

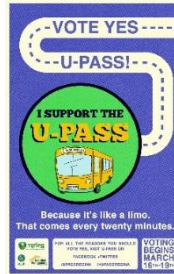
Campaigns

Universal Bus Pass

RPIRG was the organizational partner on the UPass campaign that a student group called the Regina Green Ride Transit Network ran this past year. **The campaign was a success**, and students at the U of R will be getting the UPass in the very near future!



Thank you to all the volunteers who helped us with the campaign, we couldn't have done it without your help!



Save RPIRG

RPIRG's funding was under threat this year, from a motion at the Students' Union Annual General Meeting. We successfully rallied our supporters to come to the meeting and vote down the motion that would have changed our funding structure, and effectively ended our funding. We had over 150 people come out to support our organization!



Research Projects

Report on U-Pass Implementation at the University of Regina – Larissa Flister

This research project looked into the feasibility of implementing a Universal Bus Pass (UPass) at the U of R, and the benefits for each of the stakeholders – the U of R students, the U of R community, and the City of Regina.

University of Regina Living Wage Project – Christell Simeon and Sarah Cibart

This research project looked at the possibility of making the U of R a living wage campus – a campus where every employee makes at least a living wage (\$16.49 in Regina). This was the initial phase of an on-going project.

RPIRG Annual Report

2014-2015

About Us

The Regina Public Interest Research Group (RPIRG) is a student-run, student-funded non-profit organization dedicated to community-based research, education, action and awareness in the interest of the public. RPIRG exists to provide its members with the resources to be active citizens on the University of Regina campus and in the greater community.

RPIRG is committed to the following values in all of its work:

- consensus decision making
- autonomy/independence
- plurality and diversity
- social equality and anti-oppression
- participatory democracy and engaged citizenship
- non-partisanship
- environmental sustainability
- accountability and transparency
- public interest over private interest

2014-15 was a year of networking and excitement. We hosted world renowned activist, Vandana Shiva (with our friends at SCIC), helped to run the 6th annual Generating Momentum camp, and got our hands dirty in the Green Patch. We developed a new volunteer team for students and continue to find creative ways to reach out and expand our community of social and environmental justice advocates. It's been a great year, and the next will not disappoint!

Drop in and say 'hi', browse our library, check out our coming events, or vent about an issue you feel strongly about! Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 9:30-4:30.

Contact Us

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Treaty 4 Territory



Funding - Working Groups

Working Groups are semi-autonomous groups of students and community members who organize for long-term action around specific issues of environmental and social justice. RPIRG offers support, funding, and office and networking resources to working groups.

The Regina Student Parent Association focuses on supporting students with dependent children. It fosters communication and collaboration among advocates, policymakers, and practitioners invested in the success of student parents in postsecondary education.



Fruit for Thought creates awareness of environmentally sustainable behaviours and reduce food waste while contributing to the community. Fruit For Thought harvests and processes unwanted urban fruit, and shares the products in a three way split between the food bank and shelters, owners of the trees, and volunteers.

The UofR Cycling Community Co-op is dedicated to the advancement of a safe, convenient, inclusive and enjoyable cycling culture for the U of R community. They plan to do this through providing instruction on how to tune up your own bike as well as building a bike fleet on campus to rent.

Regina Green Ride Transit Network exists to facilitate the increased usage of sustainable transportation in Regina. It addresses the issue of pollution through single-occupancy vehicles by promoting the practice of multi-occupancy transport through the UPass and rideshare campaigns.



STARS (Student Teachers' Anti-Racist/Anti Oppressive Society) promotes anti-oppressive education in the Faculty of Education at the U of R. They address issues of oppression by participating in personal development activities, collecting and providing resources related to social justice, and offering professional development events for their colleagues and the community.

SEARCH

Student Energy in Action for Regina Community Health

SEARCH is a student-run, interdisciplinary clinic in North Central Regina that addresses the health under-service of inner-city communities. Every Saturday, students working under the direct supervision of health professional mentors operate a walk-in clinic.

The Blue Dot Movement is a national movement started by David Suzuki that recognizes that a healthy environment is a fundamental human right. The Regina chapter hopes to continue to build momentum for this movement at a local level, starting with getting a declaration made by the City of Regina.

The Inclusion Initiative aims to provide space and opportunity for those affected by and interested in inclusionary issues at the U of R. They focus on providing advocacy and support for people with disabilities on campus, and bringing issues of inclusion to the forefront to create a proactive campus community.

Students for Mental Wellness aims to raise awareness about mental illness, mental wellness, and campus/community services that are available for those who need them. Through events such as Mental Wellness Week, Students for Mental Wellness help to educate the U of R community about these issues.



Funding - Events, Projects & Training

Student Run Projects:

4th Annual Briarpatch Creative Writing Contest (\$748.50)

Mental Wellness Week (\$2000)

SEARCH's Student National Clinic Council Conference (\$1200)

United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine/Israel Conference and Film Creation (\$1890)

UPass Campaign (\$1235)

North American Interfaith Network (NAIN) Conference (\$3500)

FNUniv Garden Composting (\$300)

Students Attending Training:

Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Conference (\$3000)

Engineers Without Borders Conference (\$2500)

World Cycling Conference (\$800)

International Movement of Catholic Students World Assembly (\$420)

Student Run Events:

Sisters in Spirit Vigil (\$1000)

Nature Conservancy of Canada Clean-Up Day (\$280)

Indigenous Students Association Round Dance (\$1200)

Engineers Without Borders Gala (\$1500)

Day of Pink Anti-bullying Event (\$500)

'Last Resort' Book Launch (\$1300)

Board of Directors & Staff

Board

The RPIRG Board of Directors is composed of eight Student Members and makes all major decisions regarding finances, long-term goals, programming, staffing, and funding applications. The Board is elected in March every year, and Board appointments are for up to two years.

2014-2015 Term:	2015-16 Term:
Kandra Forbes	Nadia Akbar-Kamal
David Vanderberg	Emma Schultz
Devon Peters	Sofia Aman
Nadia Akbar Kamal	Betty Lubega
Eric Armit	Jael Bartnik
Asha Kerr-Wilson	Roberta Wallace
Ashlyn Higgs	Fartun Mohamud
Nicole Denbow	Ishema Mwunvaneza

Staff

The RPIRG Staff members take care of all the day-to-day operations of the organization. There are two main staff positions – the Executive Director and Outreach and Events Coordinator – along with various seasonal and term positions.

2014-15 Staff:

Current:

Anna Dipple – Executive Director (June 2014 – present)

Emily Barber – Outreach and Events Coordinator (Sept 2015 – present)

Taneal Brucks – Garden Project Coordinator (April 2015 - present)

Past:

Tressa Nielsen – Outreach and Events Coordinator (May 2014 – Sept 2015)

Christell Simeon – Student Researcher, Living Wage Project (Jan – May 2015)

Sarah Cibart – Student Researcher, Living Wage Project (Jan – May 2015)

Lucas Fagundes – Garden Project Coordinator (April 2014 – Oct 2014)

RPIRG Financial Statements

(For Year Ending April 30, 2015)

INCOME:

Student Fees	\$145,503
Other Income (event sponsorship, grants, etc)	\$24,871

Subtotal: \$170,374

EXPENSES:

Board	\$1,203
Employee	\$61,936
Operations	\$5,776
Public Relations	\$2,383
Student Services	
Events	\$28,189
Funding grants (Projects/Events/Training and Working Groups)	\$33,762
Library	\$524

Subtotal: \$134,691

NET INCOME: \$35,683

Programming

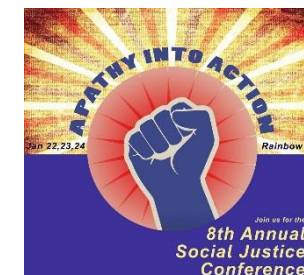


Green Patch Garden Project

The RPIRG Green Patch Garden celebrated its 5th season this summer! This season saw many partnerships being forged with on-campus and community groups, and many new groups working in the garden. This year we also held workshops on herb drying and pickling beets. 2015 has been a year of bumper crops across the board, and we are hoping to beat last year's record of 1700 pounds produced!

Apathy into Action

In January 2015, we held the 8th annual Apathy into Action social justice conference. The conference took place over three days, with a keynote lecture on Thursday night, issue sessions all day on Friday, and full-day training sessions on Saturday.



Sessions topics:

- Rape Culture
- Police Violence
- Allyship
- Islamophobia
- Food Systems
- Anti-Oppression training

The conference was one of the best attended to date, and brought out over 200 people cumulatively over the 3 day conference.

Generating Momentum



This year marked the 6th Generating Momentum: Activist Leadership Training camp that RPIRG has run in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation. Generating Momentum is a 4-day camp focused on giving youth the knowledge and skills they need to make change in their communities. We had a record number of participants this year, with 59 youth attending.

This year we had sessions on topics such as:

- Harm Reduction
- Resource Extraction
- Indigenous issues
- LGBTQ issues
- Treaties and Indigenous History
- Media and Human Rights

"My favourite part about Generating Momentum was the interaction between experienced and aspiring activists" - Participant

Vandana Shiva

RPIRG partnered with the Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation to bring renowned environmental and agricultural activist, Vandana Shiva to Regina. Over 500 people came to hear her speak!

