



Sightline
INSTITUTE

2018 Gratitude Report

2018

Sightline's mission is to make the Northwest a global model of sustainability—strong communities, a green economy, and a healthy environment.

Smart solutions for a sustainable Northwest

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**Sightline Daily Editor*

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In North Africa in 1942, the Allies finally won their first major victory, halting the advance of fascism then emanating from the East. Winston Churchill declared, "This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning."

To me, the year 2018 felt similar. The Cascadian movement for solutions to climate change and other epochal challenges slowed the onslaught of an anti-science, anti-environment ideology emanating from the East. We—you and I of Sightline and our many allies—stopped its advance.

We have not yet defeated all the fossil fuelers' schemes. They have laid siege to Coos Bay and Kalama, with plans for fracked-gas derivatives,

and to Burnaby Mountain, with the proposed Trans-Mountain Pipeline. But thanks to your support, the Thin Green Line held off all three all year.

We have not yet won a price on carbon pollution in Oregon and Washington. Indeed, the defeat of I-1631 by a barrage of oil money disappointed our year's fondest aspiration. But we are increasingly hopeful for victory in Oregon this spring, thanks to your support.

We have not yet converted Cascadia's cities to compact, walkable places no longer dependent on the combustion of fossil fuels. But we did begin to see cracks in the walls of exclusion that have kept additional homes out of neighborhoods with access to jobs, transit, and schools. Indeed, in 37 Cascadian cities, thanks to your support, officials began welcoming modest dwellings such as backyard cottages.

We have not yet upgraded our democracy to gerrymander-free, spoiler-proofed, clean-money elections where the popular vote always determines the balance of power. Indeed, British Columbia's referendum on instituting proportional representation, which we supported energetically thanks to your support, proved too much, too soon. But we did win automatic voter registration in Washington, and we've seen surging interest in ranked-choice voting.

Like the Allies in 1942, we are not yet winning. Far from it. But we are no longer losing either. We have stemmed the tide; next, we will turn it. We are, I believe, at the end of the beginning... thanks to your support.

Alan Durning, Executive Director
SIGHTLINE INSTITUTE

A few examples of Sightline's 2018 Impacts

Together, with your support:



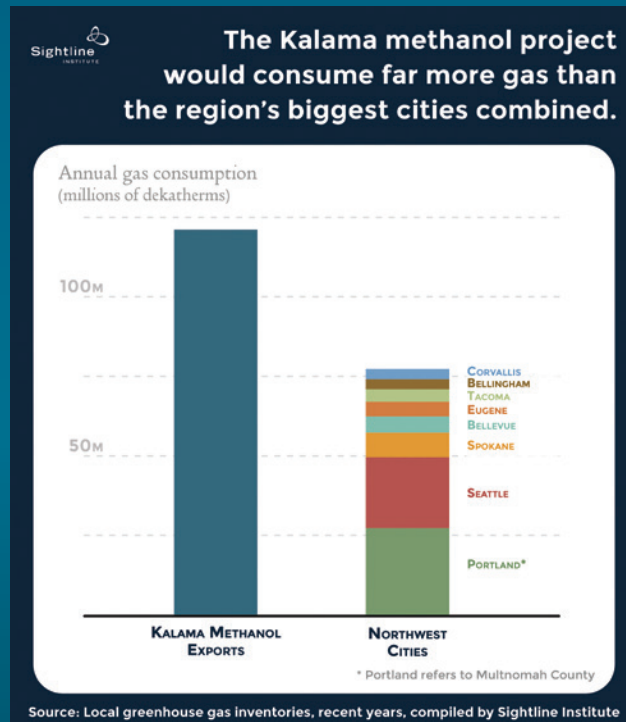
WE ARE HOLDING THE THIN GREEN LINE:

Stopping coal, oil, and fracked gas expansion

In 2018, municipalities up and down the Cascadian coast—from Portland to Tacoma to Whatcom County—continued to preemptively ban new fossil fuel infrastructure through local land-use law. By putting land off limits to new refineries, pipelines, and shipping terminals, Sightline is helping to hold the line.

MEDIA:

105 news articles cited or were influenced by Sightline Thin Green Line research, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Reuters*, and *The Guardian*.



WE ARE FOSTERING GREEN CITIES:

More Homes for All—in All Shapes and Sizes

Cascadians are hungry for housing choices in green, compact, walkable neighborhoods. At least 37 cities in Cascadia welcomed more accessory dwellings in their neighborhoods by updating rules to make it easier for homeowners to build backyard cottages, basement apartments, and mother-in-law suites.

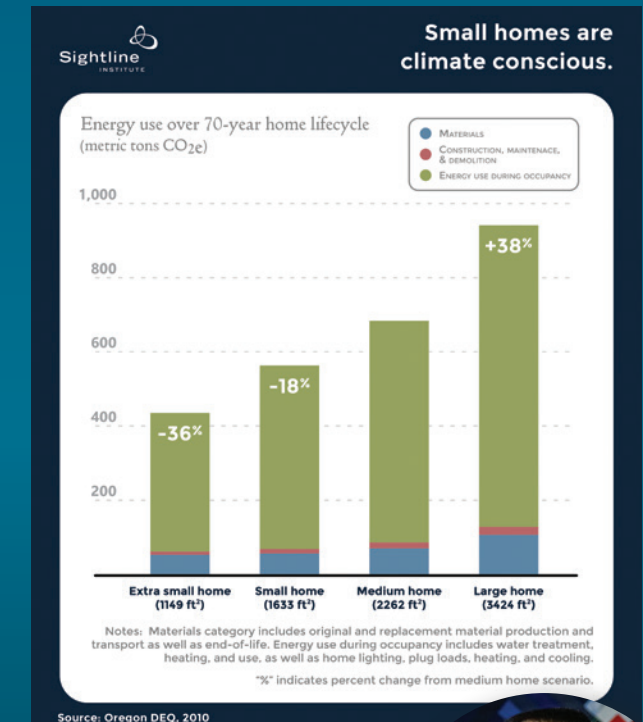
MEDIA:

139 news articles quoted or cited Sightline housing and urbanism research, including in the *Economist* and the *New York Times*.

“Sightline Institute has infected our communities with more good ideas than anybody else around.”

Jay Inslee

GOVERNOR OF WASHINGTON STATE



WE ARE UPGRADING OUR DEMOCRACY:



The Year of the Voter

In 2018, Washington became the 12th US jurisdiction to adopt automatic voter registration. Sightline also helped introduce a Washington local options bill, which would free jurisdictions to eliminate primaries by using ranked-choice voting and switch from winner-take-all to proportional representation.

MEDIA:

Our work on voting reform earned mentions and placements in *Vox* and *USA Today*.

“We say we want every vote to count. We say we want to return power to voters. We say we want more choices and more voices in politics. If we mean it when we say these things, then we’ve got to get behind proportional representation. It’s a potent antidote to winner-take-all politics.”

Eric Liu

AUTHOR OF *YOU'RE MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU THINK*



Sightline in the Community

ONLINE:

In 2018, Sightline.org averaged more than **36,000 unique online visitors** per month. Email outreach and social media platforms continued to be Sightline's fastest-growing communication channels. Our total email and social media subscriptions grew to nearly **70,000**.

IN PERSON:

Sightline staff members spoke at **more than 50 events** in 2018, which were attended by more than 3,300 people. Events included presenting on **looming fossil fuel projects** in Everett, a panel discussion on **housing affordability** in Boise, a series of talks on **slaying gerrymandering** at various King County public libraries, and a talk on **democracy reform** in Portland.

PROFILE:

Jason Pretty Boy

Sightline Board Member, Volunteer

Jason Pretty Boy, of Oglala (mother's band, meaning "Scatters Their Own") and Hunkpapa (father's band, meaning "Camps at The End"). Both bands are part of the Oceti Sakowin, or "Seven Council Fires."



A life-long Idahoan, Jason Pretty Boy's professional sustainability and activism journey ultimately began in Portland, serving as an Indigenous Resilience Fellow with a nonprofit uniting business and environmentalism, followed by work at a grassroots nuclear watchdog and clean energy advocate in Boise. Then, about three years ago, Jason met Sightline's Executive Director Alan Durning at an Indigenous event and was intrigued. The rest is history.

"The work that comes out of Sightline—be it Thin Green Line [or] political work—it is all beneficial to us as residents of the Pacific Northwest and beyond," Jason said. He especially values Sightline's accessibility, how researchers make difficult subjects easy to grasp by everyday people, as well as the passion that comes through from the staff. "It's just amazing to watch the passion they have for their subject, and the passion for actually delivering it to people. That always resonated with me."

Despite these sentiments, Jason noted that Sightline isn't perfect.

"I joined Sightline because I wanted to be an Indigenous voice, although I don't speak for every tribe," Jason said. Now retired, Jason seized the opportunity to join Sightline's leadership as an advisor in 2016 and a board director in 2017. His motivation comes largely from a deep social justice concern for including all voices and perspectives at the table. "While Sightline has a very inclusive vision, they're not always as inclusive as they need to be and want to be...Sightline has always stood for the underrepresented, but at the same time, I wanted to say, 'Look: Your board cannot be 75 percent white.'"

Jason added, "When something happens, the people affected are not normally White middle class; they're lower socioeconomic class, Black, Native American... We've seen the movements around Standing Rock; we've seen the pushback from Flint. At any given time, there is something going on in the country right now that affects an underrepresented community, be they

Black, be they Native American, be they LGBTQ. I'm trying to figure out what we can do." This is a crucial equity lens that Sightline shares, and one that the organization has embraced across the board and staff. Diversity, equity, and inclusion continue to drive learning and growth at the organization, internally and externally.

Aside from asking Sightline and the world to be the best it can be, Jason lives in Boise with his wife Sydney, a social worker, and takes care of his three- and six-year-old daughters, while also providing consulting support for Indigenous and ecological organizations. This is where he finds Sightline's work particularly helpful.

"You can find things you need back-up for," Jason said. Sightline delivers arguments by providing the nitty gritty on more complex issues. "Usually, when you talk to someone about the carbon tax, your eyes start to glaze over half way through," he noted, but expressed that's not what happens when you listen to Sightline's researchers. "Having Sightline come to you in that manner is very good because then you can give it to a common person who may not know anything but can understand it."

Jason's ultimate goal is to help us understand our place in this world.

"This planet is a finite resource. If we want to continue on it, we need to start thinking in terms of the traditional knowledge of the original Indigenous inhabitants: that we have to live with the land, not on the land."



Jason's wife Sydney with daughters Kylah and Brynn

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2018

ASSETS

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cash and investments | \$ 2,681,766 |
| Donations and grants receivable | 583,642 |
| Other assets | 26,876 |
| Total assets | \$3,292,283 |

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | \$ 215,262 |
| Total liabilities | 215,262 |

Net assets

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Unrestricted | 2,206,674 |
| Temporarily restricted | 870,347 |
| Total net assets | 3,077,021 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | \$3,292,283 |

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

REVENUE

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Grants | \$ 1,125,300 |
| Contributions | 509,094 |
| Fees for services | 14,915 |
| Investment revenue | (139,943) |
| Total revenue | 1,509,366 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Programs | 1,734,826 |
| Fundraising | 237,817 |
| Management and general | 70,520 |
| Total expenses | 2,043,164 |
| Change in net assets | (533,798) |
| Net assets, beginning of year | 3,610,819 |
| Net assets, end of year | \$3,077,021 |

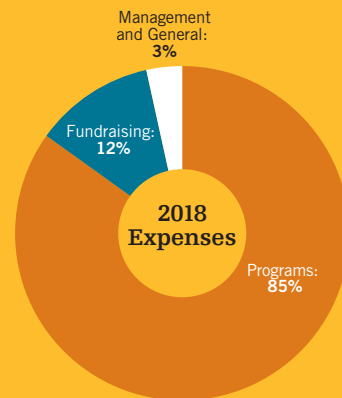
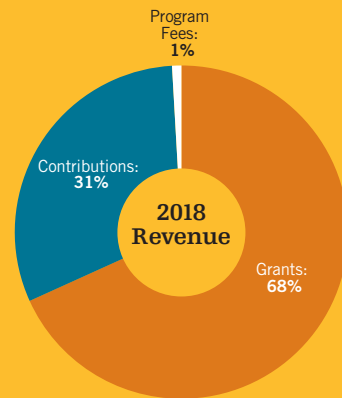
Change in Cash and Investments

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Net change in cash and investments | \$ (666,136) |
| Cash and investments, beginning of year | 3,347,902 |
| Cash and investments, end of year | \$2,681,766 |

These figures have not yet been audited by an independent accountant. For a copy of the audited financial statements, please contact Meaghan Robbins by calling 888-447-1880 ext. 110.

In accordance with accounting principles, Sightline records income when promised, not when received. In 2018, Sightline received grant commitments that are designated for use over several years. We also hold in our asset accounts bequests intended for use over many years. Because this statement shows this income and these assets but not the corresponding spending plans, it overstates our uncommitted assets.



DESIGN: DavidOwenHastings.com



Sightline
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sustainable Northwest

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