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APIRG  
annual report  
2014-2015







**alberta public interest research group  
annual report 2014-2015**

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(APIRG)*

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# about our organization

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**APIRG (The Alberta Public Interest Research Group)** is an incredible resource based at the University of Alberta for student- and community-based research, education and social activism. We provide the administrative, informational and technological resources to help students transform social concern into effective action. Through involvement with PIRGs, thousands of Canadian students have learned skills in consensus decision-making, group facilitation, events organizing, media relations, and community-based research. These skills help individuals to act effectively in the public interest.

## **Our Mandate**

APIRG is a student-run, student-funded, non-profit organization dedicated to research, education, advocacy, and action in the public interest. APIRG exists to provide students with resources to be active citizens.

## **Basis of Unity**

We believe the way to create positive social change is to provide individuals with the information and tools they need to become active citizens and to participate effectively in their communities.

## **Statement of Values**

APIRG considers an equitable environment to be a part of positive social change. We acknowledge that social change is achievable and see social awareness as a valuable facet of the public interest. We see anti-oppression as a process that acknowledges the existence of systemic oppression (including, but not limited to, racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, classism, and ableism). Through practices and policies, we seek to actively identify, challenge and address oppression wherever it exists, in all its various forms, and to actively encourage opportunities for social awareness and change. Further, we recognize and respect that systems of oppression interact in different ways and affect each person differently.



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# organizational structure

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APIRG's organizational structure can be broken into two parts: the paid capacity – APIRG staff – and the volunteer capacity – largely made up of the Board of Directors.

Board members are responsible for overseeing all APIRG operations, including policy development, setting organizational goals/priorities, reviewing funding and collaboration proposals, hiring and managing staff, and assisting with community outreach and events.

2014/2015 saw a significant Board transition. One Board member stayed on from the 2013/2014 Board year, but needed to resign after the Summer. After a handful of other late-Summer/early-Fall resignations, students and community members were appointed to the Board to ultimately result in a small Board of 7 members to carry APIRG through the second half of the year.

APIRG staff members are responsible for supporting and implementing Board visioning, day-to-day operations and administration, programming and outreach. They bring the skills, knowledge, institutional memory and consistency that are crucial to the effective and efficient functioning of APIRG.

APIRG staff members provide resources and support to students who are working on various projects and campaigns, in addition to the student Board of Directors. Staff members support student-run Working Groups and ensure that the granting process is equitable and transparent. Staff are also responsible for monitoring the financial accountability of our organization and our funding recipients.

2014/2015 saw another year of significant staff changes. In May and June planning, interviews and hiring were completed for the Working Group Coordinator position, with Samantha Estoesta Williams succeeding Saima Butt at the beginning of July. By beginning of the second semester plans were already underway to hold a hiring process to replace Samantha, who needed to return home to Ontario to be with family, by the Transition Retreat. APIRG conducted an internal hire and selected current Outreach Coordinator Nav Kaur for the Working Group Coordinator position, and a hiring process was initiated to fill the now-vacant Outreach Coordinator position. In April that hiring process resulted in the return of daley laing to the Outreach Coordinator position after a year break from the job. APIRG wishes to thank Samantha for her enthusiastic effort during her brief time at APIRG, congratulate Nav on the new position, and welcome daley back to APIRG.



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# board of directors report

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The 2014-2015 board met throughout the summer despite a truncated transition retreat. This included a hiring decision to fill the role of Working Groups Coordinator. During this time several elected members resigned. New appointments were made at the fall retreat and again in the winter term.

During the academic year, APIRG offered a new programming series, The Art of Protest, focused on artistic movements and materials in social movements and protests. Mediums discussed included collage, poetry and abstract art.

Programming represented an intersectional approach and we aimed to increase accessibility at events in which APIRG collaborated. APIRG continued its role in the Transgender Day of Remembrance. In November, APIRG partnered with The Landing and the U of A's Aboriginal Student Council to host the Queer Indigeneity Teach-in, exploring the intersection of queer, racial and colonial politics. Also in association with the Landing, APIRG assisted in hosting the Intersections of Queer symposium. This symposium sought to facilitate learning on how race, class, ability, gender, age, health, spirituality, ethnicity, indigeneity and citizenship relate to queerness.

APIRG collaborated on Unveiling the Mask: Black Identity and Culture which focused on raising awareness of black history and identity in the student body and Canadian population. In association with the Kule Insititute for Advanced Studies, the Faculty of Arts and the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies, APIRG hosted an interdisciplinary conference: Unsettling Colonial Modernity: Islamicate Contexts in Focus.

APIRG continued its strong history of supporting student working groups and community events with financial and non-monetary supports. Recipients included SAFEQEY, in support of a documentary investigating queer youth homelessness; The African Diasporia Theatre Guild for their dramatic project Debunking the divide; Migrante Alberta to host a conference on the Migration and the Global Trade of People; and the Native Studies Student Association for the Honouring Our Aboriginal Students Round Dance. The choices of projects reflect APIRG's goals of developing engaged students and working with the broader community beyond campus.

We wish the incoming board and returning staff the best and hope APIRG continues to serve the membership and community in many exciting ways.

Regards,  
The 2014-2015 APIRG board.

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# financial summary

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APIRG projected for it's 13th operating year a significant deficit. This approach was an attempt to use up a series of accumulating surpluses over the previous decade to reach an overall net-zero in terms of cash flow. An historically conservative approach to spending within budgets, the peculiarities of granting funds over multiple fiscal years, and the challenges of significant organizational turn-over left APIRG with a deficit of \$3628 for the year ending 30 April 2015.

In 2014/2015, APIRG committed over \$30,000 in direct grants and in-kind support across two funding rounds to student campaigns, events, activities and projects as well as community groups addressing issues in the undergraduate and larger communities' public interest. We highlight many of these projects and groups in later pages of this report. The increase in direct granting budget was to restore granting to the levels of previous years, relying on the significantly larger deficit projected for the year.

As with many non-profit organizations, APIRG's biggest annual expense is staffing costs, including both salaries and benefits. This enables us to provide a high level of service to students, an opportunity for board members to learn and grow as leaders of the organization, and to maintain a fair, competitive, and unionized work environment.

APIRG funding comes from a dedicated fee collected on our behalf by the University of Alberta Students' Union. Other revenue for APIRG remains marginal, as we focus on sustainable action in the campus community, rather than fundraising. In 2014/2015, full-time undergraduates paid \$3.35 each term while part-time students paid \$1.68. Annual fee increases are based upon the Consumer Price Index. Students can opt out of the fee for financial or ideological reasons. Despite an ever-increasing emphasis on campus-wide outreach, only 33 students chose to receive a full refund of their terms fee, a small increase from 25 in 2013/2014.

As required by our agreement with the SU, APIRG had the financial statements audited by Doyle & Company chartered accounting firm. The 2014/2015 audit verified that our financial statements (presented in this report in their entirety) are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting practices.

If you have any questions about APIRG's finances that go beyond the scope of this report, you are welcome to make an appointment with APIRG's Financial Portfolio and Office Coordinator.

- justin bartlett, Office Coordinator
- Collin Horn, Director, Financial Portfolio Holder 2014/2015

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# APIRG Collaborations

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A great deal of the programming and events that we do here at APIRG happen through collaborations with other organizations and community groups, on and off campus. 2014-15 was no exception.

## **APIRG Collaborations 2014-15**

**Unsettling Colonial Modernity: Islamicate Contexts in Focus (April 24-25, 2015)** was an interdisciplinary conference held at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, with support from the University of Alberta Faculty of Arts, Kule Institute for Advanced Studies (KIAS), and the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies (OIS)

**Intersections of Queer (March 5-6, 2015)**, was an attempt to create spaces for critical engagement with the complexities of LGBTQ\* experiences, bodies, identities and communities, in collaboration with The Landing. The symposium's goal was to support a series of workshops, discussions and facilitated spaces that share knowledge and engage collaborative learning around issues of race, class, ability, gender, age, mental health, spirituality, ethnicity, indigeneity, and citizenship in relation to queerness.

**Unveiling the Mask: Black Identity and Culture (March 15, 2015)** Through the westernization of many Africans and Caribbean people in diaspora, the significance of many iconic black Canadians has been diluted in society. The organizers found that if this continues our culture and identity will be disintegrated into the larger social spectrum. For this reason it was decided to come together and increase awareness of black identity and history in our student body. The aim for this event was to highlight the contributions





photo credit: christina varvis

of the African and Caribbean communities in Canadian society.

**Queer Indigeneity Teach-in (November 18, 2014)** The Landing, the U of A's Aboriginal Student Council, and APIRG have partnered to host a teach-in on queer indigeneity by queer Indigenous peoples (and our Indigenous allies) as a critical intervention into queer and racial politics. The event was open to anyone who wanted to learn more about queer indigeneity and the workshops were facilitated from an art-based pedagogy.

**Transgender Day of Remembrance at University of Alberta (November 20, 2014)** TDOR is a day for communities to remember and honour the many lives lost during the past year due to anti-trans hatred and violence. Additionally, the week of November 17th - 21st, there was a the yarn-bomb style art installation on the U of A North Campus memorializing the names of trans individuals who have had their lives taken.

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# APIRG programming

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Every year, APIRG runs a series of workshops and skill shares with a particular focus related to social justice and change. For 2014-15, APIRG's programming focused on the artistic components of protests and social movements, the reasons and meanings behind the art work, and creating similar works to use in campaigns and protests.

## We called it **The Art of Protest!**



### **The workshops included:**

**Collage** - January 20

**Abstract Art** - February 3

**Journaling** - February 24

**Poetry Slam** - March 10

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# Event/Project Funding Recipients

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This year, APIRG continued to provide monetary and non-monetary resources to a variety of events and projects that focus on anti-oppression and intersectionality.

Recipient	Event/Project
The African Diaspora Theatre Guild	Debunking the Divide
CRIPSiE (The Collaborative Radically Integrated Performers Society in Edmonton) and Mindhive Collective	(Dis)Integration: An Evening of Provocative Crip Performance
Migrante Alberta	Migration and the Global Trade of People Conference
Not Enough Fest Collective	Not Enough Fest Edmonton Festival
Native Studies Student Association	Honouring Our Aboriginal Students Round Dance
Safe Accomodations For Queer Edmonton Youth (SAFQEY)	Documentary of Queer Youth Homelessness
African Students' Association	Inspiring the Next Level of Leadership event
Canadian Mental Health Association Student Group	Our Minds, Our Stories Mental Health Symposium
Ruby Diaz Smith	INCITE Colour of Violence Conference Attendance
Jasper Place Global Cafe	Round Dance and Sweat Lodge Ceremony
Guerrilla Radio	Keepin' It Real: A Night of Conscious Music
Edmonton Multicultural Coalition	Kilkenny Community Food Project
Jacqueline Fayant	Two-Spirit Lecture and Pipe Ceremony
Nicole Perry	Working with LGBTQ Clients Workshops

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# APIRG working groups

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Working Groups (WGs) are collectives of students and community members who work together on an issue. WGs may focus on research, events, actions, publications, and other diverse activities. They tend to have long-term goals with activities and membership that continue beyond the current academic year. WGs are required to hold regular meetings and must maintain a membership that includes U of A undergraduates.

## **Active Working Groups in 2014/2015**

- Amnesty International University of Alberta Chapter
- ConsentEd
- Edmonton Organic Growers Guild (EOGG)
- Future Librarians for Intellectual Freedom (FLIF)
- In Arms Queer Theatre
- Islamic Relief at the University of Alberta
- Migrante Youth
- Palestine Solidarity Network (PSN)
- Student International Health Association (SIHA)

## **Working Group Year-in-Review**

### ***Amnesty International University of Alberta Chapter***

Working Group Since: Winter 2013

Website: <http://aiuofa.wordpress.com/>

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Amnesty International (AI) is a worldwide movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights. AI's vision is of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. We are dedicated to carrying out Amnesty's work of defending human rights. Our mission is to give the students of the University of Alberta the opportunity to take part in Amnesty International's actions and be a fellow human rights ambassador.

The group operates for the purpose of increasing campus and community awareness of international human rights violations and environmental degradation. It also operates in campaigning peacefully to free all prisoners of conscience, ensure fair and prompt trials for political prisoners, abolish the death penalty, torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of all prisoners, and stop abuses by opposition groups including hostage taking, torture, and deliberate and arbitrary killings.

Some Activities Undertaken:

- Write for Rights
- Bake Sale (fall semester)
- Tabling day
- Candy Gram Display

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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## ***ConsentEd***

Working Group Since: Winter 2012

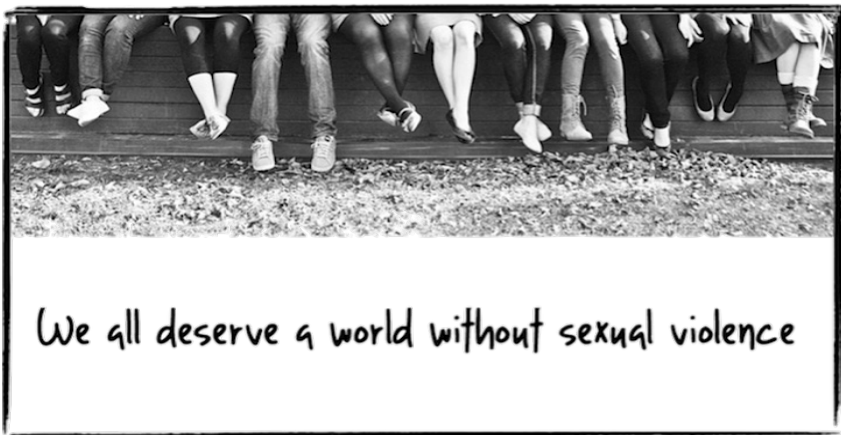
Website: <http://www.consented.ca/>

ConsentEd believes that everyone deserves to live in a world without sexual violence. Our mission is to actively work towards changing the way our society perceives the issue of consent and sexual violence. Specifically, we hope to provide resources to educate, engage and inspire young adults- that are otherwise bombarded by our society's constant stream of unhelpful and incorrect information about sexual violence.

ConsentEd will also be advocating and promoting awareness about sexual violence by allying with other organizations and reaching out to our audience using a variety of social media tools.

### Some Activities Undertaken:

- Consent in the Classroom: Tools for Teachers To Address Sexual Violence
- Take Back More of the Night! Consent themed party





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## ***Edmonton Organic Growers Guild (EOGG)***

Working Group Since: Winter 2010

Website: <http://eogg.org/>

The Edmonton Organic Grower's Guild (EOGG) loves to grow stuff together. We grow organic produce and encourage learning and eating. We charge no fees and welcome folks from all walks of life.

We cultivate food,

- grow niche and culturally specific crops
- participate in an active lifestyle
- strengthen each other and our garden
- augment existing food sources
- reinvest in the community garden
- love the university farm

## ***Future Librarians for Intellectual Freedom (FLIF)***

Working Group Since: Winter 2011

Website: <http://flifblog.blogspot.ca/>



We are a group of Library and Information Studies students who are interested in promoting intellectual freedom and social responsibility. We believe that issues concerning censorship, freedom of expression, and social justice go hand-in-hand, and hope that through information updates and direct action, we will be able to emphasize the importance of intellectual freedom and social responsibility in the personal and professional lives of our readers and our communities.

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## ***In Arms Queer Theatre***

Working Group since: Winter 2015

Website:



In Arms is the first queer mandated theatre company in Edmonton. If we allow The Frank Theatre in Vancouver, Third Street Theatre in Calgary, and Buddies in Bad Times in Toronto to model what we hope to achieve, then the transformative power of theatre is evident and cannot be understated.

With the intention of expanding beyond the confines of the University, In Arms hopes to serve the broader Edmonton community by nurturing the Edmonton Theatre community with yearly original devised plays as well as professional productions. Further, Drama Based Queer Education programs that work with a variety of groups will enrich our city's culture of queer theory. The fight against homophobia, transphobia, sexism, and patriarchal power imbalances is rooted in a strong and confident educated stance. Through the use of the arts, In Arms will be another voice telling all its current and prospective citizens that they are welcome in our city.

### **Some Activities Undertaken:**

- (Un)Known Stories at Edmonton International Fringe Festival
- (Un)Known Stories at NextFest

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## ***Islamic Relief at the University of Alberta***

Working Group since: Winter 2013

Website: <http://islamicreliefuofa.wordpress.com>



We are dedicated, as a student group, to carrying out Islamic Relief Canada's work of responding to people who are suffering. We aim to open-mindedly help individuals (regardless of religion, ethnicity or gender) fulfill their potential in life; without expecting anything in return.

Our mission is to give the University of Alberta students the opportunity to look past any stereotypes about Islam and to become conscious of suffering that happens throughout the world that does not receive media attention. We tackle Islamophobia of any sort on campus through visuals and social media, helping people fight any polite or subtle racism they may hold. By focusing in on university students, we aim to overturn prejudice towards "Muslim" folks and encourage every Canadian to look at Muslims as fellow human beings.

We want to improve the state of the global world and we want to improve the social fabric of our micro-society here at the University.

### **Some Activities Undertaken:**

- Movie Night Fundraiser for Gaza Relief and the Al-Shifa hospital in Gaza
- Bake sale fundraisers for Syrian Refugees
- BBQ fundraiser for Orphans in Central African Republic



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## ***Migrante Youth***

Working Group since: Winter 2015

Migrante Alberta (MA) is a non-profit migrants advocacy groups in the province of Alberta. It was established on August 2013 and been active in organizing and advocacy work for migrant workers. MA has an active base in Edmonton, Red Deer and Calgary and is a member of Migrante Canada, an alliance of Filipino migrant organizations in BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. It is currently involved in the campaign to protect the rights and stop the deportation of temporary foreign workers.

The group hopes create a space for U of A community to learn more about the Temporary Foreign Workers Program and migrant workers. Its also a space where migrant and immigrants community and the students and faculty meet and share stories and solidarity.

The logo for Migrante Canada features the word "MIGRANTE" in a large, bold, distressed sans-serif font. Below it, the word "canada" is written in a smaller, lowercase, cursive script font. The entire logo is set against a light gray background with a subtle grid pattern.

**MIGRANTE**  
*canada*

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## ***Palestine Solidarity Network (PSN)***

Working Group Since: Fall 2009

Website: <http://psnedmonton.ca/>

The Palestine Solidarity Network is a non-profit, grassroots collective aimed at advocating and upholding the human rights of Palestinians in the face of ongoing oppression, occupation, racism and discrimination, both in occupied Palestine and in the Diaspora. We maintain groups at both the community level, the Palestine Solidarity Network – Edmonton, and on the University of Alberta campus, the Palestine Solidarity Network – U of A.

### **Some Activities Undertaken:**

- Emergency Rally to Protest Israel's Brutal Onslaught on the Gaza Strip and collective punishment of the Palestinian people – July 16, 2014
- Rally and March for Palestine – July 30, 2014
- 4th Annual Mahmoud Darwish: Commemoration in Poetry Night – August 12, 2014
- Emergency Rally for Gaza – August 9, 2014
- Eyewitness in Gaza, Featuring Dr. Ghada Ageel – Oct 28, 2014
- Silencing Dissent: Palestine, Digital Activism, Academic Freedom, and the Decline of the Public University – January 13, 2015
- Palestine, Indigenous Peoples, and the Public Intellectual – January 13, 2015
- No Home, No Homeland: Israel's Policy of Demolishing Palestinian Homes – February 6, 2015
- Where Are We Headed in Israel-Palestine? Apartheid Warehousing or a Just Solution? – February 7, 2015

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## ***Student International Health Association (SIHA)***

Working Group Since: Winter 2014

Website: [www.siha.ca](http://www.siha.ca)

The Students' International Health Association (SIHA) Local is a student-led organization dedicated to sustainable health promotion and community development. We are locally based; our main office is located on the University of Alberta campus and we have a strong focus on serving the Edmonton community while promoting health awareness and education. We also reach out to underserved communities in rural Alberta to promote healthy lifestyles. We attempt to reduce stigma on marginalized individuals such as those living with HIV by presenting in classrooms and holding events on campus. We also address the topics of tobacco cessation and healthy living in presentations to school age children in conjunction with HIV Edmonton.

# AP!RG

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# financial statements

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**Alberta Public Interest Research Group**  
**Financial Statements**  
**April 30, 2015**



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## Alberta Public Interest Research Group

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**DOYLE & COMPANY**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Allan J. Grykuliak, C.A.\*

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

**To the Board of  
The Alberta Public Interest Research Group**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **The Alberta Public Interest Research Group**, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at April 30, 2015 and the Statements of Changes in Net Assets, Operations and Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

**Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian Audit Standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparations and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

**Basis for Qualified Opinion**

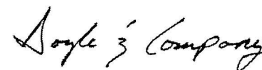
In common with many non profit organizations, The Alberta Public Interest Research Group collects revenue from fundraisers and events which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification for completeness. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization. Therefore we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to fundraisers or event revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, current assets and net assets.

**Qualified Opinion**

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Alberta Public Interest Research Group and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

September 2, 2015

Edmonton, Alberta



Chartered Accountants

# Alberta Public Interest Research Group

## Statement of Financial Position

As at April 30, 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash	165,344	185,133
Accounts receivable	17,155	-
Prepaid expenses	1,345	1,326
	183,844	186,459
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	9,775	8,905
Source deductions payable	2,574	2,431
	12,349	11,336
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	151,649	163,890
Internally restricted net assets	19,846	11,233
	171,495	175,123
	183,844	186,459

Approved by the Board of Directors:

 Director

 Director

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

2.

# Alberta Public Interest Research Group

## Statement of Change in Net Assets

For the year ended April 30, 2015

	Internally Restricted	Unrestricted	2015	2014
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	<b>11,233</b>	<b>163,890</b>	<b>175,123</b>	<b>179,802</b>
Excess of revenue over expenditures	-	(3,628)	(3,628)	(4,679)
Funds committed during the year	28,079	(28,079)	-	-
Funds paid out during the year	(16,334)	16,334	-	-
Funds returned	(3,132)	3,132	-	-
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>19,846</b>	<b>151,649</b>	<b>171,495</b>	<b>175,123</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

3.



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## Alberta Public Interest Research Group

### Statement of Operations

For the year ended April 30, 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Student fees	180,054	180,955
Community and events revenue	310	200
Interest revenue	759	1,012
Office and retail revenue	456	491
Other revenue	6	2
	181,585	182,660
<b>Expenditures</b>		
Board expenses	3,391	3,609
Contract work	1,052	2,189
Direct grants	16,953	24,362
Elections	1,273	1,221
Insurance	2,148	1,725
Library	1,294	736
Office (Note 4)	9,710	3,954
Professional fees	6,000	6,000
Programming	8,706	8,060
Promotion and outreach	6,107	5,075
Rent	14,189	13,894
Telecommunications	3,217	3,343
Wages and employee benefits	111,173	113,171
	185,213	187,339
<b>Excess (Loss) of Revenue over Expenditures</b>	<b>(3,628)</b>	<b>(4,679)</b>

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The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

4.

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## Alberta Public Interest Research Group

### Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended April 30, 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Cash received from funding agencies and other income	164,430	182,660
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(184,219)	(185,931)
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Cash During the Year</b>	<b>(19,789)</b>	<b>(3,271)</b>
<b>CASH - Beginning of year</b>	<b>185,133</b>	<b>188,404</b>
<b>CASH - End of year</b>	<b>165,344</b>	<b>185,133</b>

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The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

5.

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# Alberta Public Interest Research Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements

April 30, 2015

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### **Purpose of the Organization**

Alberta Public Interest Research Group (APIRG) is a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the Alberta Societies Act. The Alberta Public Research Interest Group supports work on public interest issues through research, education, and action initiatives of the students of the University of Alberta as well as those of the greater University and the Alberta communities.

### **1. Significant Accounting Policies**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations ("Part III") of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting. Significant accounting policies are described below:

#### **(a) Fund Accounting**

The board has approved an Inter-Disbursement Fund Policy to maintain a sustainable organization. This fund is used to pay the operating expenses of the organization from the start of the fiscal year (May 1) until the funding from the University of Alberta Students' Union is received in October.

The board also internally restricts funds for conferences and training, projects and events, and a working group fund.

(i) The project and event fund provides one-time funding and support to help groups and individual students to organize events or undertake a project.

(ii) The working group fund provides funding and resources to a wide variety of working groups that are focusing on local and global issues.

#### **(b) Capital Assets**

Capital assets are recorded as expenditures in the period they are acquired. Capital assets are reported at cost except for donated assets, which are reported at estimated fair value when acquired.

#### **(c) Revenue Recognition**

Alberta Public Interest Research Group follows the deferral method of accounting for revenue. Restricted revenues are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted revenues are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

#### **(d) Financial Instruments**

The financial instruments of Alberta Public Interest Research Group consist of cash, accounts receivable, and accounts payable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that Alberta Public Interest Research Group is not exposed to significant interest or foreign currency risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximates their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

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# Alberta Public Interest Research Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements

April 30, 2015

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**1. Significant Accounting Policies - continued**

**Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that Alberta Public Interest Research Group will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities. Alberta Public Interest Research Group manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements and cash forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfill its financial obligations.

**(e) Measurement Uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**(f) Donated Services**

The Alberta Public Interest Research Group benefits greatly from donated services in the form of volunteer work for various activities. The value of donated services is not recognized in these financial statements because of the difficulty of determining their fair value.

**2. Library**

The Group operates an in-house library that has books, periodicals, cassette tapes, VHS tapes, DVDs, and CDs available for members. These items maybe borrowed from the library for a certain period of time.

Library materials have been expensed in the year purchased over the years which is consistent with our policy. The purchases during the year were \$1,294 (2014 - \$737).

**3. Economic Dependence**

Alberta Public Interest Research Group receives a significant portion of its revenue from students dedicated fees. These fees are collected by the University of Alberta Students Union on behalf of APIRG and are forwarded three times a year after APIRG receives approval from the Audit Committee of Students Council.

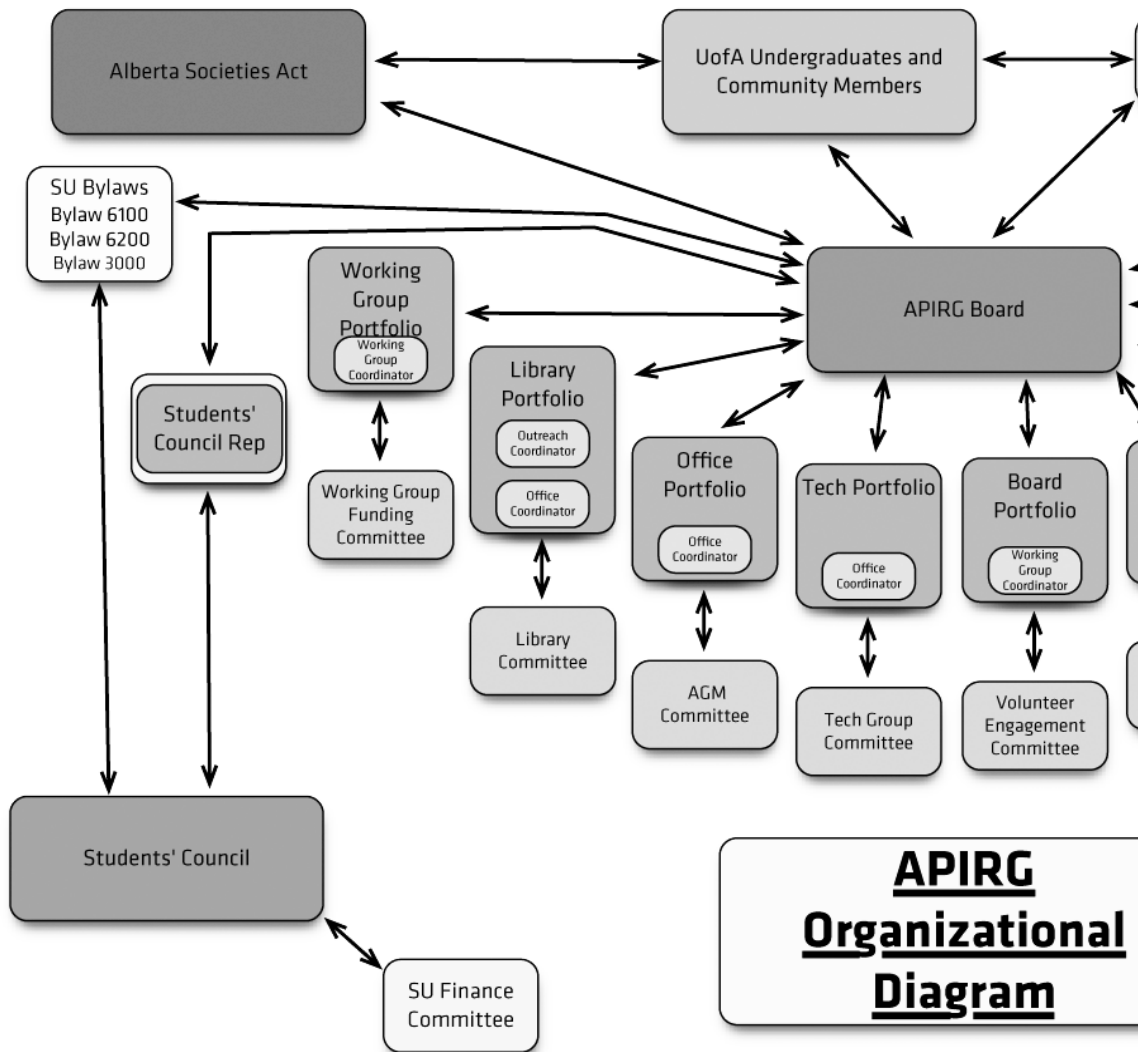
**4. Capital Purchases**

Capital purchases have been expensed in the year they are acquired which is consistent with our policy on tangible capital assets. The purchases during the year were \$5,352 (2014 - \$0) for Leasehold Improvements and \$1,253 (2014 - \$0) for Computer Equipment.

**5. Comparative Figures**

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the presentations adopted during the current year. The prior year figures were reviewed by another accounting firm.





**Each year** the APIRG board will be responsible for participating in

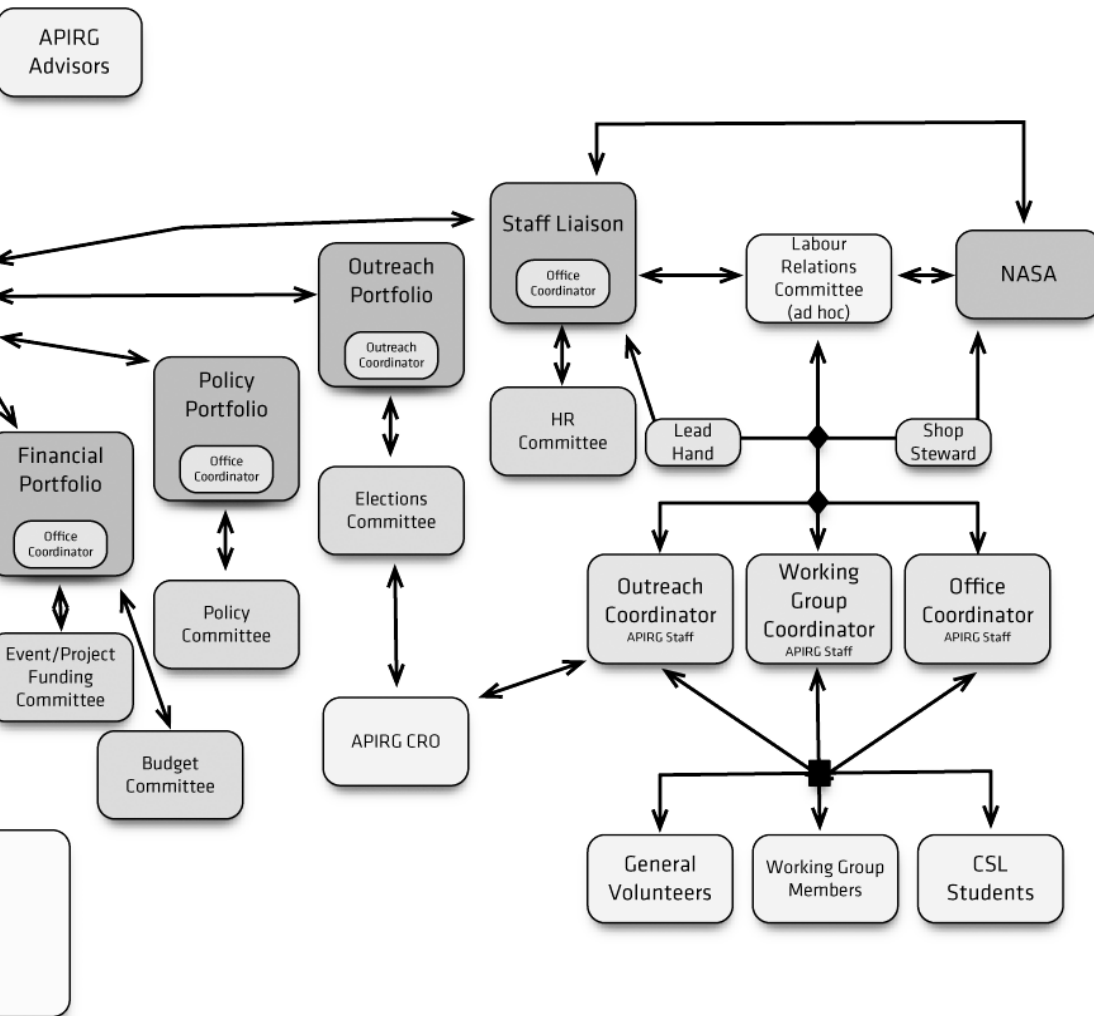
Annual Budgeting Process

Annual Policy Review

Annual Programming Vision and Theme

**Each committee** may be composed of board members and

General Volunteers



**As needed** APIRG board members will be responsible for supervising

CSL Students

General Volunteers

**As needed** APIRG board members will be responsible for sitting on

Hiring Committee (ad hoc)

Puttin' Out Fires Committee (ad hoc)

APIRG Project Committee (ad hoc)

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### *Cover Image Artist Statement*

*I wanted to create an image that served as a reminder to people who actively engage in challenging injustice and oppression outside of our bodies and minds to reconnect with the wounds that lay deep in our spirits and heal the colonizer we fight internally.*

*The Corn symbolizes the unbroken relationship between the self and land. We may lose our country, our culture, our language, our bodies and minds to the fires of colonization and supremacy but our spirits are forever woven into the land and communities in which our loved ones, friends, family and ancestors lives,fought and died for.*

*A reminder that the love for life must come from the love of self.*

**Victoria Guzman 2015**