



Regina Public Interest Research Group  
Annual Report 2016-2017

### **Executive Director's Message**

Welcome to the new school year!

I've had a busy summer learning the ropes here at RPIRG. It's the kind of place where you have to be familiar with a lot of people and groups, and be tapped into everything that's going on at the university. However, I've also had the patient and generous guidance of our staff, board, campus partners, and other fine folks to help me in the process. I've received a warm welcome here and am excited to dive into my first semester!

As I was reviewing the events of the past year, I was pleased to see that there are more and more students and community members accessing our resources and funding. We had some new working groups join us, and supported some new and exciting events!

As I continue to transition into and become more comfortable in my new role here, my goal is to keep this momentum going and look at how we can improve and expand the resources we offer. This won't be possible without hearing from YOU! So look out for us on campus and in the community, and don't feel shy about stopping to say hi – our door is always open!

-Krystal Lewis

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### **RPIRG STAFF 2016-2017**

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.

Executive Director – Anna Dipple  
Outreach and Events Coordinator – Emily Barber  
Green Patch Coordinator – Leonel Elias  
Generating Momentum Coordinator – Tiffany Strachan  
Community Action Project Student – Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

### **RPIRG BOARD 2016-2017**

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.

Harvey Gibson  
Sofia Aman  
Fartun Mohamud  
Haris Khan

Roberta Wallace  
Emma Schultz  
Betty Lubega  
Hannah Grover

## Who we are

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 on issues of social and environmental justice. 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
- non-partisanship
- autonomy/independence
- environmental sustainability
- plurality and diversity
- accountability and transparency
- social equality and anti-oppression
- public interest over private interest
- participatory democracy and engaged citizenship

2016-17 we helped to run the 8th annual Generating Momentum camp, hosted the 10th Apathy into Action social justice conference, and celebrated the 6th season of the Green Patch garden. We have supported a record number of Working Groups (9 at one time), and gave out over \$27,000 in funding to students for projects, events, and training opportunities. We are excited to see how RPIRG can continue to serve the U of R community in the coming year!

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

e. [info@rpirg.org](mailto:info@rpirg.org)

p. 306.337.2420

w. [www.rpirg.org](http://www.rpirg.org)

Room 222, Dr. William Riddell Centre,

University of Regina,

Regina SK, S4S 0A2

Treaty 4 Territory

## Working Groups 2016-2017

Regina Student Parent Association  
STARS  
Students for Mental Wellness  
Blue Dot Movement  
SEARCH

Fruit for Thought  
Voluntary Sector Studies Network  
Newcomer Fitness  
Have a Heart  
Two-Spirit Youth

### Student Run Projects:

- EWB Fair Trade Week (\$500)
- Treaty Ed Camp (\$700)
- Team Compost (\$1500)
- Black History Month (\$2000)
- Amnesty International Conference (\$1000)
- Cinema Politica (\$500)
- Mental Wellness Week (\$1000)
- Inclusive Theatre (\$1000)

### Students Attending Training:

- World Engineering Education Forum – Jaimie Cabrera (\$600)
- Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice – Catherine Couture (\$600)
- Engineers Without Borders National Conference (\$1000)
- Is Fish Your Wish: Sustainable Aquaculture – Brittany Sippola (\$300)
- SSA National – Somali Students Association (\$2120)
- Permaculture Training – Taya Triffo (\$750)
- WUSC International Forum – WUSC Regina (\$270)
- WEFLA 2017 International Conference – Katryna Smith (\$750)

### Student Run Events:

- Awareness of Contemporary Genocide in East Africa (\$280)
- EWB International Aid Event (\$100)
- Indigenous Students Association Round Dance (\$1000)
- International Women's Day (\$600)

## **The Green Patch Garden**

The RPIRG Green Patch is celebrating its 6th season this summer!

This season we renewed our relationships with several professors and departments in order to enhance the educational reach of the project. Leonel also spent some time this summer building some raised beds that will be installed next year, in an effort to both make the garden a bit more accessible (the boxes will be placed next to the sidewalk), and to try some new planting techniques. Despite the drought and the determination of the local gophers, we are also on track to meet or exceed our 2016 yield of 2000 lbs of produce! We would like to extend a big thank you once again to Facilities Management for their support of the Green Patch.

## **Apathy into Action**

In January 2017, we held the 10th annual Apathy into Action social justice conference. The conference took place over three days, with a keynote panel on Thursday night, issue sessions all day on Friday, and full-day training sessions on Saturday.

Sessions topics:

“The Student Food Crisis” w/ the [Regina Food Bank](#)

“Progression of Queer/Trans Organizing in Canada” w/ [UR Pride](#)

“Sexual Violence & Rape Culture: Where do we Stand?” w/ [Claire Carter](#)

“What is Trumpism?” w/ [Lee Ward](#)

“Digging into Standing Rock” w/ TBA

Community Organizing

Caring for Self and Community

## **Generating Momentum 2017**

This summer marked the 8th 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.

This year we had sessions on topics such as:

- Anti-oppression training
- Campaign Planning
- Performing Inclusion
- Fat Activism
- Art and Activism
- First Nations Rights
- Group Decision Making
- Lessons from the Colonialism No More Camp

# Regina Public Interest Research Group Inc.

## Statement of Financial Position

As At April 30, 2017

	Note	2017	2016
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash		\$ 127,823	\$ 95,111
Short term investments	4.	10,983	10,891
Accounts receivable		-	4,339
Prepaid expenses		450	450
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>139,256</b>	<b>110,791</b>
Capital assets	5.	2,470	3,068
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$ 141,726</b>	<b>\$ 113,859</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	6.	\$ 2,170	\$ 4,027
<b>Net Assets</b>			
Unappropriated net assets		137,086	108,199
Equity in capital assets		2,470	3,068
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>139,556</b>	<b>111,267</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		<b>\$ 141,726</b>	<b>\$ 115,294</b>

# Regina Public Interest Research Group Inc.

## Statement of Operations

For the Year Ended April 30, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>Revenues</b>		
Student fees	\$ 162,074	\$ 146,530
Registration fees and reimbursements	7,955	15,841
Event sponsorships	37,787	19,903
Interest	93	113
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>207,909</b>	<b>182,387</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Advertising, promotion and website	2,719	3,223
Employee benefits	8,770	6,415
Board and volunteer meetings and development	1,383	1,430
Amortization	768	961
Insurance	1,337	1,315
Interest and bank charges	294	299
Office and general	1,633	1,945
Professional fees	1,781	1,428
Salaries and wages	86,408	76,199
Conferences and events	17,520	39,733
Miscellaneous	-	520
Project funding	27,320	35,625
Reference materials	294	266
Generating momentum	28,381	-
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 29,301</b>	<b>\$ 13,028</b>