

Greg Cummings

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 bluegorillagiving.ca | gorillaland.ca

 Born: Montreal, Canada

Professional Profile

Award-winning conservationist, writer, fundraiser, and safari guide with over 30 years' experience at the intersection of storytelling, ecological stewardship, and grassroots leadership. Recognized globally for pioneering work in gorilla conservation, raising over \$10 million in funding, launching innovative initiatives in post-conflict regions, and founding internationally respected organizations. A published author and seasoned communications strategist, known for guiding transformative safari experiences for VIPs, managing wilderness lodges, and advising international NGOs and donors. A sales-savvy communicator.

Core Competencies

- Direct sales and face to face engagement with clientele in a broad range of enterprises.
- Wildlife Conservation & Fundraising: Raised significant funds for conservation, mental health, and humanitarian causes across the UK, Canada, Europe, and Africa.
- Strategic Communications: Memoirs and novels published internationally; public speaker and journalist with features in *The Guardian*, *Bangkok Post*, *Ecologist*.
- Program Management: Expertise in NGO leadership, grant writing, stakeholder engagement, and conflict-sensitive conservation programs.
- Cultural Adaptability: Lived or worked in over 20 countries including Madagascar, DRC, Uganda, Kenya, UK, France, Singapore, Mexico, and the USA.

Professional Experience

Founder & CEO, Blue Gorilla Giving Consultancy

2020–Present | Victoria, BC

- Provides strategic fundraising and donor engagement services for nonprofits.

- Clients include World Elephant Day, WITS, Partners for Conservation, MAPS, Habitat Acquisition Trust, and the Mental Health Society of Greater Victoria.

Director & Founder, Gorillaland Safaris

1997–Present | Central Africa

- Organizes and leads exclusive gorilla trekking experiences in remote regions.
- Developed eco-tourism projects that raise awareness and support for primate conservation.

Enumerator, Statistics Canada

June–August 2026 | Victoria, BC

- D2D engagement with residents in downtown Victoria, following up for Census 2026.

Manager of Development & Communications, South Island Centre for Counselling

2018–2020 | Victoria, BC

- Led donor relations, sponsorships, grant writing, and public communications.

Fund Developer, Providence Farm

2017–2018 | Duncan, BC

- Designed fundraising campaigns, corporate partnership strategies, and a full marketing audit.

General Manager, Coastal Hostel

2015–2017 | Malindi, Kenya

- Rebranded and managed an oceanfront hostel, drawing international backpackers.

General Manager, Nga'Moru Wilderness Camp

2013–2014 | Kidepo Valley NP, Uganda

- Oversaw lodge operations, guest hospitality, staffing, and logistics.

Marketing Director, Global Changemaker

2012–2013 | Kampala, Uganda

- Developed 'GorillaCam,' a tech-driven conservation initiative using webcams in gorilla habitats.

Consultant, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

2009 | Geneva / DRC

- Created communications strategy for a Post-Conflict Environmental Assessment in DRC.

Founder & Director, Durban Process on Coltan Mining

2001–2008 | DRC

- Orchestrated negotiations between conservationists, miners, rebels, and industry.
- Resulted in internationally agreed mining principles to protect gorilla habitats.

Executive Director, Gorilla Organization (formerly Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund)

1991–2008 | London, UK & Africa

- Grew organization from grassroots to international NGO with \$3M annual revenue.
- Led 30+ conservation projects across Central and East Africa.

Fundraiser, Core Trust, Farm Africa, Handicapped Children's Trust

1990–1991 | London, UK

- Secured groundbreaking addiction recovery contract with Westminster City Council.

Freelance Journalist / Bartender

1985–1990 | Singapore, Thailand, Ethiopia, UK

- Contributed features to *Singapore Monitor* and *Bangkok Post* while working in London's West End bar scene.

Education

- University of Victoria – Creative Writing (BFA, incomplete), 1983–1985
- York University – English (BA, incomplete), 1981–1982
- American Lutheran Missionary School – Fort Dauphin, Madagascar, 1976–1979

Awards & Recognition

- 🏆 Gorilla Award – French Ministry of Culture, 2009
- 🏆 BBC Animal Award – Best Wildlife Conservation Program, 2006

Publications & Media

- *Gorilla Tactics: How to Save a Species* (Chicago Review Press, 2024)
- *Pirates* (Cutting Edge Press, 2014)
- *Gorillaland* (Cutting Edge Press, 2012)
- Articles in *The Guardian*, *Ecologist*, *GONomad*, *Sea Angler*, *Singapore Monitor*, *Bangkok Post*