Impact investing in an Indigenous context

A new report from the UBC Sauder Centre for Social Innovation & Impact Investing and Purpose Capital looks at the state of impact investing in the Canadian Indigenous context. Indigenous issues remain at the forefront of Canadian policy, with many communities still lacking infrastructure and services related to water, education, economic development, and health. While these issues have traditionally been targeted by government, non-profits and charities, private investors might have a role as well. This report seeks to answer: What is being done by impact investors, and how can the sector contribute to Indigenous communities in Canada?

Diversity and inclusiveness

At the Victoria Forum in November 2017, we learned that to go forward we must acknowledge and address the past, but not be encumbered by it. Canada has prospered as a nation when we have embraced diversity and when we have opened our economy to trade, migration and foreign investment.

The Forum brought together business leaders, policymakers, academics, civil society and Indigenous communities to discuss diversity, inclusion and sustainable prosperity. Out of the conversations, we garnered 38 recommendations, which are discussed in detail in the Report of the Inaugural Victoria Forum.

Resilient communities: love where you live

Capital Regional District park naturalists have made a series of videos with Shaw TV. This one shows some of our early spring flowers – blooming near you now! And this one takes a look at Fido and Daffy in our waterfront parks. There’s lots more information on the CRD Parks website.

HBS Cases: Stella McCartney combines high fashion with environmental values

“What this case shows is that luxury and sustainability share similar values,” according to this Harvard Business School article. “Luxury is all about being the best, having the very best. Products that cause misery or environmental damage now or in the future are no longer considered to be the best in class.” That article is linked to a larger piece in HBS’s Working Knowledge entitled 8 Ways To Be An Environmentally Conscious Manager.

Transparency via blockchain

The notion of a decentralized, public ledger of consensus-driven facts about the world—which is what a blockchain is—has uses well beyond wild-eyed, crypto-anarchist dreams. In our latest truth crisis, near real-quality video editing and creation, AKA deepfakes, anyone’s face can now be superimposed on anyone else’s, creating uncannily authentic videos of just about anything.

But, according to this article in Wired, “What problems powerful computation gives, powerful computation can (usually) also take away, at least partially.” Find out how a Texas company is using blockchain technology to counter deepfakes.