in sustainable business practices in our bioregion 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 journalist Brielle Morgan.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPOTLIGHT

At Spotlight workshops in Nova Scotia, Nebula Shen [shared tips](#) with [their peers](#) about working with journalists as someone with lived experience in 'care.'

[Spotlight: Child Welfare](#) is a collaborative journalism project that was launched in response to concerns — from former youth in “care,” Indigenous mothers and advocates — about status quo media coverage.

This project aims to support and produce community-driven, trauma-informed stories about child and family well-being systems. It's hosted by The Tyee and guided by an [advisory](#) made up of people with lived experience in government “care,” and journalists.



After co-organizing workshops in Westphal and Eskasoni, Nova Scotia, in April 2025, Spotlight fellows Jamey Toney-Gagne, Gage Sabattis and Sasheen Regalado shared next steps in [this report](#).

In 2025, Spotlight provided ongoing support to journalists covering child welfare across the country. Every month, Spotlight facilitated an online meeting where reporters and editors discussed story ideas and reporting ethics. Participating newsrooms included: APTN, Black Press, IndigiNews, The Discourse, The Eastern Door, The Independent, The Resolve, The Tyee and Village Media.

In April, Spotlight hosted two community workshops on the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey and Peskotomuhkati peoples in the place colonially known as Nova Scotia. Spotlight hired three local Indigenous fellows deeply familiar with the child “welfare” system to help organize and deliver these workshops. Participants included former youth in “care,” journalists, social workers, educators and support people.

Fallon Peter-Paul identifies as a proud First Nations woman and artist. “It was nice to engage in conversations that emphasized safety, authenticity and human-centred approaches to sharing stories,” she wrote after the workshop.

In the fall, Spotlight trained 24 people with lived experience in the child “welfare” system as sensitivity editors. The majority are Indigenous, Black or racialized. These editors are paid to review draft stories by journalists in the collaborative and give feedback prior to publication — flagging concerns (e.g., problematic language) and critical context to consider adding.



Spotlight also published a [guide by and for lived experts who want to work with journalists](#). It breaks down journalism lingo and offers tips on pitching, navigating interviews and safe storytelling practices.

Lived experts interested in working with journalists are encouraged to download [this free guide](#) from spotlightchildwelfare.com/get-involved.

AWARDS

National Newspaper Award — Winner	ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT	Sarah Krichel	I Used to Love ‘Selling Sunset.’ Now Escapism Is Wearing Thin Help! I’m Nostalgic for the Days of AI Slop
Digital Publishing Award — Winner	LEADERSHIP	David Beers	
Canadian Association of Journalists — Gold	GEOFFREY STEVENS AWARD FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING	Tyler Olsen (with Kristen Holliday of Castanet)	Mayor of Chaos: How Kamloops Politics Became Infamous
Digital Publishing Award — Honourable Mention	GENERAL EXCELLENCE, MEDIUM	The Tye	
Digital Publishing Award — Honourable Mention	BEST NEWS COVERAGE	Jen St. Denis, Andrew MacLeod, Michelle Gamage (editors andrea bennett, Paul Willcocks)	B.C.’s Insurgent Right
Digital Publishing Award — Honourable Mention	BEST FEATURE ARTICLE, LONG	Jen St. Denis	What Really Happened to Katika? A Tye Investigation
Canadian Association of Journalists — Finalist	JANICE JOHNSTON AWARD FOR CRIME AND JUSTICE REPORTING	Jen St. Denis	What Really Happened to Katika? A Tye Investigation
Canadian Association of Journalists — Finalist	SAME DAY STORY	Jen St. Denis	Who Is Othman Mekhloufi, the Far-Right Poster Behind OneBC’s Strife?
Canadian Association of Journalists — Finalist	LABOUR REPORTING	Isaac Phan Nay	A Janitor Died on the Job at SFU. Co-workers Want Change
Canadian Association of Journalists — Finalist	STUDENT JOURNALISM AWARD OF EXCELLENCE	Kristen de Jager	We Finally Know What’s Killing So Many Starfish
Canadian Journalism Foundation — Finalist	CLIMATE SOLUTIONS REPORTING	Lauren Watson	A Wildfire Threatened Squamish. Your Town Could Be Next

JOURNALIST SPOTLIGHT

ISAAC PHAN NAY

Photo by
Kayla Isomura.

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

Last summer, I worked on a feature about the seafarers who arrive in Vancouver's ports, and their relationships with local port workers. The piece shed light on the difficulties and danger seafarers face while working in international waters — and the ways Canadian laws exacerbated their troubles.

What makes it stand out?

I got to join a surprise ship inspection at Vancouver's port. It was a first-hand look at some seafarers' working conditions.

I had just come from a series of jobs writing general news for other organizations, where I was expected to write the news from my desk. But now, I had the time and space to embed with a group of port workers and union organizers to see news unfold in real time — meaning I could get the whole story.

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

We spend a third of our adult lives at work. We move cities for new jobs and our vocations become parts of our identity and sense of self. The world of work is the most central thing to many of our lives. When I first came to The Tyee, I was excited to cover all the ways in which the world of work was changing.

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

Since I started at The Tyee, a couple of things have changed. First, I started to cover corporate responsibility. Second, I noticed I was covering many of the same events as business publications — just from a different lens. I realized most business reporting is for employers, owners or



readers with means. But in these trying times, that's a small and dwindling portion of Canada's population. What's left unsaid are the ways that business news changes the lives of working Canadians. So I reframed how I think about my work. Across both my beats, I do business reporting for the working class.

What's next for you on this beat?

The team at The Tyee has a wealth of experience investigating corruption and conflicts of interest. I'm hoping to draw on that experience and build my skills telling the kinds of stories that hold power and money to account. I'm excited to have the space and support to produce more journalism that empowers our working-class readers.

HOW WE PAY FOR IT

Our model is super simple:

The majority of our budget comes directly from reader support — our Tyee Builder members who pitch in an amount that works for them, on a frequency that works for them. In 2025, over 11,000 people gave to The Tyee through our Tyee Builders program — wow!

We also bring in additional income from advertising, grants and contracts for special reporting projects, government programs that support journalism and donations from individuals.

A special thank you to Rick and Della Strooboscher, the Vohra Miller Foundation and Eric Peterson and Christina Munck.

In 2025 we continued our partnership with Magic Canoe to publish What Works, The Tyee's series of stories about sustainable businesses in our bioregion. As mentioned previously, The Tyee is proud to host an innovative project, Spotlight: Child Welfare, helmed by journalist Brielle Morgan. In 2025, this project was supported with funding from Inspirit Foundation,

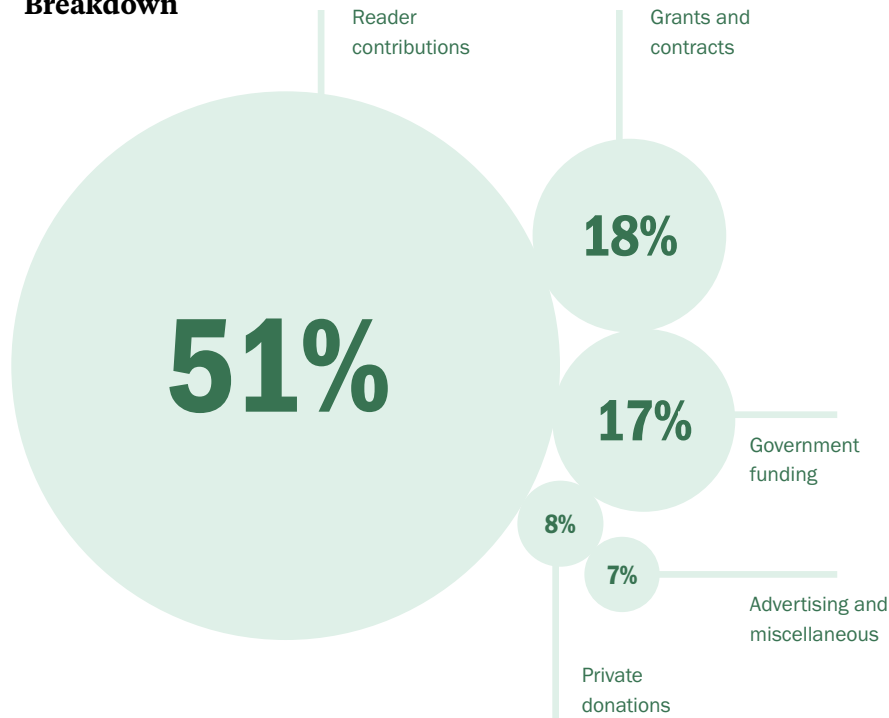
McConnell Foundation, the Law Foundation of British Columbia and Ulnooweg Indigenous Communities Foundation. Their support of the project does not imply endorsement of or influence over content produced.

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, and we also receive funding through the Aid to Publishers program.

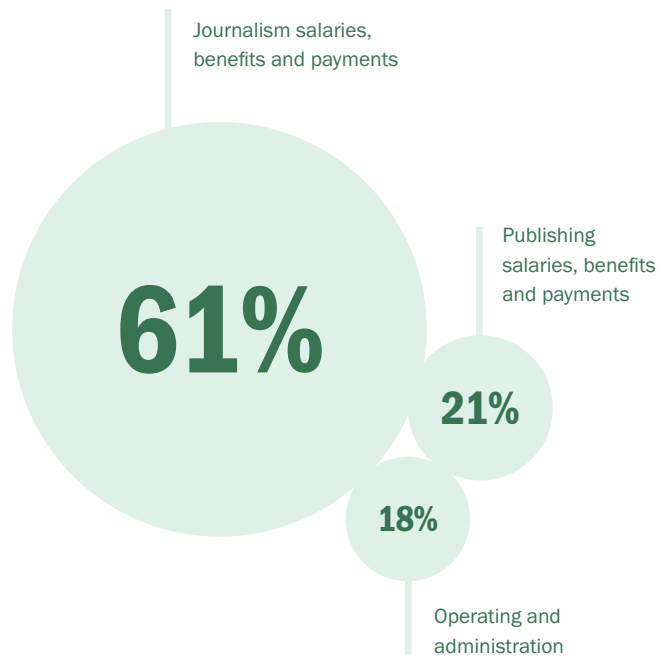
Canada



Revenue Breakdown



Expenses Breakdown



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