

Positions Statements Policy

Policy #: 07

Approved: December 2023

Last Reviewed: December 2025

Review Schedule: Every three years

Date for Next Review: December 2028

Definitions

- **RPIRG** - the Regina Public Interest Research Group
- **Board** - the Board of Directors of RPIRG
- **Executive Director** - the senior employed employee of RPIRG
- **Directors** - Board members of RPIRG
- **Position Statement** - a statement that provides particular context or stance on a specific issue, topic, or current event

Purpose

7 -(1) Purpose of Policy

- a. The purpose of this policy is to outline the processes and guidelines for RPIRG in making position statements, and other advocacy and lobbying activities.

Applies to

7 -(2) Application of Policy

- a. This policy applies to:
 - i. RPIRG Directors
 - ii. RPIRG employees

Policy Clauses

7 -(3) Position Statements & Advocacy Priorities

- a. In general, RPIRG will prioritize advocacy and lobbying efforts that have campus, local and Saskatchewan-based relevancy, and that contribute to the quest for justice and liberation from oppressive systems, including, but not limited to: white supremacy, settlerism, colonialism, male supremacy, imperialism, ableism, racism, ageism, classism, heterosexism, cissexism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, Zionism, xenophobia, and misogyny.
- b. RPIRG may also decide to identify additional advocacy or lobbying priorities for a set period of time through:
 - i. setting priorities during a strategic planning process;
 - ii. passing a resolution at the board level to focus on a particular issue;

- iii. organizational leadership determining that a given advocacy or lobbying priority is in line with the spirit of the current strategic plan; or
- iv. the development of a board approved Advocacy Strategy.

7 -(4) Decision-Making, Authority & Approval

- a. The Executive Director and Outreach & Events Coordinator shall collectively determine if an issue or topic is appropriate for engagement in advocacy, lobbying, or a position statement.
 - i. In instances where key staff have determined that an issue is not appropriate for advocacy, lobbying, or a position statement, the Board may choose to instruct key staff to prioritize the issue.
- b. All position statements shall be written by key staff, and shall be approved by the Board of Directors.
 - i. Upon approval, the position statement will be posted to the RPIRG website and shared with relevant stakeholders via email.
 - ii. In the case where the release of a position statement is time-sensitive, the Executive Director may approve a position statement as long as it does not depart from similar positions that RPIRG has taken in the past and does not contradict RPIRG's values or advocacy priorities.
- c. Only the Executive Director or a representative delegated by the Board may act as a spokesperson for RPIRG on any advocacy or lobbying activities, unless another individual has been delegated this authority in writing by the Board.

7 -(5) Integrity

- a. RPIRG shall ensure that all advocacy and lobbying activities are non-partisan.
 - i. For clarity, RPIRG may take advocacy stances on political party policy, on legislation, or on the behaviours of a political party, however shall not indicate blanket support or rejection of an entire political party.
 - ii. In the scenario that a political party has intentionally threatened the rights of marginalized communities, the Executive Director and Board may approve advocacy efforts as they deem necessary.
- b. The organization shall ensure that all laws and regulations governing advocacy and lobbying activities are being adhered to.
- c. No representative of RPIRG shall pursue a particular advocacy or lobbying effort for personal gain or purposes.
- d. RPIRG shall not accept money, favours, or resources in exchange for taking certain advocacy or political stances.
- e. All expenses related to advocacy and lobbying activities must be recorded in a separate line item in the budget.