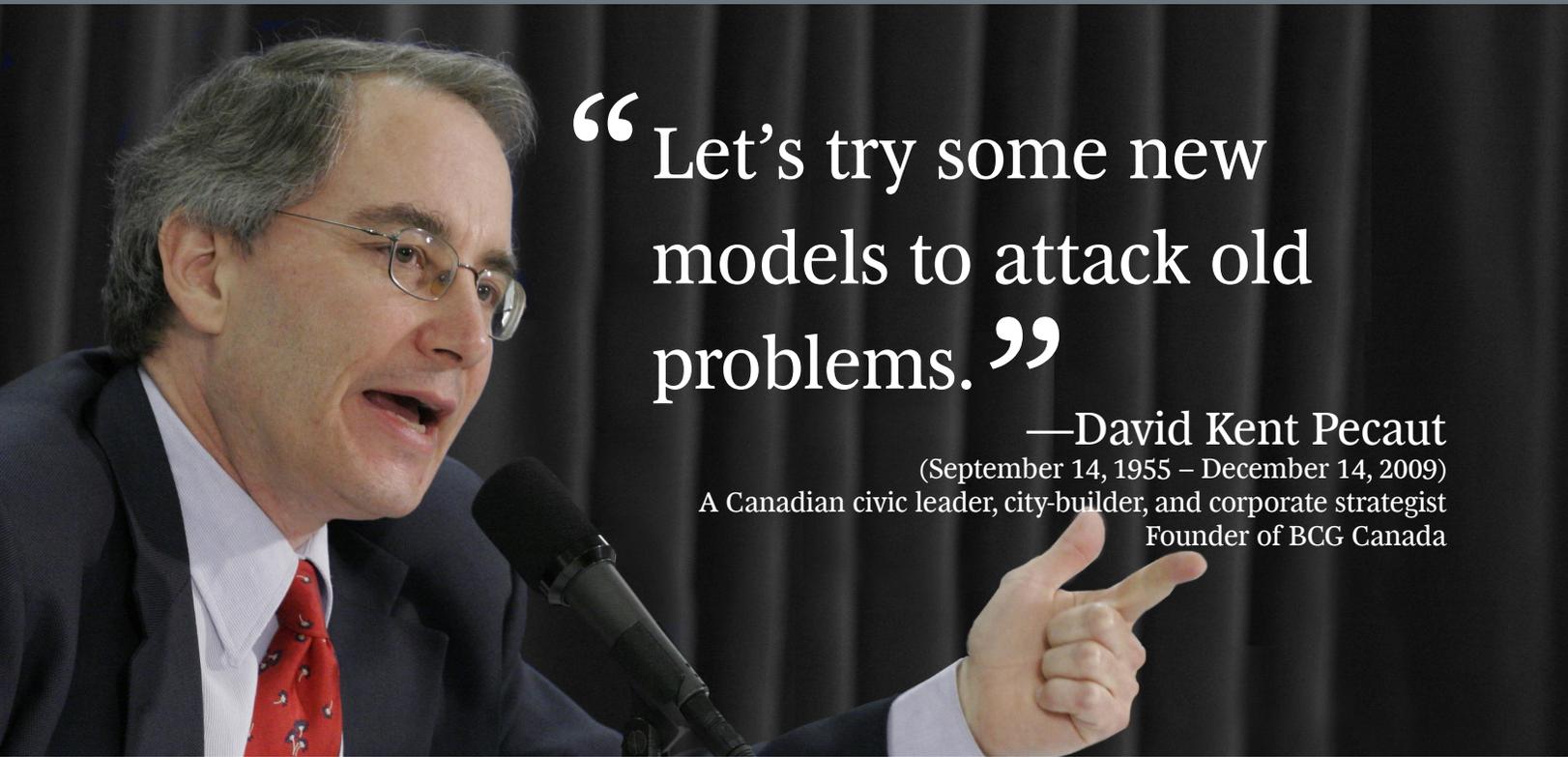


PecautCentre a legacy of David Pecaut



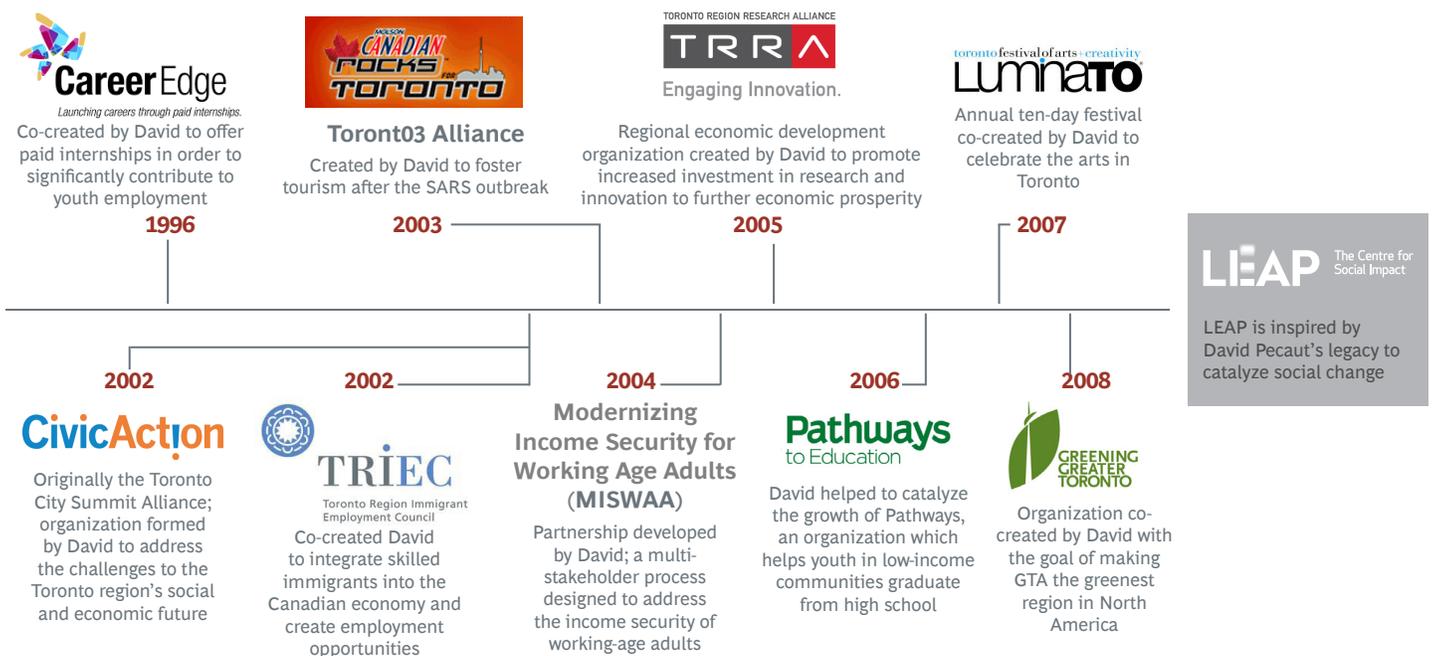
“Let’s try some new models to attack old problems.”

—David Kent Pecaut

(September 14, 1955 – December 14, 2009)

A Canadian civic leader, city-builder, and corporate strategist
 Founder of BCG Canada

David had the organic ability to connect and convene individuals from a diverse set of backgrounds and sectors to address complex social issues. The timeline below illustrates his approach and underscores his belief that new models can solve old problems.



Excerpt from David Pecaut's 2009 Letter to Toronto

David called for collective leadership as a path to achieve greater prosperity

I believe that good ideas and civic projects with a strong consensus and collective support will attract resources. We have seen this happen with the campaign to build or renovate seven major new cultural buildings across the city. Regarded by many as “too much at once” and “impossible to fund”, these ambitious projects are succeeding because of the great work done up-front to build the consensus, plan and commission the facilities, and coordinate the fundraising.

As I look at the future of Toronto, I am as excited as I have ever been about what the 5 million people here have to offer the world. To me the potential of Toronto lies not so much within its architectural or economic or social possibilities as in what it could represent to the world as a place where amazing things get done because this city is full of conveners, of civic entrepreneurs, of people who understand in their collective DNA how to bring all the parts of civil society around a table to solve problems, seize opportunities, and make great things happen.

It is this capacity of social mobilization that can be Toronto's greatest gift to the world. We should stop worrying about global rankings and focus on what will make us truly special – which is that we can be the best in the world at collective leadership.

We can be a city where collective leadership is the norm. A city where civic entrepreneurs are everywhere and the process of bringing all the parts of civil society together to solve a problem is really how the city defines its uniqueness – a city where this quality is the essence of what makes Toronto so special.

In that sense, Toronto's gift to the world could be this unique and powerful model of city building that comes from collective leadership.

A city that is filled with civic entrepreneurs practicing collective leadership will be able to face any challenge and do all kinds of great things on economic issues, social issues, education, the arts, the environment, leveraging the richness of our diversity, and much much more.

When I look back at all the civic projects that we have had the chance to work on, I am filled with huge appreciation for all that we have done together. When the Toronto City Summit Alliance launched in 2002, it could start quickly, because it stood on an incredible foundation of work across many years and many sectors by passionate city-builders who came before. Toronto is lucky to have so many people who care so much about making this a truly great city.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all that we have shared and done together and your support on so many civic initiatives. Now is a good time for us to pause, reflect upon, and celebrate that collective city building.

Thank you for all your enthusiasm, your trust and, most importantly, your passion for working together to realize the full potential of our great city.

— *David Pecaut*

We were founded by a team of experienced private sector leaders, Kilian Berz, Sam Duboc, Joe Manget and Helen Burstyn, who are motivated to apply their business acumen to achieve positive change across Canada. This group of executives launched the Pecaut Centre in 2012 to catalyze massive social impact in Canada and to capture David's impact as a civic entrepreneur. Inspired by the late David Pecaut, the Pecaut Centre incubated LEAP: The Centre for Social Impact.

PecautCentre

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