

# Geoff Love



Love Environment

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## **Career Highlights**

- Love Environment was engaged for 24 months as a member of a team of professionals to help design, develop and implement in British Columbia the first 100% extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for packaging and printed paper to be established in North America
- Helped establish Stewardship Ontario as Ontario's first industry-led producer responsibility organization under the Waste Diversion Act; created and managed its \$25 million innovation fund to advance best practices for recycling programs in Ontario
- Co-founder & managing partner of RIS Ltd, an environmental consulting company that grew from a start-up venture in Toronto to five offices in three countries with \$8 million in sales
- Developed the award-winning "Action By Canadians" climate change national engagement/ action program; developer of Canadian Youth Eco-Parliament eco-footprint project
- Pioneer in the development of "Blue Box Recycling" in Ontario, US and Europe. The Blue Box is an internationally recognized Canadian social innovation that received a UN award of merit
- Co-creator of an executive search service dedicated to senior manager positions in the environmental, sustainability and Clean Tech fields
- Co-founder EPR Canada; Past Chair of Friends of the Earth Canada; former member of Toronto Atmospheric Fund Grants Committee; former public engagement/outreach worker (and subsequently Chair) of Pollution Probe; former member of federal Public Education and Outreach table for climate change.

## **Key Skills and Competencies**

- Strategic Leadership
  - Creating strategic vision and tactical approaches to achieve business, government and not-for-profit organizations' sustainability goals and objectives; successful at working in collaboration with government, business, citizen, ENGO & other stakeholders.
- Business Planning
  - Developing and implementing business and strategic plans for businesses and non-government organizations; 25 years of project management experience overseeing the planning, delivery, evaluation and direction of complex environmental projects.
- Communications
  - Highly skilled at external strategic communications planning and execution; ability to translate complex ideas into actionable measures; a team builder and natural networker.
- Social Entrepreneurship
  - Have started and managed several social/environmental business and not for profit initiatives – EPR Canada, Youth Ventures, Is Five Community Economic Development Corporation, the Conservation Store, Montage Software and Enviros-RIS Canada Ltd.
- Environmental Recruitment
  - Since 2010 Geoff and his partners have created a unique and specialized recruitment service, focusing on senior environmental and sustainability positions for private sector companies and associations.

## **Professional Experience**

### **President, Love Environment**

2008-present

In 2002, I created the company Love Environment to pursue project work in four main areas: waste diversion/extended producer responsibility; climate change/energy conservation; environmental project management/strategic planning and environmental/sustainability recruiting. I commonly work in collaboration with other professionals and firms on complex environmental challenges and solutions. While I continue to work internationally on occasion (e.g. a recent trip to Moscow on behalf of OECD for a workshop on EPR), the majority of my project work is now in Canada. Since leaving Stewardship Ontario in 2008, I continue with selected project work on EPR issues with SO and Waste Diversion Ontario. The first 100% extended producer responsibility program for printed paper and packaging to be established in North America was successfully launched in May 2014. My last task for that project was to assist CSSA and MMBC in hiring a Director of Operations who is responsible for meeting the overall program targets and operational goals.

### **VP Technical Services, Stewardship Ontario, Toronto**

2003-2008

Helped establish Ontario's Blue Box Industry Funding Organization - Stewardship Ontario - and created and served as manager of the organization's five year, \$25 million fund for recycling innovations. Helped to create Waste Diversion Ontario in 2002 and to establish Stewardship Ontario as Canada's first shared producer responsibility corporation. My primary focus was developing and leading the group that now pays out about \$90 million per year to Ontario municipalities for blue box recycling. Served as the project director for: the design and oversight of a successful \$3 million multi-media consumer education program to support/encourage recycling; the creation and launch of an interactive web-based Knowledge Network to disseminate recycling best practices; and several technical and outreach projects including an analysis of the greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction benefits of recycling and waste diversion. Until 2006, I served (on contract) as VP of Corporations Sharing Responsibility (CSR) to support market development and producer responsibility initiatives across Canada. Twenty years earlier, I helped prepare the first business plan for Ontario Multi-Material Recycling (CSR's predecessor), establishing Canada's first non-share capital producer responsibility corporation.

### **President - Enviros/RIS Canada, Toronto**

1998-2002

Served as President of Enviros RIS Canada for 4 years. My business partner and I sold our consulting company Resource Integration Systems (RIS) to a UK "green" venture capital firm in 1998 to better access the growing environmental services market in Europe. I was responsible for both the continued growth of the Toronto consulting business during this period and for the launch of new energy management software and related energy conservation services introduced to North America from the UK. Prior to the sale, RIS had grown to five offices with 75 employees in Canada, USA, Belgium and the UK with \$8 million/year in sales.

### **Resource Integration Systems - Consultant, Senior Vice President and Partner**

1985-1997

Resource Integration System - RIS - is still recognized internationally as the pioneer in the development of Blue Box Recycling. Starting in Kitchener Ontario in 1985, RIS was instrumental in spreading recycling to tens of millions of homes around the world. The Blue Box program received a UN Environmental award in 1989 for its unique contribution to both tapping into public interest in resource conservation while at the same time growing a new sector of environmental businesses. Blue Box recycling is acclaimed as one of the most successful, concrete, made-in-Canada examples of public action and engagement in the world for living more sustainably.

In addition to work on hundreds of waste diversion projects in Canada and the US, I was responsible for opening new offices in Brussels and the UK as environmental business opportunities expanded across Europe. I became a partner in the business in the late 1980's and senior vice-president overseeing US and European operations as the business grew. I was the leader of a multi-year, multi-million dollar project to implement blue box recycling across Europe and also created and directed RIS's energy services business unit that included (over its history): Canada's first retail "Conservation" store; a home weatherization service; and an award winning environmental training group.

Independent Consultant, Toronto – IS 5 Foundation, Youth Ventures Developments 1981-1985

I set up my first independent consulting company to undertake local environmental action projects in Toronto in 1981. I helped grow Canada's first curbside recycling program in East York, operated by the community economic development corporation, the Is Five Foundation. I also prepared the original business plan and incorporated Youth Ventures Developments – a not-for-profit paper recycling business dedicated to hiring hard to employ youth (eventually serving as the Chair of the Board).

Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa 1978-1980

I worked in Ottawa for two years for the newly formed federal Office of Energy Conservation, responsible for renewable energy project outreach and developments across Canada. I also worked as a field worker supporting energy efficiency projects in Ontario for the Community Liaison Team, which later became the first consulting cooperative in Canada.

Pollution Probe: Central Toronto Youth Services 1974-1978

After graduating from York University, I had a number of short-term employment contracts in the environmental and social development fields. I joined Pollution Probe three years after the organization's start up to support locally initiated environmental action projects across Ontario. I also worked as a street worker with disadvantaged youth, with a particular focus on youth employment and community economic development needs and opportunities.

## **Teaching, Training and Presentations**

Seneca College: Mobile Intensive Learning Experience (MILE) Program instructor for three semesters; Renewable Energy Technology Courses.

RIS Ltd: Created and managed RIS's Training Services Division for 15 years. Projects included:

- Self-employment/micro finance training for the Ontario Social Development Council
- Energy Retrofit construction training program for Eskasoni Reserve, Nova Scotia
- "Action by Canadians" climate change training program for Energy Council of Canada (winner of Ontario Society for Training and Development Award)
- Waste diversion training program design/delivery across North America and Europe

Articles and Presentations – In more than 30 years in the environmental field, I have authored hundreds of technical reports and public information articles on environmental subjects ranging from climate change to integrated waste management. I have made presentations at dozens of conferences and in government and corporate boardrooms across North America and Europe on diverse subjects such as the role of social movements in addressing climate change challenges, green entrepreneurship and extended producer responsibility.

## **Education**

Hons. B.A. (French & Philosophy), Glendon College, 1973

B.S.W. (Bachelor of Social Work), Atkinson College, York University, 1978

M.E.S. (Masters of Environmental Studies), York University, 1984

## **Community Affiliations**

For over 30 years, I have been active in the ENGO movement. After 7 years on the Board, I recently stepped down as Chair of the Board of Friends of the Earth Canada and joined the Energy and Environment advisory committee in our new home town of Stratford Ontario. I also recently co-founded Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Canada. EPR Canada was formed as a not for profit association by an initial group of 7 experienced EPR practitioners with the mission to ensure the continued growth and improvement of EPR policies, programs and practices across Canada. (for more information, please visit [eprcanda.ca](http://eprcanda.ca))

I have served as a volunteer with two conservation organizations in my previous home community – the Concerned Citizens of King and the Oak Ridge Moraine Trail Association. In June 2007, I was appointed to the Grants Committee of the Toronto Atmospheric Fund (stepping down from TAF in 2012) and was a reviewer for the 2007 Alcan International Sustainability awards. I am the past Chair of Youth Ventures Developments and a past director of Is Five Foundation. I was the Chair of Pollution Probe and a member of the Public Education and Outreach Table that advised the federal government on climate change policies and programs. I also served as a peer reviewer for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' \$500 million Green Fund Program.

Summaries of some of my project experience in my core areas of activity are posted on the Love Environment web-site. The web site also includes descriptions of selected major reference projects. Additional project descriptions and professional and personal references are also available on request.