

















sparc bc Annual Report

2015/2016





Mission and Values

SPARC BC works with communities to build a just and healthy society for all.

OUR DEFINITION OF "JUST AND HEALTHY" IS BASED ON FIVE KEY PRINCIPLES:

Equity: The recognition that some individuals or groups require more or less than others to flourish, and that some individuals or groups are capable of contributing more to address deficiencies and promote fairness of distribution.

Social Inclusion: The recognition that both the rights and the opportunity to participate in and enjoy all aspects of human life enables individuals and communities to celebrate their diversity, and recognize and act on their responsibilities.

Security: The recognition that individuals and communities flourish when they have confidence in their surroundings as safe, supportive and stable environments.

Adaptability: The recognition that sustainability requires resilience for both individuals and communities, and the ability to respond creatively to change.

Equality: The recognition that increasing equality within society builds social cohesion, improves health, increases safety and security, and contributes to sustainable and vibrant communities.

Values

OUR WORK IS FOUNDED ON THE FOLLOWING VALUES:

Social Justice: We strive for a just and healthy society in which social, economic, and environmental well-being are interdependent, through advocating for equality, fairness and dignity for all.

Inclusion: We are committed to achieving access and the full participation and engagement of all in our diverse society by fostering communication, leadership, partnership, and collaboration.

Integrity: We are independent, accountable, transparent and non-partisan.

Learning: We seek, develop and share knowledge and understanding which encourages citizen participation and informs innovative, effective planning and decision-making.

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President's Message

PARC BC has a long history of working with people and communities to build a more just and healthy society for all. Through SPARC BC's programs and services, the Board and staff work to collectively advance our vision and to contribute to the economic and social well-being of people and communities across BC.

I am pleased to present our Annual Report for 2015/2016. This Annual Report highlights the results of our efforts in working to promote positive social policy change in the areas of accessibility and inclusion, income security and poverty reduction, and through the workshops we deliver across communities.

As shown in this report, over the past year we have continued to have success in serving people and communities across BC through the services we provide and the programs we deliver. Through the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities we assisted more than 49,100 individuals across BC who have a health and activity limitation and who rely on the services we provide.

Through our Research, Planning and Consulting Services we partnered with more than sixty one (61) local governments and community-based agencies to deliver a diverse range of community-based research projects or service delivery strategies that frequently involve input and participation from multiple partners from across the non-profit sector, civil society as well as all levels of government (local, regional, provincial, federal and First Nations).

This year, we have also been successful in expanding our partnerships with smaller, rural and northern communities through our work with LIRN BC (Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC) as well as through our work in the delivery of our Community Development Education (CDE) program. As well, we have taken on an expanded role at both the local and provincial level in advancing initiatives related to food security and access to healthy food, housing affordability and homelessness as well as accessibility and inclusion.

This includes our success in continuing to build our relationship with Farm to Cafeteria (F2CC) and our support for their efforts in working to raise awareness and build partnerships to support the development of sustainable regional food systems as well as to promote healthy and nutritious food choices for children. SPARC BC has continued to act as a backbone organization and administrative host for this initiative both in terms of the funding that they received through the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and more recently, through the Whole Kids Foundation.

These types of partnerships and initiatives are important in that they demonstrate what can be accomplished when people and communities come together with a common vision and a shared purpose. They also reflect the shared values and principles of social justice, integrity, inclusion and learning that we hold dear and that underpin our work.

This year marks a special year in SPARC BC's history. It is hard to believe but SPARC BC is turning 50! This represents a major milestone in our history and the Board and staff will be looking at different initiatives over the course of the coming year to celebrate this major accomplishment. As I reflect on where we have been

as an organization and look to the road ahead, I am excited by the possibilities that I see for positive change across communities. This includes working to ensure that children and families living in low income know that there is someone who believes in them and who is working on their behalf so they have access to the opportunities they need to succeed. It also involves drawing attention to the needs of low income seniors and people with disabilities to ensure that they have access to food, shelter and the other basic necessities of life.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the tremendous support that we continue to receive from our members and donors. Over the past few years, we have had significant success in growing and expanding our membership and donor base. As the President of SPARC BC, I am honoured by the trust, generosity and support that we continue to receive. I also want to thank our members and donors for the hope and possibility that their support provides and the difference it allows us to make. We are fortunate to have this kind of support. Thank you for choosing to support SPARC BC and for being a part of our journey over our first 50 years! I am looking forward to more great things to come.

Sincerely,

Steve Harvard President, SPARC BC

SPARC BC-the Year at a Glance

In 2015/2016, SPARC BC:

- Assisted more than 49,000 individuals and organizations through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities.
- Received acknowledgement and support from forty eight (48) local governments and community partners who passed proclamations or hosted an event as part of Access Awareness Day.
- Helped more than 14,000 seniors and people with disabilities across BC become more aware of the assistance that is available through the Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) program administered by BC Housing and assisted more than 470 seniors or people with disabilities access the financial assistance available through the program.
- Led twelve (12) different accessibility-related workshops or initiatives, including initiatives in Abbotsford, Houston, Hazelton, New Westminster, Prince George, Sechelt, Surrey, Smithers and Williams Lake as well as three (3) targeted workshops and initiatives in the City of Vancouver.
- Prepared thirty-five (35) proposals and led sixty-one (61) community-based research and planning projects or service delivery strategies on a diverse range of topics including income security and employment, food security and access to healthy food, housing affordability and homelessness, as well as emergency preparedness planning, participatory budgeting and other types of service delivery strategies and models to support local governments.
- Produced six (6) SPROUT publications and social policy research reports on a range of topics including the development of a number of resource guides and materials to support community-based research, planning and action.
- Delivered nine (9) community-based workshops in partnership with twelve partners engaged in the delivery of LIRN BC (Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC) and through our Community Development Education and Outreach Program.
- Engaged more than 170 communities and 1,865 non-profit societies in exploring ways to strengthen and enhance the role, impact and contribution of the non-profit sector in BC through our leaderships in the New Directions project.
- Hosted two (2) Deryck Thomson Award events to recognize the significant contribution to social planning and social justice in BC arising from the work of the Coastal Family Resource Coalition (the West Coast of Vancouver Island) and Jason DaSilva (Delta BC)—film-maker, director and social activist.

Sparc bc YEAR AT A GLANCE 2015/2016



49,000 +

assisted through the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities



48

Local governments & community partners support Access Awareness Day



2 Deryck Thomson Award Events held



1,865

Non-profit societies in 170+ communities reached through the New Directions project



Seniors & people with disabilities made aware of the Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) program



Accessibility-related workshop & initiatives led



Community-based research & planning projects or service delivery strategies led



Community-based Community Development Education workshops held



Message from the Executive Director

At its very essence, SPARC BC is about people, planning and positive change.

This section describes some of our accomplishments over the past year. In putting forward these results, I want to recognize the tremendous dedication, commitment and talent of everyone who has given their time to contribute to the great work of SPARC BC. This includes the Board, staff and volunteers who share our vision and who believe in the importance of the work that we do. This is my sixth year in serving as the Executive Director for SPARC BC, and in providing leadership for the organization. As we approach SPARC BC's 50th Anniversary, I feel that it is truly an honour and a privilege to be able to contribute to the history and legacy of SPARC BC and its work across communities.

The following section highlights some of the Board's key strategic directions related to our work in the area of accessibility and inclusion, income security and poverty reduction as well as in the area of community development education and outreach. It also highlights some of the key outcomes related to our work in the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities as well as our work in providing research, planning and consulting services. we delivered six (6) workshops in Castlegar, McBride, Port Hardy, Shuswap, Tofino, and Wells. We also participated in the delivery of a number of other community-based initiatives over the past year including the delivery of workshops covered a range of topics including building a shared narrative for the non-profit sector in BC as well as issues related to housing affordability and homelessness.

Mission-Driven Work Accessibility and Inclusion

SPARC BC has been successful in building a strong reputation in promoting positive policy change in the area of accessibility and inclusion. This includes the design and delivery of public workshops, planning and research, as well as leading accessibility audits and other types of initiatives to ensure that our communities are as accessible as possible. Through our work in this area we focus our efforts on reaching out to local governments and community partners to identify ways that we can work together to create greater equality for people with disabilities and to promote greater accessibility across communities.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

Adopt a comprehensive approach for advocating for sustainable and positive policy change related to accessibility and inclusion.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Building and enhancing our relationships with local governments and local communities to achieve shared accessibility goals.
- Exploring opportunities to influence positive policy change at the Provincial level as it relates to the built environment and the social infrastructure of communities.
- Working to improve the system of income support for individuals relying on BC's Persons with Disabilities Benefits.
- Strengthening the system for delivering the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities by focusing our efforts on accessibility and enforcement.

RESULTS FOR 2015/2016

The following highlights some of the key outcomes related to our work in the area of accessibility and inclusion in 2015/2016:

OUTREACH TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

This year we had significant success in our outreach to local governments and community partners. In 2015/2016, we had forty-eight (48) different local governments and community partners join us in celebrating Access Awareness Day and/or sending letters of support. We also expanded our partnerships in the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities when the City of West Kelowna approached us to act as a point of service contact for the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities in their community. This initiative builds on the Powell River partnership that we developed a number of years ago as a model for working together to promote greater accessibility and inclusion.

PROVIDING SUPPORT THROUGH OUR ACCESSIBILITY AND ENFORCEMENT LINE

In 2015/2016 we received regular calls from more than seventeen (17) local governments, bylaw enforcement officers, institutional partners and private parking attendants who were seeking advice and/or reporting instances of potential misuse or abuse. Key community partners who actively use our accessibility and enforcement line include: the City of Burnaby, Campbell River, Coquitlam, Fort St. John, Langley City and Langley District, Maple Ridge, North Vancouver, Prince George, the City of Richmond, the City of Terrace, the City of Vancouver, and the City of Victoria.

We also received calls from a number of key institutional partners such as local colleges and universities (University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University) as well as mall security and parking lot attendants including ImPark, YVR, the RCMP as well as local hospitals and facilities. Through this type of outreach we have been able to build effective relationships that help to strengthen the program by addressing potential issues of misuse or abuse. In many cases, these partners will not only issue fines but will also confiscate the permit being misused or abused. We will continue to build on these types of relationships and continue to explore other opportunities to strengthen our efforts around enforcement in 2016/2017.

DELIVERY OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS, ACCESSIBILITY AUDITS AND PLANNING AND RESEARCH

In 2015/2016 we hosted or participated in twelve (12) accessibility-related workshops or events including events in Abbotsford, Houston, Hazelton, New Westminster, Prince George, Sechelt, Surrey, Smithers, and Williams Lake. As well, we participated in three (3) different workshops or events in Vancouver including the Gathering Festival at the Gathering Place, a special accessibility-related event at the Aquarium, as well as the AXSmap event that we hosted in partnership with Jason DaSilva –our 2015/2016 Deryck Thomson Award recipient.

We have also been partnering with Realwheels to explore opportunities to improve access to social and cultural spaces in Vancouver. Realwheels occupies a valuable and necessary niche in the theatre community and was created to inspire audiences to embrace inclusion of disability onstage as well as to create opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in the arts.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT WITH OUR MEMBERS AND PERMIT HOLDERS

Over the years, we have adopted different strategies for reaching out and engaging our members and permit holders on a wide range of questions about how we can work together to make our communities as accessible and inclusive as possible. This information is an important source of local knowledge that helps us to understand our communities better as well as to identify ways that we can work to strengthen the system for delivering the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities. The feedback that we have received over the years has not only helped us to develop a better understanding of communities across BC, it has also helped us to strengthen our own service delivery strategies in order to ensure that we are effective in meeting the needs of the people and communities that we serve. In 2015/2016 we received feedback from more than 1,200 members and permit holders through our Your Ideas initiative.

PROVINCIAL ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

SPARC BC has always had strong provincial partnerships in the area of accessibility and inclusion including Provincial support for the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities. We also receive funding through the BC Gaming Grant to support Access Awareness Day as well as to support our work in the area of accessibility and inclusion. Over the past year, we have been identifying opportunities to strengthen our relationships and partnerships with the Provincial government with the following providing highlights of some of our current initiatives:

MEASURING UP

In June 2010, the Province transferred the education and outreach component of the 2010 Legacies Now –Measuring Up program to SPARC BC with the goal of continuing to preserve and share "best practices" as well as to build on the work and community investments that were part of the 2010 Legacies Now initiative. Through the Measuring Up program, the Province committed to:

- Fostering opportunities for the active engagement, participation and contribution of people with disabilities in their communities;
- Demonstrating the social and economic benefits that can be achieved by enabling communities to become more accessible and inclusive;
- Encouraging all BC communities to adopt measures which will be more accessible and inclusive for all; and,
- Supporting the creation of municipal planning and community processes and employment practices as well as service delivery models which reflect the principles of accessibility and inclusion.

We have published all of this information on our website. As well, we have been talking to Ministry staff about reaching out and engaging communities to get a better sense of local accessibility plans and actions. This year, we also contributed to the review and publication of the Ministry's Age Friendly and Disability Friendly Official Community Plans guide which was released at the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Conference.

In addition to our work on Measuring Up, in 2015/2016 we were successful in continuing to expand our partnerships and relationships at the Provincial level. This has included participating on the BC Parks Accessibility Advisory Committee as well as a highly successful partnership with BC Housing to help more than 14,000 seniors and people with disabilities learn more about the assistance that is available through the Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI) program. Through this partnership we helped enable more than 470 seniors and people with disabilities access the financial assistance available through the Program.

Key Measures and Outcomes: Accessibility and Inclusion

Measures 2013/2014 Results		2014/2015 Results	2015/2016 Results
Local governments, bylaw enforcement officers, and private institutions using SPARC BC's Accessibility & Enforcement Line	Line introduced	Baseline measures established	15
Accessibility audits and community-based workshops delivered		5	12
Local governments supporting Access Awareness Day	44	45	48
Feedback received from permit holders through Your Ideas	195	839	1,214
Engagement with provincial ministries on policy change	2	3	5
Different provincial ministries and initiatives	2010 Legacies Now- Measuring Up	2010 Legacies Now- Measuring Up	2010 Legacies Now- Measuring Up
	Ministry of Social Development & Social Innovation – Supporting Increased Participation	Ministry of Social Development & Social Innovation – Supporting Increased Participation	Ministry of Social Development & Social Innovation – Supporting Increased Participation
		Ministry of Social Development & Social Innovation –Best	Provincial Accessibility Secretariat
		Practices Review of Housing for People with Developmental Disabilities	BC Housing Home Adaptations for Independence (HAFI)
			BC Parks Accessibility Review Committee

Mission-Driven Work Social Policy, Research & Advocacy

SPARC BC is committed to a vision of reducing inequality and promoting a just and healthy society for all. Much of the work that we do is in the spaces between broader social policy areas including health, education, housing and income support where gaps in these systems have resulted in vulnerable families and individuals being pushed deeper into poverty. It is in these same policy spaces where opportunities exist to make a more just and healthy society for everyone. Through leading edge research and forward-thinking and action, we work to address gaps in the social safety net that can lead to changes that better support the economic and social well-being of people and communities across BC.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Providing leading edge, evidence-based research.
- Acting as an effective, clear public voice in advancing positive policy change in the area of income security and poverty reduction.
- Working to build effective partnerships for achieving positive policy change in the area of income security and poverty reduction.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

SPARC BC's strategic objectives in this area include:

- Conducting research to support positive policy change to better meet the needs of low income families and individuals;
- Developing on-going partnerships with the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition, First Call and others who share our values and who are committed to working to build a more just and healthy society for all; and
- Identifying local strategies and initiatives to better meet the needs of vulnerable families and individuals including seniors, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities and children and youth living in poverty.

RESULTS FOR 2015/2016

In 2015/2016 we had a target of generating at least one (1) publication per quarter. In 2015/2016 we produced six (6) publications including two (2) in-depth analytical reports describing gaps in our current system of income and supports as well as a series of research guides and publications to support community-based research, planning and action.

Key publications generated this year included the production of an evaluation report for LIRN BC as well as a series of publications and reports related to our work on the New Directions Project. We also worked with First Call on the development and release of the Child Poverty Report Card as well as the release of our own publication on the difficult experiences faced by single mothers who are relying on income assistance, and the challenges they face in meeting their needs and the needs of their families as they try to give their children the best possible chance in life.

We also partnered with a number of different groups and organizations to support their various efforts including research by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives on the Working Poor, the BC Council for Families on some of the pressures and challenges experienced by families in BC as well as the Canadian Council on Social Development on the use of social data to help advance and support positive policy change including contributing to their Strength in Numbers series. Over this past year, we have taken an active leadership role in exploring potential opportunities to work with key institutional partners across the Metro Vancouver region to put into place a "collaborative approach" for addressing homelessness. This has included working at a policy and planning level as well as at the community level in providing research and support to the local planning tables.

Key Measures and Outcomes - Social Policy, Research & Advocacy

Measures	2015/2016 Results
Release of one (1) SPARC BC publication per quarter	Achieved
LIRN BC Evaluation Report	Released Q1 (2015/2016)
New Directions for the Non-Profit Sector: Survey Report	Released Q2 (2015/2016)
New Directions for the Non-Profit Sector: Community Conversations	Released Q2 (2015/2016)
New Directions for the Non-Profit Sector: Collectively Speaking	Released Q2 (2015/2016)
First Call: Update of the annual Child Poverty Report Card	Released Q3 (2015/2016)
Walking the Line to Put Their Families First	Released Q4 (2015/2016)
Participatory Budgeting Toolkit for British Columbia's Local Governments – A Resource for Financial Officers	Planned Q1 (2016/2017)
Seniors' Poverty Report Card – Infographic	Planned Q2 (2016/2017)
Past Due: The Case for Increasing Persons with Disabilities Benefits in BC	Planned Q3 (2016/2017)
First Call: Update of the annual Child Poverty Report Card	Planned Q3 (2016/2017)

Mission-Driven Work Community Development Education & Outreach

Community development helps to build capacity within communities and to promote and support the active engagement and participation of all citizens. Social planning provides an effective model for undertaking this work by enabling communities to take action to address the issues that are important to them. Social planning also involves the collection of information to provide a sound evidence base for decision-making and for building a more complete understanding of the needs across communities. SPARC BC's work in the area of community development education and outreach focuses on the design and delivery of workshops and learning events as well as the production of resource guides and publications to provide the tools for social change.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Continuing to build on SPARC BC's work in the area of community development and capacity building.
- Continuing to support local communities, particularly rural and smaller communities across BC.
- Expanding SPARC BC's work related to building and strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people and communities.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

SPARC BC's strategic objectives in this area include:

- Continuing to work with partners across BC to deliver a diverse range of communitybased workshops through providing leadership in LIRN BC (Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC) and through SPARC BC's Community Development Education (CDE) program;
- Continuing to support information sharing and knowledge exchange through the development of SPROUT publications, resource guides and other materials; and,
- Recognizing individuals and organizations making a significant contribution to social planning and social justice in B.C. through the annual Deryck Thomson Award.

About LIRN BC (Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC)

Since its inception in 2006, LIRN BC has consistently provided high quality and relevant community development support to communities across BC. During LIRN BC's first ten years, 24 individual organizations have participated as LIRN BC partners (including 18 non-governmental organizations and 6 government organizations).

Eighty-seven host organizations have worked with LIRN BC partners to organize 109 learning events in 44 different BC communities.

An estimated 2,495 participants have taken part in those events. The average attendance at LIRN BC events is 23 people.

Topics covered in the 109 events include:

- Relationship Building–Thirty-five events focused on relationship building, partnership development, and establishing networks. These include community dialogue sessions, partnership development workshops, and events focused on developing better relationships between Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal Communities.
- Engagement–Eight events involved strengthening engagement in decision making with a focus on issues such as youth engagement, participatory budgeting, and an overview of community engagement methods.
- Coordinated Approaches to Community Problems Twenty events focused on strengthening the ability of organizations to work together to address community issues. Topics included community social planning, social development strategies, community sustainability planning, and service coordination.
- Community Economic Development–Ten events addressed community economic development issues such as social enterprise development, cultural tourism and regional economic development planning.
- Development of Skills and Organizational Capacity– Thirteen workshops focused on skills development in areas such as grassroots group development, strategic planning and project planning, program evaluation, and grant writing.
- Community Issues Twenty workshops focused on specific community issues including food security, homelessness, affordable housing, poverty, multiculturalism, social determinants of health, community arts, accessibility, and volunteerism.

Measures	2013/2014 Results	2014/2015 Results	2015/2016 Results
Community development workshops delivered	10	6	9
Communities participating in LIRN BC (Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC)	Alberni Valley Boundary Region Castlegar Comox Valley Parkville/Qualicum Kitimat Hazelton Nelson Shuswap Clayoquot	Castlegar McBride Port Hardy Shuswap Tofino Wells	Campbell River Comox Valley Cowichan Valley (Duncan) Fort Nelson Lillooet Alberni- Clayoquot Health Network (Port Alberni) Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (Port Alberni) Tofino 100 Mile House
Community partners engaged in LIRN	9	9	12
	Access to Media Education Society (AMES) Association of Neighbourhood Houses of BC (ANHBC) Fraser Basin Council (Integrated Community Sustainability Planning) Heritage Branch – BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC; Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society of BC; PeerNetBC; Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC); YouthCO.	Association of Neighbourhood Houses of BC (ANHBC) BC Healthy Communities (PlanH Program) Fraser Basin Council (Integrated Community Sustainability Planning) Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at UBC Leave Out Violence (LOVE) Society of BC. PeerNetBC. StepUp BC. Vantage Point. YouthCO.	Alzheimer Society British Columbia Association of Neighbourhood Houses BC (ANHBC) BC Centre for Employment Excellence BC Healthy Communities (PlanH Program) Community Social Planning Council (Victoria) Fraser Basin Council (Smart Planning for Communities Program) UBC Library, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre Leave Out Violence BC (LOVE) PeerNetBC Vantage Point Volunteer BC YouthCo

Key Measures and Outcomes: Community Development Education & Outreach

The Deryck Thomson Award

The Deryck Thomson Award is named after one of SPARC BC's founding Directors. The Award is given annually to an individual or organization making a significant contribution to social planning and social justice in BC. Every year, SPARC BC receives many nominations for the Award, and is witness to the terrific work being done throughout the Province.

The criteria for the Award are:

- Advocating for equity, fairness, and dignity for all through inclusion, integrity and learning;
- Ensuring that those who are most affected by decisions have a voice in determining and implementing policies and programs that impact them and their families;
- Raising public awareness and consciousness about the importance of social and community well-being.

2015/2016 DERYCK THOMSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

In 2015/2016 SPARC BC Awarded two (2) Deryck Thomson Awards:

JASON DASILVA was nominated for the individual Award for his innovation and efforts in thinking about ways that we can work together as a society to help to make our communities as accessible and inclusive as possible. Jason was recognized by SPARC BC for his work in developing AXSmap – a crowd-sourced application that identifies local services and amenities that are accessible. SPARC BC also wanted to recognize Jason for his work as a film maker, director and social activist including his efforts to use his talent as a communicator to promote greater equality for people with disabilities and greater accessibility across communities. SPARC BC hosted a community screening of Jason's work as part of our recognition for him as one of the two 2015/2016 Deryck Thomson Award recipients.

COASTAL FAMILY RESOURCE COALITION was also nominated for a Deryck Thomson Award in 2015/2016. Coastal Family Resource Coalition was nominated for the organizational Award for their collaborative community-based planning model that they developed to serve the needs of the people in their region (the west coast of Vancouver Island). Their efforts and positive leadership helped to demonstrate that the problems that we face in our communities are not problems without solutions and that lasting and positive change in possible. Faced with the challenge of serving a relatively small population (5,500 people in eight communities) across a large and geographically remote area, the Coastal Family Resource Coalition formed a close-knit coalition of like-minded people. For more than 10 years, they have worked together successfully in transforming their actions from a series of disconnected programs into an organized and focused network of active and engaged service providers. In October 2015, Scott Graham and Nate Bello attended a special Award ceremony on behalf of SPARC BC.

NOMINEES FOR THE 2016/2017 DERYCK THOMSON AWARD

It has also been our practice in the past to announce the successful nominee for the Deryck Thomson Award for the current year as part of our Annual General Meeting. To this end, I am pleased to announce that the SPARC BC Board of Directors has nominated **THE CINDERELLA PROJECT** for the 2016/2017 Deryck Thomson Award. The Cinderella Project is a volunteer driven initiative that has long history of working to help young adults who need support and encouragement in making the transition from high school to young adulthood. Through its efforts, the Cinderella Project focuses on building bridges to ensure that young adults who are part of the program know that there is someone who believes in them and who is willing to help them to pursue their dreams. In recognizing the Cinderella project, we want to acknowledge that it is often the case that one mentor, or one event can change the course of a life. In this way, the Cinderella Project embodies the vision, spirit, and values that were important to Deryck Thomson and represents a strong and worthy choice for the 2016/2017 Deryck Thomson Award.

Key Measures and Outcomes

Measures	2013/2014 Results	2014/2015 Results	2015/2016 Results
Recipients of the Deryck	Storytellers'	BC Aboriginal Network	Coastal Family
Thomson Award	Foundation	Disability Society	Resource Coalition
	-Hazelton-	(BCANDS)	-West Coast Vancouver
		-Victoria-	Island –
			Jason DaSilva AXSmap/AXSplace -Delta-

SPARC BC's Social Enterprises The Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities

We know that accessible communities can make a real difference in the lives of people with disabilities and that accessible parking allows people with health and activity limitations to remain active in their community. Each year, through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program, SPARC BC helps individuals with health and activity limitations to remain active in their community and to access the buildings and services they need. Through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities, we work to reach out to local governments and to educate the driving public about the need for accessible parking and the role that it plays in promoting independence and inclusion.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

Ensure the on-going sustainability of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities and its effectiveness in serving people and communities.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

- Strengthen SPARC BC's partnerships with communities across BC to promote accessibility and to ensure the Parking Permit Program remains strong.
- Encourage innovation through investments in technology and communication with key program partners to ensure that the Parking Permit Program is delivered in a professional, efficient, timely and cost-effective manner.
- Continue to review our internal business processes and practices to ensure that our strategies are effective and that we continue to deliver high quality services to our clients, partners and stakeholders.

2015/2016 RESULTS

In 2015/2016 SPARC BC assisted more than 49,000 individuals and organizations through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities. Over the years, we have introduced a number of initiatives to help strengthen the delivery of the Parking Permit Program in BC. This has included:

- The introduction of a toll-free 1-888 number for individuals who live outside of the Lower Mainland to call when they need assistance.
- The launch of our Accessibility and Enforcement Line.
- The introduction of changes in the design of our temporary permit to prevent them from being altered as well as the introduction of a process to help collect back expired permits.

In 2015/2016 we introduced a targeted initiative to reach out to permit holders who have expired permits, reminding them to renew their permit and/or to let us know if their permit is no longer required. We had a

positive response to this initiative and will continue to not only use this practice in the future but to share it with other parking permit providers as it helps to strengthen the program and ensure that it continues to be effective in meeting the needs of those it serves.

MOTORCYCLE PERMITS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES – COMING SOON!

Over the years there have been a number of requests from permit holders for motorcycle permits. These request often come in late May or early June as the weather improves and people start to look for opportunities and ways to fully engage their communities. In response to these requests we have developed a sticker that can be placed on the windshields of motorcycles which can be made available to valid permit holders. We have been working with the Ministry and the Accessibility Secretariat on the development of a news release as well as reaching out to our other community partners.

These permits will be renewed annually and the permit holder will be required to carry their wallet cards with them to confirm that they are in fact the valid permit holder. Permit holders who drive a convertible can also request this permit. SPARC BC will help to facilitate access to this permit and will work with other permit providers to ensure that this permit is available to all valid permit holders who want one. We know that having access to these permits will help to promote greater accessibility and inclusion. At the same time, we also know that success not only depends on having enough designated parking spaces to meet the full diversity of needs including the demand for van accessible parking. As we work with communities on the roll out of the motorcycle permit, we will also look at ways to ensure that the full range of needs across communities can be addressed.

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ON-LINE RENEWAL SYSTEM

We have also been actively engaged in the development of an on-line renewal system to allow valid permit holders to renew their permit on-line. Through the introduction of this system, we will not only be able to make it more convenient for our permit holders but we will also be able to reduce the cost of postage – a significant cost driver in 2015/2016. Work on the development of the on-line system is completed and we are in the final testing phase. We expect to go live with the system in the early part of 2016/2017.

Measures	2013/2014 Results	2014/2015 Results	2015/2016 Results
Individuals and organizations assisted	45,900	47,135	49,092
Incorporated communities/ municipalities supported	n/a	n/a	150
Unincorporated communities supported	n/a	n/a	300
Number of renewals completed on-line			

Key Measures and Outcomes: Parking Permit Program

SPARC BC's Social Enterprises Research, Planning & Consulting Services

SPARC BC also operates a social enterprise where we provide research, planning and consulting services on a fee for service basis. All of the work undertaken by Research and Consulting is aligned with SPARC BC's mission of "working to build a just and healthy society for all" and is designed to support the Board's key strategic priorities and policy directions in the area of accessibility and inclusion, income security and poverty reduction as well as community development education, outreach and capacity building.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Ensure the on-going sustainability of the service provided through Research and Consulting including its on-going role in advancing SPARC BC's mission-driven work

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Maintain the high quality of the work produced through Research and Consulting including the current success rate in proposals submitted.
- Enhance both the range and strength of partnerships identified including leveraging opportunities to advance the Board's key strategic priorities in the area of income security and poverty reduction, community development education and outreach and accessibility and inclusion.
- Build on SPARC BC's reputation including recognition by peers, the government, the public and others as being a respected and recognized organization capable of providing high quality, innovative, timely social policy research, planning and evaluation support.
- Enhance SPARC BC's strategic communication capacity and effectiveness including developing stronger approaches for disseminating knowledge gained from engagement with specific Research and Consulting Projects.

2015/2016 RESULTS

In 2015/2016, SPARC BC prepared thirty-five (35) proposals and led sixty-one (61) communitybased research and planning projects or service delivery strategies on a diverse range of topics including income security and employment, food security and access to healthy food, housing affordability and homelessness, as well as emergency preparedness planning, participatory budgeting and other types of service delivery strategies and models to support local governments.

Key Measures and	1 Outcomes: Researc	h. Planning, &	Consulting Services
They include and		n, i idininiy, o	consolding services

Measures	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016
Research and planning consulting projects in progress or completed	45	56	61
New proposals developed	41	28	35
Projects that advance SPARC BC's mission-driven work in the area of accessibility and inclusion	5	5	4
Projects that advance SPARC BC's mission-driven work in the area of income security and poverty reduction	28	39	28
Projects that advance SPARC BC's mission-driven work in the area of community development and capacity building	33	32	30
Projects that advance the Board's priority on building and expanding relationships with Aboriginal people and communities	10	18	14
Projects that advance the Board's priority of providing support to smaller, rural and northern communities	5	19	10

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

SPARC BC's Board of Directors has also placed an emphasis on communication and outreaching including making use of all forms of media to ensure that we communicate with the broadest range of people and organizations interested and involved in social planning, and social policy research in BC. This includes outreach through the print media, social media and through our website.

2015/2016 RESULTS

In 2015/2016 we worked to maintain a strong presence in the print media, through our website and on social media. Over the course of the year, we had 73,425 visitors to our website including 55,000 new visitors. We also had 2,280 followers on twitter and had 2,452 tweets and retweets. We were also regularly invited by the media (print, radio and television) to provide commentary on a range of topics including accessible parking, housing affordability and homelessness, food security, support for economically vulnerable families and individuals including children living in poverty.

Key Measures and Outcomes: Communication & Outreach

Measures	2013/2014 Results	2014/2015 Results	2015/2016 Results
Visitors to SPARC BC's website	57,000	64,900	73,425
Followers on twitter	1,500	1,929	2,280
Tweets and re-tweets			2,452

Membership and Donations

SPARC BC is fortunate to have the generous support of a broad membership and donor base who share our vision of a just and healthy society for all. The support that we receive from our members and donors plays an important role in advancing our mission-driven work and in supporting our work with communities. As a non-profit society and federally registered charity, we rely on this support to help advance our work and to help keep our programs and services strong.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Grow and diversify SPARC BC's membership and donor base.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:

- Enhance communication to strengthen our connections with our membership and donor base and increase the profile of our work.
- Build and maintain the trust of our members and donors by demonstrating impact and aligning our work with the areas of focus that are important to them.
- Continue to explore new methods of communication and outreach with our members and donors -both to express our appreciation for their support and to explore new opportunities to build and strengthen our connection with them.

2015/2016 RESULTS

Over the past year, we have had success in building a strong membership and donor base. Since 2013/2014 the number of members and permit holders making a contribution to support our work with communities has continued to increase with the results from our Christmas campaign being one of our strongest campaigns ever. The support from our members and donors helps to keep our programs strong and allows us to make a real difference in reaching out to support people and communities.

Key Measures and Outcomes: Membership & Donations

Measures	2013/2014 Results	2014/2015 Results	2015/2016 Results
Number of members	8,176	4,656	2,645
Members making donations through outreach	4,824	3,231	2,545
Number of sustaining members	462	407	344
Number of new members		443	1,587
Number of donations	25,509	24,732	46,507

Our Collaborators, Clients and Partners

SPARC BC's success is closely linked to the interests and aspirations of our progressive collaborators, clients and partners who share our values and our commitment to working to promote lasting and positive change. The following is a list of some of our key partners and collaborators:

Local & Regional Government:

Boundary Region City of Kamloops City of Kelowna City of Nanaimo City of Nelson City of Pitt Meadows City of Port Moody City of Powell River City of Richmond City of Surrey City of Vancouver District of Tofino Metro Vancouver Fraser Valley Regional District Town of Smithers Village of Burns Lake First Nations & Health Authorities Gitksan Government Commission Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw First Nations Office of the Wet'suwet'en First Nations Health Authority Gitxsan Health Non-Profit Organizations, Networks & Service Providers Alliance for Equality for Blind Canadians BC Aboriginal Childcare Society (BCACS) BC Aboriginal Network on Disability Society (BCANDS) BC Centre for Non-Profit Management and Sustainability BC Council for Families (BCCF) BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA) BC Poverty Reduction Coalition Better Environmentally Sound Transportation (BEST) Board Voice Burnaby Homeless Connect Burnaby Board of Trade Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD) Canadian Evaluation Society (CES) Canadian Mental Health Association Clayoquot Biosphere Trust Columbia Basin Trust Co-op Housing Federation of BC (CHF-BC) Crisis Centre Disability Alliance BC (DABC) First Call Federation of Community Social Services Farm to Cafeteria Canada (F2CC) Georgia Strait Alliance

Gordon Neighbourhood House Seniors' Planning Table Greater Vancouver Food Bank Society Heart and Stroke Foundation Hiiye'yu Lelum - House of Friendship Human Resources and Skill Development Canada Inclusion BC Leave Out Violence BC (LOVE BC) Metro Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness Nanaimo Disability Resource Centre Nanaimo Foundation North Shore Homelessness Task Force (Homelessness Action Week) Planning Institute of BC (PIBC) PeerNet BC Peninsula Homeless to Housing (PH2H) (Homelessness Action Week) Public Health Services Authority Richmond Centre for Disability Richmond Homelessness Coalition (Homelessness Action Week) Salvation Army Caring Place (Homelessness Action Week) Seniors' Services Society Surrey Homelessness & Housing Society Simon Fraser University, Department of Sociology The Gathering Place (City of Vancouver) United Way of the Lower Mainland University of British Columbia, College of Health Disciplines University of British Columbia, Department of Geography University of British Columbia, Human Early Learning Partnership University of British Columbia, Irving K. Barber Learning University of British Columbia, School of Community & **Regional Planning** University of British Columbia Okanagan University of Toronto, Faculty of Social Work University of Waterloo, Propel Centre for Population Health Vancity Community Foundation Vancouver Aquarium Vancouver Foundation Vancouver School Board Vibrant Abbotsford Vibrant Surrey Voluntary Organizations Consortium of BC Volunteer BC Western Institute for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing West End Seniors' Yukon Government, Department of Justice West End Seniors Network (WESN)

AGENDA

SPARC BC 2015/2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4445 Norfolk Street, Burnaby, BC June 17, 2016 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Minutes from the AGM, June 19, 2015
- 3. President's Report
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements -2015/2016
- 6. Appointment of the Auditors for 2016/2017
- 7. Election of Directors
- 8. Message from the Executive Director
- 9. Adjournment

MINUTES

SPARC BC Annual General Meeting 2014/2015

4445 Norfolk Street, Burnaby BC June 19, 2015

1. Call to Order

The President called the meeting to order.

2. Minutes from the Annual General Meeting, June 20, 2014

The President referred members to the Annual Report and requested a motion to adopt the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting held at the SPARC BC offices at 4445 Norfolk Street on June 20, 2014.

Motion:

That the minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on June 20, 2014 be approved.

MOVED: Irene Willsie, SECONDED: Marilyn Belak, All in Favour: CARRIED.

3. President's Report

Steve Harvard (President) referred members to the President's Report in the Annual Report. Steve shared highlights from the year and recognized the important role that the generosity of the membership and donor base plays in helping to keep SPARC BC's programs strong and in helping to advance our mission.

Motion:

That the President's Report be adopted.

MOVED: Hugh Kellas, SECONDED: Linda Locke, All in Favour: CARRIED.

4. Treasurer's Report

The President introduced Hugh Kellas (Treasurer) and asked the Treasurer to speak. Hugh provided some observations and reflections on the year and noted that a written summary of the Treasurer's Report can be found in the Annual Report that was circulated to members. Hugh called for a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report.

Motion:

That the Treasurer's Report as presented in the Annual Report be adopted.

MOVED: Hugh Kellas, SECONDED: Linda Locke, All in Favour: CARRIED.

5. Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements -2014/2015

Hugh Kellas referred members to the Audited Financial Statements. Hugh called for a motion to adopt the 2014/2015 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

Motion:

That the Audited Financial Statements for 2014/2015 as presented be adopted.

MOVED: Hugh Kellas, SECONDED: Marilyn Belak, All in Favour: CARRIED.

6. Appointment of the Auditors for 2015/2016

Hugh Kellas noted that KPMG provided external auditing services for 2014/2015 and made the recommendation that KPMG be re-appointed as the external auditors for 2015/2016.

Motion:

That KPMG be appointed as the external auditors for SPARC BC for 2015/2016.

MOVED: Hugh Kellas, SECONDED: Nate Bello, All in Favour: CARRIED.

7. Election of Directors

The President asked the Chair of the Nominations Committee, Marilyn Belak, to provide a short overview of the Board's nomination process. Marilyn directed members to the Report from the Nominations Committee and noted that the Committee is making the following recommendations:

- That Steve Harvard (Victoria) and Hugh Kellas (West Vancouver) whose terms are ending in June 2015 be re-appointed to the SPARC BC Board of Directors to serve an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2018;
- That Susan Jensen (Prince George) be appointed to the SPARC BC Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending in June 2018;
- That the two (2) remaining vacancies on the Board of Directors be filled at a later date.

Motion:

(a) Steve Harvard (Victoria) and Hugh Kellas (West Vancouver) whose terms are ending in June 2015 be re-appointed to the SPARC BC Board of Directors to serve an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2018;

(b) Susan Jensen (Prince George) be appointed to the SPARC BC Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending in June 2018; and,

(c) The two (2) remaining vacancies on the Board of Directors be filled at a later date.

MOVED: Marilyn Belak, SECONDED: Irene Willsie, All in Favour: CARRIED.

8. Message from the Executive Director

The President asked Lorraine Copas (Executive Director) to provide some highlights for 2014/2015. Lorraine spoke about the work of the team and some of the accomplishments for 2014/2015. Lorraine thanked the Board for their support and direction and the staff for their dedication and commitment to the work of SPARC BC. Lorraine also acknowledged the tremendous support from our members and donors and closed by saying that it is both an honour and privilege to lead the day-to-day operations and activities of SPARC BC.

9. Adjournment

The President asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion:

That the 2014/2015 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

MOVED: Hugh Kellas, SECONDED: Linda Locke, All in Favour: CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report

I would like to present the Treasurer's Report for 2015/2016. Over the past year, SPARC BC has continued to show good financial results in the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities, and in the provision of Research, Planning and Consulting services. The very significant financial support we receive from our members and donors enable SPARC BC's to advance its mission-driven work in the areas of accessibility and inclusion, social policy research and advocacy, and community development education and outreach.

SPARC BC operates through a social enterprise model where all of the revenue generated through our different programs and initiatives is reinvested in advancing our mission-driven work and in helping to keep our programs and services strong. Through all of SPARC BC's efforts, our goal is to advance policies that promote and support the well-being of people and communities, and help to build a more just and healthy society for all.

2015/2016 was a year of mixed financial results. While SPARC BC generated total revenue of \$2,097,873, up from \$2,069,000 in 2014/2015, expenses also increased significantly in a number of areas while contributions by members and donors were slightly lower. The result was an operating deficit. In 2014/2015, SPARC BC chose to invest some of its reserve funds to enhance specific programs; in 2015/2016 the deficit was unintentional and has given us the need to pause and reflect.

One of the most significant increases and cost drivers is postage. In 2014/2015 the cost of postage was \$98,253. In 2015/2016, this cost increased by over \$28,000 to \$126,546 – an increase of almost 29%. The cost of postage is critical to the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities. In 2015/2016 we sent renewal notices to more than 41,200 households as well as processed and mailed more than 49,000 permits.

For the past number of years, we have watched the cost of postage continue to increase and have worked to find ways to absorb these costs without affecting our permit holders and those who depend on the programs and services that we deliver. This year the Board has had to make a very difficult decision to increase the cost of our permit processing fee. Effective July 1, 2016 the processing fee for the permit will be increased by three dollars (\$3.00). This is the first increase in five years and is necessary to keep the program strong. At the same time, we know that there will be permit holders who will not be able to afford this increase and therefore SPARC BC will continue to provide assistance to anyone who would experience hardship as a result of this decision.

We will also continue to look for efficiencies that can help to keep the cost down. This will include completion of our on-line renewal system which is in the final testing phases and which is expected to "go live" in the next few months. The on-line renewal system will not only provide greater convenience to our members and permit holders but it will also help to manage the cost of printing and postage as renewal notices can be sent electronically and the work completed on-line rather than through the mail. We are excited by this change as we believe that it will help us to serve our members and permit holders better.

In looking at our overall revenues, it is clear that the Parking Program for People with Disabilities represents an important business area for our organization, accounting for 54% of the total revenue. In 2015/2016, we served more than 49,000 permit holders from across BC including

approximately 24,000 permit holders who renewed their permanent permits, 18,900 new permit holders, and 6,100 temporary permit holders. The Parking Permit Program not only helps us meet the needs of those who depend on this service but it also generates revenue to support our Accessibility and Enforcement line and our work with communities across BC to promote and support greater accessibility.

In terms of our other business areas, the revenue generated through the Research, Planning and Consulting Services has continued to be strong despite a challenging external operating environment. In 2015/2016, Research and Consulting generated \$309,328 in revenue. This was more than \$50,000 over the revenue target established for the year and represents 17% of the total revenue for our organization. Staff in Research and Consulting provides services to all levels of government (federal, provincial, regional, local and First Nations) as well as community-based agencies and service providers. These services include education and outreach, social policy research and analysis, community facilitation and program evaluation. All of the work undertaken by staff in Research and Consulting is aligned with our mission and any revenue generated through the program is reinvested in SPARC BC's mission-driven work.

Without contributions from our members and donors, however, SPARC BC would not be able to advance positive policy change in the area of accessibility and inclusion, income security and poverty reduction as well as help local communities build capacity to better respond to existing and emerging needs. SPARC BC is very fortunate to have the generous support of a broad membership and donor base. In 2015/2016, revenue from Membership and Donations was down from \$734,274 in the previous year to \$714,586. Revenue from membership and donations accounts for 40% of annual revenue and is essential to the delivery of the programs and services we provide. As a non-profit society and federally-registered charity, we are grateful for the ongoing support of such as broad and diverse membership and donor base.

2015/2016 was a challenging year financially, but it was a successful year as SPARC BC continued to deliver strong results across all of our program areas and to build and strengthen our connections with communities. I want to conclude by thanking our members and donors as well as our staff for a busy and productive year. As well, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the BC government through the BC Community Gaming Grant for the support that it provides to our work in the area of accessibility and inclusion as well as our work in the area of community development, education and outreach. As SPARC BC contemplates our upcoming 50th anniversary, I feel confident that we are in a strong financial position for moving forward on our mission to build a more just and healthy society for all.

Sincerely,

Wyh Kellos

Hugh Kellas Treasurer

Report from the Nominations Committee

The bylaws establish that the Board of Directors shall have a minimum of eight (8) and a maximum of fifteen (15) Directors with the ideal number being set at twelve (12).

The bylaws also establish that the Board of Directors should represent the geographic and social diversity that is characteristic of the province.

The following provides information on the current structure and composition of the Board of Directors including those members whose terms are ending and those who are standing for reelection.

The Nominations Committee notes that there are four (4) Directors whose terms are ending in June 2016. Of the four (4) Directors whose terms are ending:

- Jennifer Cliff-Marks (Castlegar) has indicated that she will not be standing for re-election;
- **Nate Bello** (Lantzville) and **Linda Locke** (Hazelton) will be reaching the end of their full nine year term in 2018 and have agreed to serve for an additional two (2) year term;
- **Sharlene Frank** (Victoria) was appointed in 2013 and has indicated that she will stand for re-election for an additional three (3) year term.

Nate Bello	Lantzville	Director since 2009	Term expiring 2018
Linda Locke	Hazelton	Director since 2009	Term expiring 2018
Sharlene Frank	Victoria	Director since 2013	Term expiring 2019

The Nominations Committee also notes that the following Directors are continuing to serve a three (3) year term ending in June 2018:

Hugh Kellas	West Vancouver	Director since 2012	Term expiring 2018
Susan Jensen	Prince George	Director since 2015	Term expiring 2018

As well, the Nominations Committee notes that there are four (4) Directors whose terms are ending in June 2017:

Steve Harvard	Victoria	Director since 2008	Term expiring 2017
Marilyn Belak	Dawson Creek	Director since 2012	Term expiring 2017
Cameron Gray	Vancouver	Director since 2011	Term expiring 2017
Christene Walsh	Kelowna	Director since 2014	Term expiring 2017

Recommendations from the Nominations Committee:

- 1. That Nate Bello and Linda Locke whose terms end in June 2016 be elected to serve for an additional two (2) year term ending in June 2018, at which time they will have served their full nine (9) year term on the SPARC BC Board of Directors;
- 2. That Sharlene Frank whose term is ending in June 2016 and who was appointed to the Board in 2013 be elected to serve for an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2019;
- 3. That Steve Harvard who will have served his full nine (9) year term on the SPARC BC Board of Directors in June 2017, be elected to serve for one (1) additional year ending in June 2017 at which time he will have served his full nine (9) year term;
- 4. That Bev Onischak be appointed to the SPARC BC Board of Directors for a one (1) year term, ending June 2017;
- 5. That Manpreet Grewal be appointed to SPARC BC Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending June 2019;
- 6. That Stephen Dooley be appointed to SPARC BC Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending June 2019.

Based on the recommendations that have been put forward, the following reflects the proposed structure and composition for SPARC BC's Board of Directors for 2016/2017.

Directors nominated to serve a three (3) year term and whose terms will be expiring in 2019:

Sharlene Frank	Victoria	Director since 2013	Term expiring 2019
Manpreet Grewal	Abbotsford	Director since 2016	Term expiring 2019
Stephen Dooley	Surrey	Director since 2016	Term expiring 2019

Directors nominated to serve a one (1) year term and whose terms will be expiring in 2017:

Steve Harvard	Victoria	Director since 2008	Term expiring 2017
Bev Onischak	Castlegar	Director since 2016	Term expiring 2017

Directors who are continuing their current terms and whose terms will be expiring in 2018:

Hugh Kellas	West Vancouver	Director since 2012	Term expiring 2018
Susan Jensen	Prince George	Director since 2015	Term expiring 2018
Nate Bello	Lantzville	Director since 2009	Term expiring 2018
Linda Locke	Hazelton	Director since 2009	Term expiring 2018

Marilyn Belak	Dawson Creek	Director since 2012	Term expiring 2017
Cameron Gray	Vancouver	Director since 2011	Term expiring 2017
Christene Walsh	Kelowna	Director since 2014	Term expiring 2017

Directors who are continuing their current terms and whose terms will be expiring in 2017:

Background information on each of the Directors who have been nominated for election or reelection can be found in the following section. In addition, information is also available on the Directors who are continuing their terms.

Steve Harvard—President (Victoria, BC)

Steve joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2008 and has served on the Finance and Audit Committee as Treasurer. Steve has also served as President since 2014. Steve lives in Victoria with his family and brings significant experience in the area of transportation and transit planning. Steve also brings knowledge of accessibility and service planning as it relates to the needs in smaller, rural and remote communities. Steve's work has taken him across the Province and has allowed him to build a deep understanding of some of the challenges that smaller communities face. Steve's education and background includes business management and community service.

Nate Bello—Vice President (Lantzville, BC)

Nate joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2009 and has served on the Nominations and Governance Committees. Nate has also served as a Vice President since 2013. Nate is dedicated to community sustainability and has a long history of community involvement. Nate was a founding member of the Quesnel Multicultural Society, a member and Vice-Chair for the University of Northern British Columbia, Chair of the North Cariboo Post-Secondary Education Council, Treasurer of the Quesnel Principals and Vice-Principals Association and a director of the Quesnel Community and Economic Development Corporation. Nate also served two terms as the Mayor of Quesnel and three terms as a Councilor on Quesnel City Council. As Mayor, Nate was a founding member of the Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition and served on the Northern Development Initiative Trust.

Hugh Kellas—Secretary/Treasurer (West Vancouver, BC)

Hugh joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2012 and has served as the Treasurer/Secretary since 2013. Trained as an urban planner, Hugh held a series of positions within Metro Vancouver, including the Manager of Policy and Planning, and currently provides consulting services. Active in his profession, Hugh is a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) and a past president of both CIP and the Planning Institute of British Columbia. Hugh has also served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of the Lower Mainland. Hugh brings extensive knowledge of urban and community development.

Marilyn Belak (Dawson Creek, BC)

Marilyn joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2012 and currently serves as the Chair of the Nominations Committee. Marilyn retired after nine years as a City Councillor in Dawson Creek. She is a registered nurse (RN) and retired from Hospice and Palliative Care and Community Care Nursing in 2013. Marilyn is a published poet and a past recipient of Impact and Influence Woman of the Year in Northern BC. Marilyn has also received three Misbehaving Women Awards and several civic leader citations. Marilyn is passionate about sustainable development within a sustainable environment that includes sustainable economic systems planning. As a mother and grandmother with a 93 year old mother who lives independently, Marilyn is involved in advocating for excellence in quality of life from cradle to grave. She is a gardener and an outdoors woman.

Sharlene Frank (Victoria, BC)

Sharlene joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2013 and serves as a member of the Finance Committee. Sharlene is a member of the K'ómoks First Nation. Sharlene has a Master's of Public Administration and a strong history in community development. For more than 20 years, Sharlene has worked with Aboriginal communities as a researcher, policy analyst and program administrator and has been involved in a wide range of individual and organizational capacity development issues. Sharlene's career has included working with Aboriginal communities to help them to define and develop their programs, services and vision. Sharlene has played many different roles from educator, mentor, advocate to elected leader and Task Force member. Sharlene has observed that, over the course of her career, she has come to appreciate the need for a continual process of developing, evaluating and refining a holistic view point on community development.

Cameron Gray (Vancouver, BC)

Cameron joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2011 and serves as the Chair of the Governance Committee. Cameron is the former Managing Director for the Department of Social Development for the City of Vancouver and the former Director of the City's Housing Centre. Cameron holds a planning degree and a diploma in urban economics and is recognized for his knowledge and expertise in the area of housing affordability and homelessness. Cameron is also recognized for his commitment to social justice and for his significant contribution to the development of innovative strategies and approaches in the field of housing.

Susan Jensen (Prince George, BC)

Susan joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2015 and serves as a member of the Governance Committee. Susan was born in Dawson Creek and currently resides in Prince George. Susan attended Northern Lights College where she took courses in business administration and business finance. Susan has a passion for social justice and has had a long career working with seniors, adults and youth from a variety of backgrounds (abuse, criminal justice, family matters and access to benefits). Susan found her work at Legal Services as an Intake Legal Assistant to be gratifying and believes in the importance of doing good deeds for others. Susan brings extensive front-line experience and understanding to SPARC BC's Board of Directors.

Linda Locke (Hazelton, BC)

Linda joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2009 and has served on the Finance and Audit and Governance Committees. Linda brings significant understanding of the issues and challenges of poverty and a deep understanding of the impact of poverty in smaller, rural and northern communities. Linda is a practicing lawyer and has been leading the work of the Upper Skeena Counseling and Legal Assistance Society (USCLAS) in Hazelton for more than twenty years. Linda obtained her Law Degree from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario and previously completed a Social Work Degree at the University of Calgary. Linda also has a Diploma of Social Sciences at Mount Royal College. With her experience in family law, child protection and poverty law and her deep commitment to community, Linda brings a unique and important perspective to SPARC BC especially as it relates to Aboriginal people and communities as well as people living in poverty.

Christene Walsh (Kelowna, BC)

Christene joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2014 and has served on both the Nominations and Governance Committees. Christene is a social worker by profession, completing both a Master's Degree in Social Work (University of Calgary) and Bachelor of Social Work (McMaster University). Christene also holds a Diploma in Regulatory Law (Seneca College) and a Bachelor of Arts/Sociology (St. Francis Xavier University). Christene is currently employed with the Regional District of Central Okanagan [RDCO] as the Manager, Police/Community Support Services. Previously Christene served as the Social Development Coordinator–a community development role within Central Okanagan's social services sector. Christene has also worked as a social worker in mental health & substance use services, palliative [cancer] care, hospital social work and child protection (Aboriginal communities). Her primary area of interest is social justice.

Stephen Dooley (White Rock, BC)

Steve Dooley is the Executive Director for Simon Fraser University, Surrey Campus. Through the course of his career, Steve has worked on a number of projects with SPARC BC and is a champion of community engagement and community-based research. Steve has an extensive background in research and education including significant experience in community development and community building. Steve has a passion for supporting experiential learning and encourages students to become humble learners as they work to engage as volunteers and as members of civil society. While providing instruction in criminology and sociology at Kwantlen Polytechnical College, Steve created CIR:CLE (The Centre for Interdisciplinary Research: Community Learning and Engagement. Through CIR:CLE, Steve led a range of evaluation projects for the Surrey School District. Steve also worked with SPARC BC and other key partners on the development of the City of Surrey's first ever poverty reduction plan.

Manpreet Grewal (Abbotsford, BC)

Manpreet Grewal is currently the Director of Multicultural and Immigrant Services and a member of the shared leadership team at Abbotsford Community Services. She has worked in the Immigrant Integration and Diversity Education field in BC for the last 27 years and has been involved in developing and managing several community-based programs and strategies. Manpreet also has an extensive background in advocating for programs and services to address the needs of immigrants and newcomers and has experience in communication. She has been published regularly in the print media. Manpreet also has experience in radio and public television and has a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Delhi, as well as a diploma in print journalism from the London School of Journalism. Manpreet recently earned her Chartered Director designation from The Directors College which is a joint venture between the Conference Board of Canada and the DeGroote School of Business, McMaster University.

Beverly Onischak (Castlegar, BC)

Beverly Onischak is a retired Registered Nurse with more than 40 years of practice in acute care and complex care as well as in providing instruction for nursing courses. Bev is active in working to promote and support positive policy change at a number of different levels including federally, provincially and locally. Bev has a history of advocacy on issues around accessibility and disability and is currently serving as a member of a national committee for Persons Living with Disabilities. Through her work, as well as through her various labour and union affiliations, Bev has championed women's rights, and has worked to address issues around occupational health and safety including the working conditions for short-term and part-time instructors. Bev is active on the Castlegar and District Social Planning Council and is a member of the Castlegar Abilities Awareness Advisory Committee. Bev is also an active community volunteer who enjoys the Garden Club and Friends of the Library.

Financial Statements of SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Year ended March 31, 2016

Financial Statements of

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Year ended March 31, 2016



KPMG LLP PO Box 10426 777 Dunsmuir Street Vancouver BC V7Y 1K3 Canada Telephone (604) 691-3000 Fax (604) 691-3031

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2016, the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising 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.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about 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 our 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, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation 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 in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society Page 2

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society as at March 31, 2016, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Report on other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Society Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting policies applied in preparing and presenting the financial statements in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a consistent basis with that of the preceding year.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

June 10, 2016 Vancouver, Canada

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

	2016	2015
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 1,233,548	\$ 486,521
Accounts receivable (note 2)	166,416	114,694
Short-term investments (note 3)	912,303	801,411
Prepaid expenses	36,086	39,549
	2,348,353	1,442,175
Long-term investments (note 3)	-	303,493
Property and equipment (note 4)	140,563	179,681
	,	
	\$ 2,488,916	\$ 1,925,349
Current liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5) Deferred contributions (note 6) Deferred revenue on projects Current portion of deferred lease inducement	\$ 184,346 80,000 842,738 20,572	\$ 218,158 80,000 84,010 20,572
	1,127,656	402,740
	, , = = =	402,740
Deferred lease inducement	30,854	51,428
Deferred lease inducement		·
	 30,854	 51,428
Net assets:	 30,854 1,158,510	 <u>51,428</u> 454,168
	 30,854 1,158,510 527,250	 51,428 454,168 597,124
Net assets: Internally restricted (note 7)	30,854 1,158,510	<u>51,428</u> 454,168
Net assets: Internally restricted (note 7)	 30,854 1,158,510 527,250 803,156	 51,428 454,168 597,124 874,057

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

		2016	201	5
Revenues:				
Permit sales	\$ 96 ⁻	1,488	\$ 929,031	
Memberships and donations	714	4,586	734,274	1
Gaming grant (note 6)	80	0,000	65,000)
Interest income	1:	5,612	20,041	
Other income	-	7,782	6,645	5
Rental income	Į	5,940	5,940)
Other grants		3,137	3,050)
	1,788	8,545	1,763,981	1
Project revenue:				
Consulting services	309	9,328	305,456	3
Disbursement recoveries	384	4,438	686,706	3
	693	3,766	992,162	2
Expenditures (Schedule)	2,623	3,086	2,936,041	I
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	\$ (140	0,775)	\$ (179,898	3)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

	Internally restricted	ι	Inrestricted	Total 2016	Total 2015
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 597,124	\$	874,057	\$ 1,471,181	\$ 1,651,079
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	(36,999)		(103,776)	(140,775)	(179,898)
	560,125		770,281	1,330,406	1,471,181
Interfund transfers	(32,875)		32,875	-	-
Net assets, end of year	\$ 527,250	\$	803,156	\$ 1,330,406	\$ 1,471,181

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

	2016	2015
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Deficiency of revenues over expenditures	\$ (140,775)	\$ (179,898)
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	73,767	72,316
Amortization of deferred lease inducement	(20,574)	(20,572)
	(87,582)	(128,154)
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:	. ,	. ,
Increase in accounts receivable	(51,722)	(22,214)
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	3,463	(21,776)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued		
liabilities	(33,812)	1,466
Increase in deferred contributions	-	15,000
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenue on projects	758,728	(117,209)
	589,075	(272,887)
Investing:		
Purchase of property and equipment	(34,649)	(37,169)
Proceeds from disposition of long term investment	303,493	-
Investment in short-term investments	(110,892)	(11,664)
	157,952	(48,833)
Increase (decrease) in cash	747,027	(321,720)
Cash, beginning of year	486,521	808,241
Cash, end of year	\$ 1,233,548	\$ 486,521

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2016

Nature of operations:

Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society (the "Society") is a Not-for-Profit Organization incorporated as a Society under the Society Act (British Columbia). The Society's mission is to work with communities in building a just and healthy society for all persons in British Columbia. The Society is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act and accordingly is exempt from income taxes, provided certain requirements of the Income Tax Act are met.

1. Significant accounting policies:

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The Society's significant accounting policies are as follows:

(a) Cash:

Cash includes cash on hand and short-term deposits which are highly liquid with original maturities of less than three months at the date of acquisition.

(b) Trade and other receivables:

Trade and other receivables are measured at fair value on origination.

At year end, the Society assesses whether there are any indications that the carrying value of the receivables may be impaired. For purposes of impairment testing, each individually significant account is assessed individually; the balances of the accounts are grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics. When there is an indication of impairment, the Society determines whether there has been a significant adverse change in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows. When the Society identifies a significant adverse change, it reduces the carrying amount of the receivable to the higher of the amount that could be realized by selling the receivable at the balance sheet date and the present value of the cash flows expected to be generated by holding the receivable.

When the extent of impairment of a previously written down receivable decreases and the decrease can be related to an event occurring after the impairment was recognized, the impairment loss is reversed to the extent of the improvement.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(c) Investments:

Short-term investments are comprised of term deposits and high interest savings accounts that are traded in an active market and are readily convertible to cash. These items are carried at amortized cost at the date of the statement of financial position and have a maturity period of less than one year.

Long-term investments are comprised of term deposits convertible to cash. These items are carried at amortized cost at the date of the statement of financial position and have a maturity period greater than one year.

(d) Property and equipment:

Purchased property and equipment are recorded at cost. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense. Betterments which extend the estimated life of an asset are capitalized. When an asset no longer contributes to the Society's ability to provide services, its carrying amount is written down to its residual value.

Property and equipment are amortized on a straight-line basis using the following annual rates:

Asset	Rate
Computers, furniture and fixtures	3 years
Leasehold improvements	over the term of
	the lease

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(e) Revenue recognition:

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions from grants. Under this method, externally restricted contributions are recognized in the period the related expenses are incurred or the restrictions are met.

Unrestricted contributions which are received in the form of donations and membership fees are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Revenue from the sale of parking permits is recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the significant risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the buyer, there is no continuing managerial involvement, the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, and the related receivable is received or collection is reasonably assured.

Revenue from projects is recognized on the percentage of completion basis as the research project is performed, collection of the related receivable is probable, persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists and the contract fee is fixed or determinable. The percentage of completion is determined by a combination of management's estimates of the progress on the project and the costs incurred to date. Costs are generally the most determinable measure of performance which relate as directly as possible to the activities critical to completion of the contract.

A provision is made for the total anticipated loss when the estimates of total costs on a contract indicate a loss.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(f) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently measured at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The Society has not elected to carry financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs. These costs are amortized using effective interest rate method.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, the Society determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount the Society expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future year, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial impairment charge.

(g) Deferred revenue on projects:

Deferred revenue on projects consists of deposits received for projects where revenues have not yet been earned.

(h) Deferred lease inducement:

The deferred lease inducement consists of a construction allowance provided by the landlord which is being amortized to offset rent expense on a straight-line basis over ten years, which is the term of the related premise's lease.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(i) Use of estimates:

The preparation of the 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 disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the year. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include provisions for impairment of trade accounts receivable; the carrying amounts of property and equipment; deferred revenue on projects and percentage of completion on projects. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Accounts receivable:

	2016	2015
Trade receivable Goods and services tax rebates	\$ 143,247 23,169	\$ 99,388 15,306
	\$ 166,416	\$ 114,694

3. Short-term investments:

Short-term investments consist of term deposits, GIC's and accrued interest with maturity dates between May 2015 to November 2016, and interest rate yields ranging from 1.00% to 2.20%.

	2016	2015
Short-term investments: Term deposits and GIC's Accrued interest	\$ 893,603 18,700	\$ 791,949 9,462
	\$ 912,303	\$ 801,411
	2016	2015
Long-term investments: GIC's	\$ -	\$ 303,493

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

4. Property and equipment:

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2016 Net book value	2015 Net book value
Furniture and fixtures Computer Leasehold improvements	\$ 163,115 257,376 298,773	\$ 144,006 \$ 211,431 223,264	\$ 19,109 \$ 45,945 75,509	24,749 49,129 105,803
	\$ 719,264	\$ 578,701 \$	\$ 140,563 \$	179,681

5. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities as at March 31, 2016 are government remittances payable of \$16,254 (2015 - \$34,073) relating to payroll taxes.

6. Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions represent funds received in advance from the BC Gaming Commission.

Deferred contributions are recognized to revenue when the expenditures on the designated projects are made. Changes during the year are as follows:

2016	Balance, beginning of year	Contributions received	Amounts recognized to revenue	Balance, end of the year
Deferred contributions: BC Gaming Commission \$	80,000	\$ 80,000 \$	80,000 \$	80,000
	Balance,		Amounts	Balance,
	beginning of	Contributions	recognized	end of
2015	year	received	to revenue	the year
Deferred contributions: BC Gaming Commission \$	65,000	\$ 80,000 \$	65,000 \$	80,000

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

7. Internally restricted net assets:

	2016	2015
Designated to:		
Provide for the ongoing financial stability of the Society. It is the objective of the Board of Directors to maintain financial reserves of 25% of the annual operating budget due to the		
uncertainty of revenues and the potential for an		
interruption or cut in funding	\$ 519,250	\$ 552,125
Development and implementation of support partnerships for the Community Data Consortium	8,000	16,000
Enhancements to the existing IT infrastructure and technology to implement SharePoint Enterprise	-	13,999
Development and implementation of support partnerships for the United Community Services Co-Op		45.000
00-0p	-	15,000
	\$ 527,250	\$ 597,124

These designated internally restricted amounts are not available for other purposes without approval of the Board of Directors.

8. Lease commitment:

The Society entered into a ten-year lease agreement for its premises commencing October 2008. Basic rental payments are \$110,385 per annum to September 2018, excluding goods and services tax, operating expenses and property taxes.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2016

9. Financial risks and concentration of risk:

The significant risks to which the Society is exposed are credit risk and liquidity risk.

(a) Credit risk:

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty may default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss. The Society's exposure to credit risk is indicated by the carrying amount of its accounts receivable, cash and short term investments. The Society deals with creditworthy counterparties to mitigate the risk of financial loss from defaults on its accounts receivables. The Society deposits its cash and short term investments with high credit quality financial institutions. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2015.

(b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. The Company manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. The Company prepares budget and cash forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfill its obligations. There has been no change to the risk exposures from 2015.

Schedule of Expenditures

Year ended March 31, 2016, with comparative information for 2015

		2016		2015
Americation	¢	70 707	¢	70.040
Amortization	\$	73,767	\$	72,316
Audit and legal		24,385		14,530
Board and executive meetings		49,790		55,153
Community data consortium		6,191		8,000
Computer and website maintenance		50,512		69,780
Fundraising		50,980		47,389
Insurance		6,809		6,235
Lease termination		-		9,111
Marketing, publicity and promotion		45,146		48,691
Office supplies		19,713		16,874
Other expenditures		15,118		20,862
Photocopying		23,230		27,697
Postage and courier		126,546		98,253
Printing		55,232		62,494
Professional and consulting services		32,383		14,866
Programs and projects		71,456		104,857
Project disbursements		384,438		686,706
Rent		206,205		207,927
Repairs and maintenance		11,056		7,420
Salaries and benefits		1,321,479		1,317,304
Sharepoint implementation		12,569		10,194
Staff training and development		18,261		11,953
Telephone		17,820		17,429
	\$	2,623,086	\$	2,936,041