

sparc bc
Annual Report
2022/2023





Annual Report

2022/2023

Land Acknowledgement

SPARC BC works with communities in building a just and healthy society for all. SPARC BC gratefully acknowledges that our office is located on traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Coast Salish People including the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) and səlílwətaʔt (Tseil-Waututh) Nations. They have been custodians of this land for thousands of years and we would like to pay our respect to their Elders and knowledge keepers both past and present. We are grateful for the opportunity to meet and work on this shared territory.

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Message from the President

The Annual General Meeting provides an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments over the past year and to look toward the future with a shared sense of purpose. As I look at the highlights set out in this Annual Report, I want to take this opportunity to recognize the dedication and commitment of all those who worked with us to help us to move closer to our vision of a more just, healthy, and equitable society for everyone.

I also want to recognize that critical to our success is the on-going generosity and support we receive from our members and donors. Not only does their generosity and kindness help to keep our programs strong, but it enables us to actively work to address issues of poverty, homelessness, food insecurity and social isolation—issues that have grown in importance as more families and individuals face precarious employment and as the cost of food, housing and other necessities continue to increase.

While there are many milestones and accomplishments to recognize over this past year, it is also necessary to recognize that there are still too many families and individuals who are struggling to meet basic needs. This includes a growing number of low-income families and seniors who are experiencing poverty and who face significant uncertainty about their future. It is our goal to draw attention to these needs and to work with all levels of government as well as key community partners to help to make their lives better and to ensure that they know that their needs are not going unnoticed.

This past year, we have also seen a continued worsening of the opioid and toxic drug crisis across British Columbia and have witnessed the devastating and far-reaching impact that this has had on families and communities. Since 2016, almost 12,000 lives have been lost to this public health emergency. This year, we want to recognize those who are working at the community level to address this crisis with innovative community-based solutions being an important area of focus for this year's Deryck Thomson Award.

On-going efforts to address historical wrongs and build new pathways toward reconciliation are important areas of focus for our Board and staff. SPARC BC continues to work to build positive relationships with Indigenous communities across British Columbia. This includes a commitment to working together with others to carve new pathways, including the recognition of treaty agreements and the sovereign rights of Indigenous people in Canada. It also includes a commitment to recognizing and supporting the restoration of Indigenous languages, cultures, and traditions as a way of rebuilding relationships and addressing historical wrongs.

I would like to conclude by thanking everyone who came out tonight to participate in our Annual General Meeting. It has been an honour to serve as the President of SPARC BC's Board of Directors over this past year. I am also looking forward to working with each of you over the months and years ahead to continue advancing our vision.

- Thank you for the role that each of you play and the difference that you make.

Wes Hewitt

Wes Hewitt
President, SPARC BC

Message from the Executive Director

I am pleased to present this Annual Report. As you will see we have had a very busy and successful year – one which has allowed us to engage in new partnerships, build new relationships and launch new initiatives. The following provides some highlights of our different projects and initiatives over the past year. In 2022/2023, SPARC BC:

- Partnered with more than 38 local governments and community partners including different disability-serving organizations to celebrate our 25th annual Access Awareness Day
- Established 11 different community-based research projects and initiatives across different social development themes and topic areas with a focus on building a deeper understanding of the community social services sector from a systems-based perspective including:
 - Existing and emerging needs as well as measures of impact,
 - The role and contribution of volunteerism and the voluntary sector,
 - Responding to the workforce development needs of the non-profit sector through exploring the linkages with post-secondary programs, and
 - The value of lived/living experiential knowledge and peer-support and the role that it plays in the work of the sector.
- Worked with more than 60 different organizations to launch our Tenant Welcome Home Kits initiative. To date, more than 1,800 kits have been distributed through our different community partners across 32 different communities. In this coming year, we have also expanded our partnerships to include Metis Nation BC as well as the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA).
- Established 57 new Homelessness Community Action Grant projects which brings the total number of projects funded to more than 240 projects across 49 different communities over the life of different programs.
- Partnered with more than 390 community partners across more than 91 different communities and regions to implement our ‘smartphone initiative’ with more than 7,500 phones being available for distribution this year in addition to the 11,800 phones which have already been distributed since we first launched this initiative in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Established a “Smartphone Partnership” with the First Nations Health Authority Urban and Away Program to ensure that Indigenous people and communities have access to the services that they need with our phones being distributed to almost half of all First Nations communities. We are in the 2nd year of this pilot initiative.

Through the Parking Permit Program, in 2022/2023 we have:

- Processed more than 58,600 parking permits for seniors and people with mobility-

related disabilities under the Parking Permit Program.

- Established a 'point of service partnership' with the Seniors' Centre in Williams Lake to support the delivery of the Parking Permit Program in their community.
- Responded to more than 34,500 calls from members and permit holders, which translates into an average of 133 calls per day.

Over the past year, we have also had tremendous support from our members and donors through our calls to action with:

- 1,500 members and donors supporting our Seniors' Harvest Basket initiative,
- 600 members and donors supporting our Homeless Comfort Kits, and,
- 200 member and donors support for our 'smartphone initiative' for vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities,

This year, we also received support from 599 members and donors to support the purchase fans for seniors, people with disabilities and other under-served and 'at risk' populations to ensure that they have support and a basic level of comfort during periods of extreme heat.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize Dr. Alex Price, our Director of Strategic Initiatives and Associate Executive Director, who joined us this year to lead the work of the research and consulting team. As well I would like to acknowledge Louise O'Shea who brings more than 10 years of experience in financial and managerial accounting and who is leading our Finance and Administration team as well as our Parking Permits and Accessibility team. I feel very privileged to work alongside these two very talented individuals.

I would also like to pause and take this moment to recognize the dedication and commitment of our entire SPARC BC team. The accomplishments in this Annual Report reflect their commitment to our values of social justice, inclusion, integrity, and learning. I would also be remiss if I did not extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Board for your steadfast support, wisdom, and guidance. Finally, there is the need to also recognize the tremendous level of support that we receive from our members and donors and their commitment to our vision of a more just, healthy and equitable society for everyone - together, I know that we are making a difference!

Lorraine Copas

Lorraine Copas
Executive Director, SPARC BC

Mission & 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.

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.

Our Areas of Focus

Working together to build a more just and healthy society for all

Much of SPARC BC's work occurs in the spaces between broader social policy areas such as health, education, housing, and income support, where gaps in these systems have pushed vulnerable families and individuals to the margins. At the same time, it is within these spaces that opportunities exist to advance our mission of a more just and healthy society for everyone.

As we continue to work to address issues of inequality, we seek to reduce barriers that limit access to opportunities and work together with others to create the conditions needed to ensure that all members of society can live a dignified life and contribute to their communities.

In addition to delivering the *Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities* and the provision of *Research, Planning and Consulting Services* on a fee for service basis, SPARC BC also works to:

- Advance greater accessibility and inclusion across communities,
- Address issues of income security and poverty reduction, and
- Provide community development, education, and outreach to help build capacity at the local level to advance positive social policy change.

Our Goals

The following reflects our key goals for 2022/2023 across our different areas of focus:

Parking Permits Program

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

GOAL	Ensure the on-going sustainability of the services provided through Research, Planning and Community Development including its contribution to advancing SPARC BC's mission-driven work.
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Social Policy, Research & Advocacy

GOAL	Provide leading-edge, evidence-based research.
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GOAL	Act as an effective, clear public voice in advancing positive policy change in the areas of income security and poverty reduction.
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GOAL	Continue to build effective partnerships for achieving policy change in the areas of income security and poverty reduction.
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Community Development Education

- GOAL** Build on SPARC BC’s work in community development and capacity building.
- GOAL** Continue to support local communities particularly rural and smaller communities across BC.
- GOAL** Expand SPARC BC’s work related to building and strengthening relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and communities.
- GOAL** Support improved health, mental health, safety, well-being, connection and inclusion of underserved populations by providing on-going leadership in promoting and supporting digital equity.

Accessibility and Inclusion

- GOAL** Continue to maintain a comprehensive approach for advocating for sustainable and positive policy change related to accessibility and inclusion.
- GOAL** Strive to expand choice and opportunities for all members of society by using an intersectional and equity-based lens when looking at issues of accessibility, poverty, and inclusion.

Year at a Glance



32,000+
Donors stepped forward



Issued
more
than
58,600
Parking
Permits



funded **240+**
projects
through
Homelessness
Community
Action Grants



1,800+
Welcome Home
kits distributed



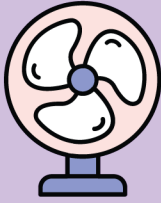
600
Donors supported
our Homeless
Comfort Kit
initiative



1,500
Donors supported our
Seniors' Harvest
Basket Initiative



Responded to
34,500+
phone calls



599

Donated to our Fans for Extreme Heat initiative



4,032

Members supported our work



11,800

Smartphones distributed across 91 communities to deserving & underserved populations



11

Community-based research project and initiatives



200

supported our 'smartphone initiative' for vulnerable seniors and people with disabilities



38

Community partners and disability organizations celebrated our 25th annual Access Awareness Day



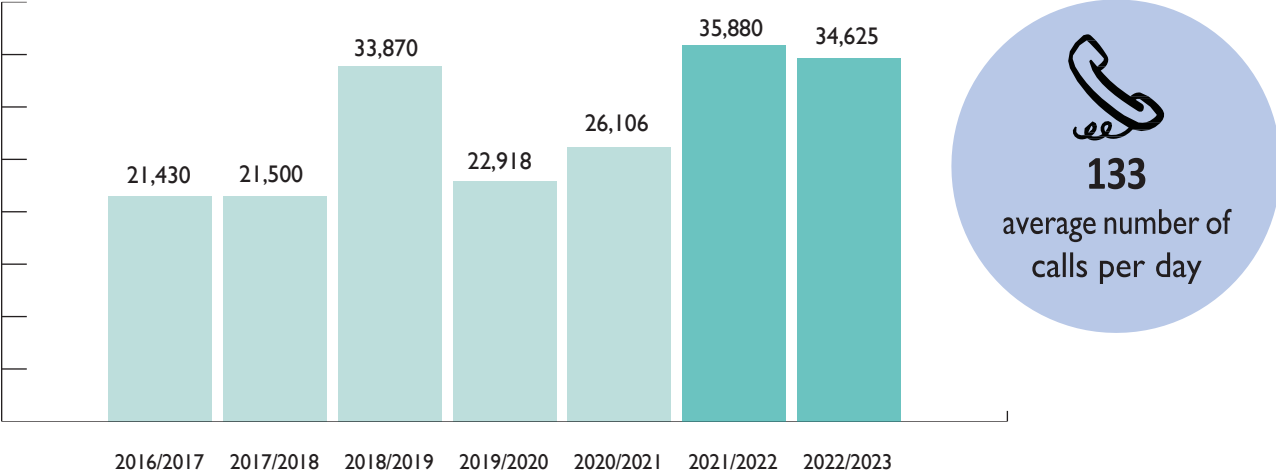
Highlights

2022/2023

Parking Permits Program

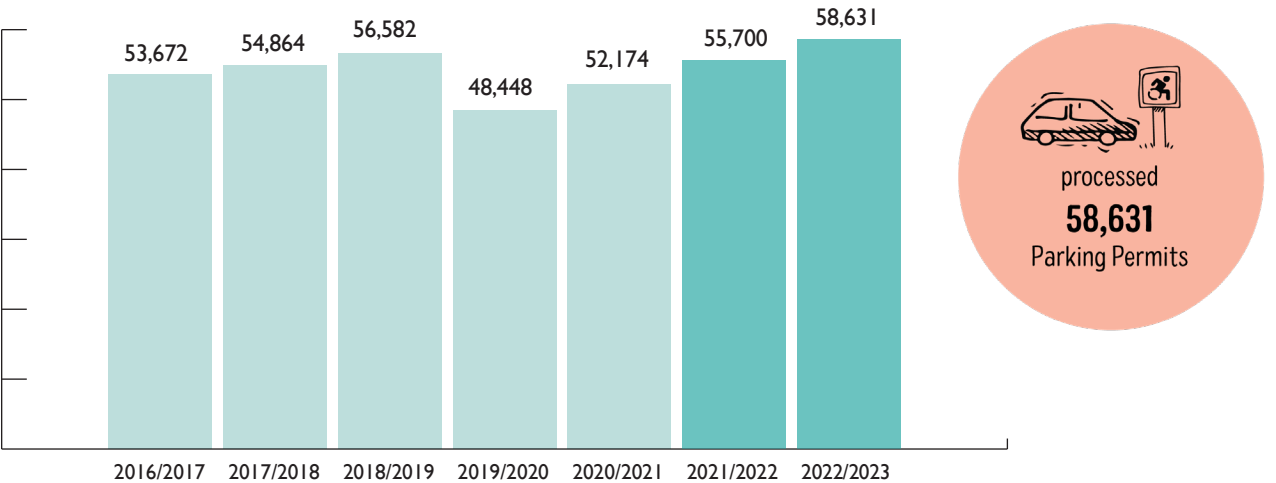
Calls to the Parking Permit Program

In 2022/2023 SPARC BC received an average of 133 calls per day about the Parking Permit Program, representing more than 34,600 calls over the year.



Permits Processed

In 2022/2023 our Parking Permits team processed 58,631 Parking Permits.





Accessibility & Inclusion

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where all citizens have the chance to share their abilities and access opportunities that are meaningful and important to them. To advance this vision, SPARC BC strives to remove barriers that limit the participation and active engagement of people with disabilities and to work with our community partners to create workplaces and community gathering spaces where everyone feels welcomed and is included.

Access Awareness Day



Access Awareness Day

Celebrated annually Access Awareness Day is always held on the first Saturday in June. Designed to bring communities together Access Awareness Day provides us with an opportunity to work together with others to explore ways to ensure that our communities are truly welcoming and inclusive. In 2022/2023, the theme for Access Awareness Day was “Accessibility is Inclusion”. Together more than 38 communities and partners participated in Access Awareness Day this year.



Social Policy, Research & Advocacy

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where families and individuals have economic security, affordable housing, and dignified access to healthy food. We also work to ensure that all citizens have a sense of dignity and connection to their community. Through evidence-based research and working together with others, SPARC BC seeks to support the development of place-based strategies designed to reduce inequities and provide access to opportunities for underserved populations. SPARC BC is known for our commitment to making space for diverse voices and experiences and have developed a highly regarded reputation for ensuring that local planning and decisions consider the full diversity of needs of all citizens.

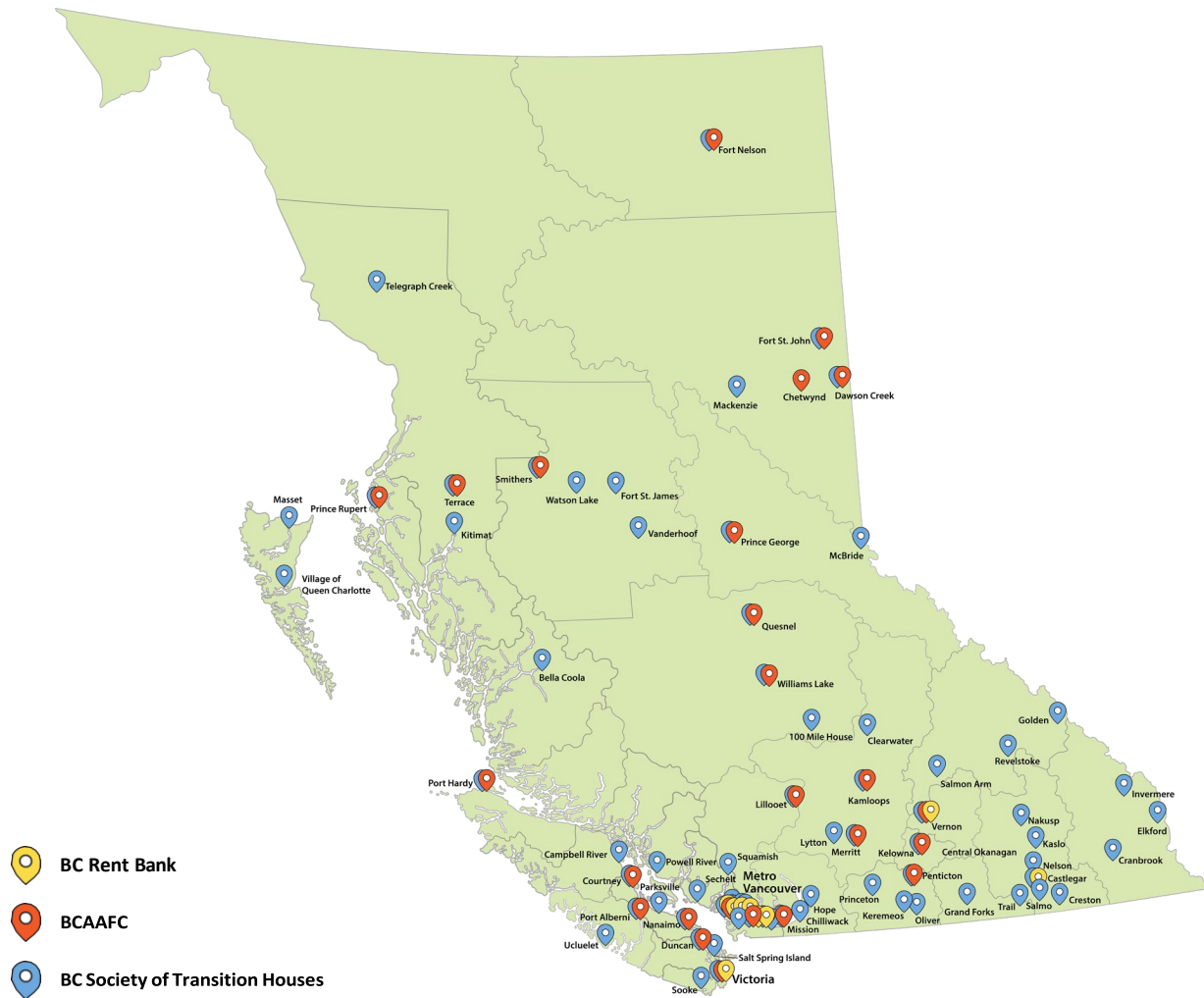
Provincial Homelessness Community Action Grants



Provincial Homelessness Community Action Grants

There were 57 new projects funded in 2022/2023, bringing the total number of projects up to more than 240 partnerships across 49 communities. Funding provided through the Provincial Community Homelessness Action Grant program supports community-based action research designed to meet existing and emerging needs across communities.

Welcome Home Kits

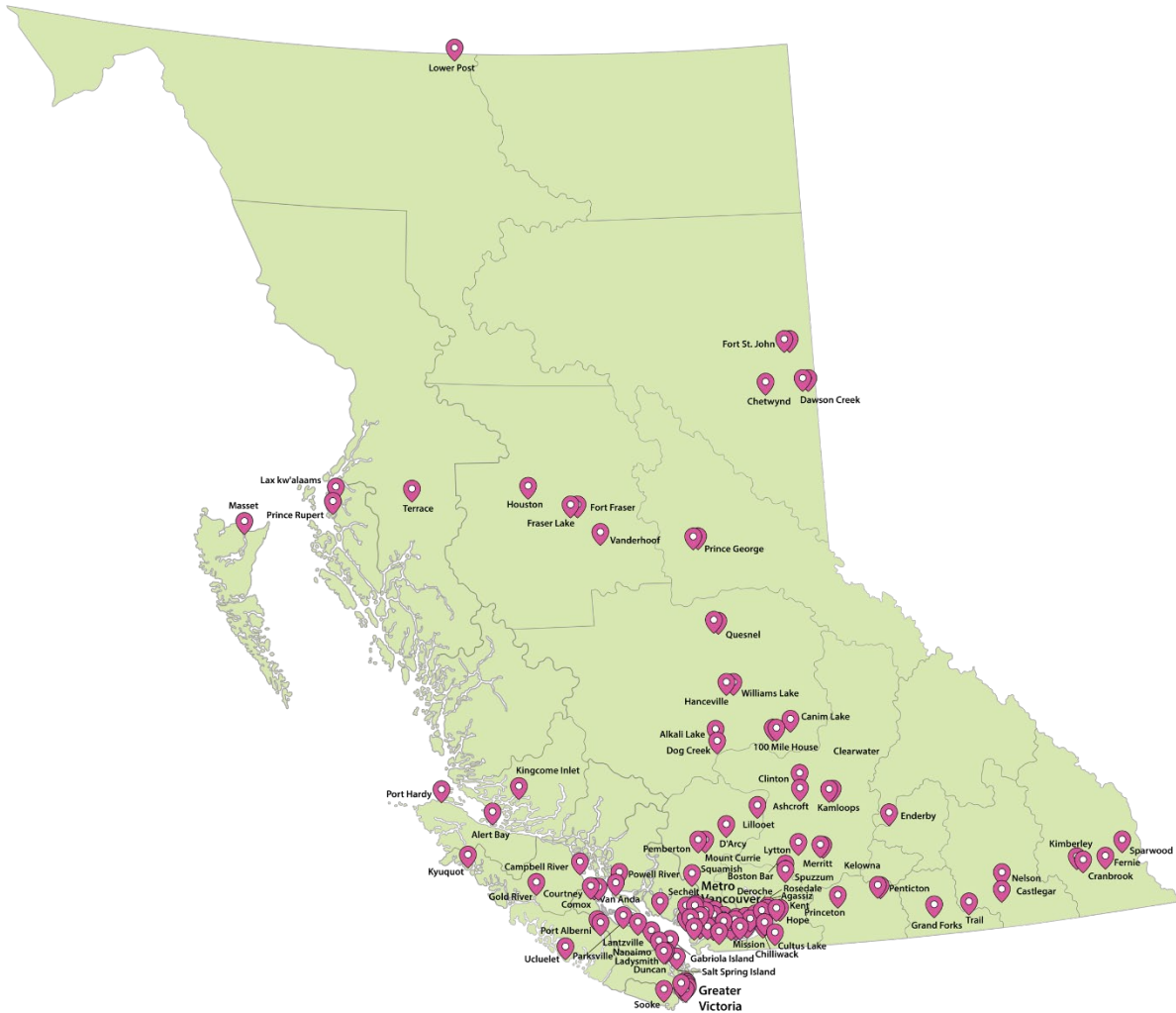


Welcome Home Kits

Our Welcome Home Kits are funded by the Province of B.C. through the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction. The Kits are designed to help individuals with a history of homelessness make a new start as they move into a new home. These kits include kitchen supplies, bedding and linens as well as cleaning supplies and other items that can help to provide a sense of home and a fresh start. To date, more than 1,800 kits have been delivered in partnership with more than 60 organizations across 32 communities.



Smartphone and Digital Equity Initiative



Smartphone and Digital Equity Initiative

To date more than 11,800 phones have been delivered through more than 390 community partners across 91 different communities and regions across British Columbia as well as half of all First Nations communities. This year, there are an additional 7,500 phones to be distributed over this coming year.



Community Development Education & Outreach

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where everyone can participate fully in their future. Through using social planning as a model to engage and support communities, our focus is on gathering information and supporting communities in taking the actions needed to ensure that all citizens have the future they deserve. We accomplish this by working together with communities to build their capacity to advance issues that are meaningful and important and that support true social change.


The following are some examples of our partnerships with communities across B.C.

Senior's Harvest Baskets

In 2022/2023, we had more than 1,500 donors step forward to support our Senior's Harvest Basket initiative. Through this funding we work with local farmers and organizations to ensure that low income and vulnerable seniors have dignified access to healthy food throughout the growing season.



For \$10 you can provide a senior with a harvest basket



1,542 donated to our Senior's Harvest Basket initiative

Homeless Comfort Kits

In 2022/2023, we had more than 600 donors step forward to support our Homeless Comfort Kits initiative which is designed to provide access to basic hygiene products as well as warm dry socks and food and a hot cup of coffee for individuals experiencing homelessness.

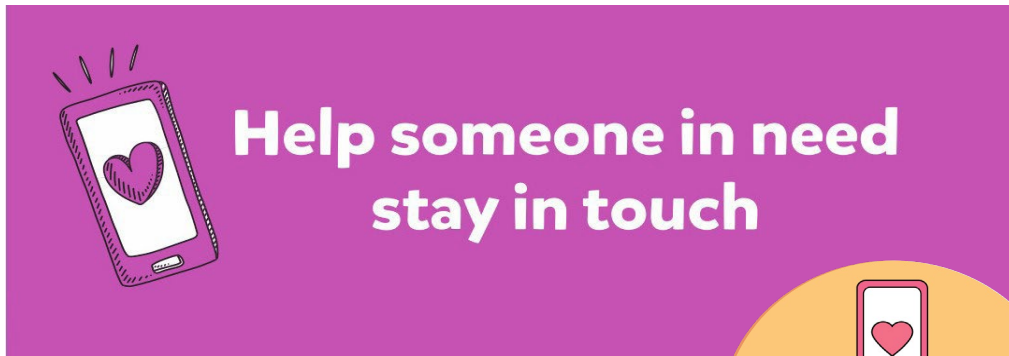
For \$5 you can provide a comfort kit to someone who is homeless



603 Donated to our Comfort Kit initiative

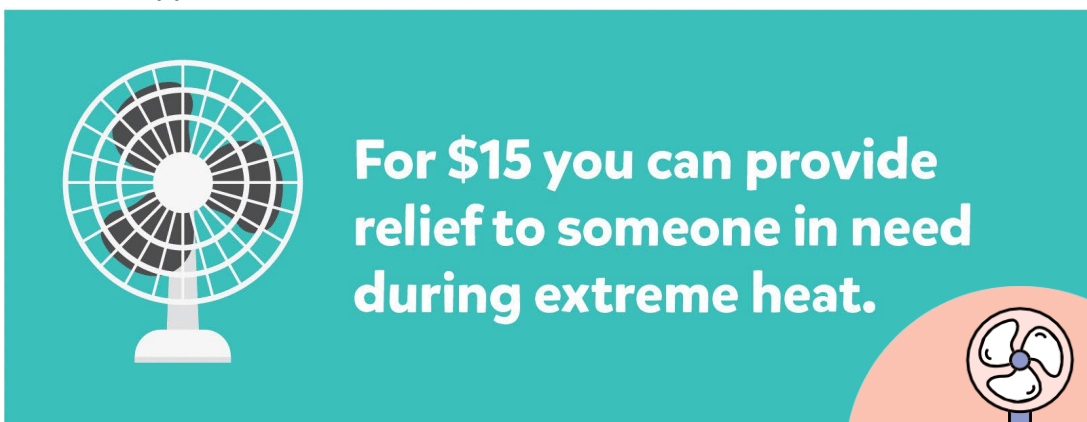
Smartphone Digital Equity

In 2022/2023, we had 214 donors step forward to support our “stay connected” initiative which is designed to provides access to basic smartphones for low-income seniors and people with disabilities as well as others who are without access to basic communication. Through this initiative, our goal is to ensure that vulnerable and under-served populations can continue to stay connected to others and to access the services and support they need.



Fans for Extreme Heat

This year, in response to the growing number of climate emergencies and extreme heat events, we have also purchased fans which we will distribute through community partners to ensure that low-income seniors, people with disabilities, and others have access to information about how to protect themselves as well as basic comfort. This was the first year for this initiative and we had more than 599 donors step forward to show their support for this initiative.





SPARC BC

Annual General Meeting

AGENDA

SPARC BC
Annual General Meeting 2022/2023
Hybrid Virtual and In Person Meeting
Delta Hotel, Executive Board Room, Burnaby BC
June 23, 2023
6:00 PM

1. Call the Meeting to Order
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Minutes from the Annual General Meeting -June 24, 2022
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Presentation of the Financial Statements for April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023
7. Appointment of the Auditors for 2023/2024
8. Report from the Nominations Committee -Election of Directors
9. Report from the Nominations Committee – 2022/2023 Deryck Thomson Award Nominees
10. Message from the Executive Director
11. Adjournment

MINUTES

SPARC BC
Electronic Annual General Meeting 2021/2022
Delta Hotel, Executive Board Room, Burnaby BC
June 24, 2022
6:00 PM

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

The President sent his regrets as he is unable to attend the meeting. He asked that one of the other members present Chair the meeting.

Theresa Harding, the Chair of the Nominations Committee stepped forward to Chair the meeting.

Theresa called the meeting to order and noted that SPARC BC gratefully acknowledges that our offices are located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Coast Salish People including the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam) and səliłwətaʔt (Tseil-Waututh). Theresa also observed that SPARC BC carries out its work in many different locations across the province on the traditional territories of many First Nations people.

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting – June 25, 2021

The Chair referred members to the appropriate page in the Annual Report and called for a motion to adopt the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting which was held through zoom at the SPARC BC offices on June 25, 2021.

MOTION:

That the minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on June 25, 2021 be approved.
MOVED: Margaret Coombes, SECONDED Linden Collette, *All in Favour:* CARRIED.

President's Report

Members were directed to the President's Report which was included as part of the Annual Report. It was noted that Wes Hewitt sends his regrets. Wes asked that his report be shared with the members. A copy of the report as presented in the Annual Report was shared with the members. At the conclusion of the report, a motion was made to adopt the President's Report as presented.

MOTION:

That the President's Report be adopted as presented

MOVED: Jim O'Dea, SECONDED Christene Walsh, *All in Favour:* CARRIED.

Treasurer's Report

The Chair introduced the Treasurer (Marla Reed). The Treasurer then shared some observations and reflections about SPARC BC's financial results over the past year. Marla referred members to the written summary of the Treasurer's Report in the Annual Report and called for a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report.

MOTION:

That the Treasurer's Report be adopted as presented.

MOVED: Marla Reed, SECONDED Margaret Coombes, *All in Favour:* CARRIED.

Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements for 2021/2022

The Treasurer referred members to the Financial Statements for the period from April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. The Treasurer noted that the Finance and Audit Committee met with KPMG (the accounting firm that completed the Audit) and that the Committee is recommending the adoption of the financial statements as presented. The Treasurer called for a motion to adopt the Financial Statements for 2021/2022 as presented.

MOTION:

That the Financial Statements for 2021/2022 be adopted as presented.

MOVED: Linden Collette, *SECONDED* Bev Onischak, *All in Favour:* CARRIED.

Appointment of the Auditors for 2022/2023

The Treasurer noted that KPMG was the external auditors for SPARC BC for 2021/2022 and that the Finance and Audit Committee is recommending that KPMG be appointed as SPARC BC's external auditors for 2022/2023.

MOTION:

That KPMG be appointed as SPARC BC's external auditors for 2022/2023.

MOVED: Marla Reed, *SECONDED* Laurie Paulin, *All in Favour:* CARRIED.

It was noted that the Chair of the Nominations Committee, will now present the report from the Nominations Committee on the Election of Directors.

Report from the Nominations Committee on the Election of Directors

The Chair of the Nominations Committee provided a brief introduction of the members who had been nominated to serve on SPARC BC's Board of Directors.

The Chair of the Nominations Committee noted that SPARC BC's Board of Directors is committed to working to advance social policy and social justice in B.C. and that 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.

In looking at the current structure and composition of the Board, the Committee made the following recommendations:

Wes Hewitt and Bev Onischak whose terms are ending in June 2022 serve for an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2025.

Dr Shelley Cook, Fraser Holland, and Sheila Lewis be nominated to serve on the Board for a three (3) year term ending in June 2025.

MOTION:

Wes Hewitt and Bev Onischak whose terms are ending in June 2022 serve for an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2025.

Dr Shelley Cook, Fraser Holland, and Sheila Lewis be nominated to serve on the Board for a three (3) year term ending in June 2025.

The one (1) remaining vacant position be filled at a future date.

MOVED: Theresa Harding, *SECONDED* Jim O'Dea, *All in Favour:* CARRIED.

Report from the Nominations Committee – 2020/2021 Deryck Thomson Award

The Nominations Committee also reported on the Board’s decision around the 2021/2022 Deryck Thomson Award nominees which included the following nominees for the organizational Awards:

The Tk’emlúps te Secwépemc First Nations (Kamloops)

The Savage Society (Vancouver/Lytton)

Julia of Julia’s Junction (the City of West Kelowna)

The following nominees for individual awards:

Sharon Karsten of the Walk With Me Project (Comox Valley/Campbell River)

Linda LaVallee of Lu’ma Native Housing Society

Message from the Executive Director

The Chair asked the Executive Director to share a few highlights for the year.

The Executive Director noted that it has been a successful year and expressed her appreciation to both the Board and staff.

The Executive Director noted that the Annual Report includes a highlights section that provides information on our various projects and the results achieved in 2021/2022.

The Executive Director expressed her appreciation to our members and donors and thanked them for their generosity and their essential role in helping to keep our programs and initiatives strong.

The Executive Director noted that the Annual Report includes the key goals and strategic priorities identified by the Board at their annual Board Strategic Planning meeting in December 2021. The Executive Director noted that these goals and strategic priorities will help to set the foundation for SPARC BC’s efforts over the next three years.

The Executive Director concluded her presentation by thanking everyone present for the role that they play and the difference they make.

Adjournment

The Chair concluded the meeting and ask for a motion to adjourn.

MOTION:

That the 2021/2022 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

Report from the Treasurer

I would like to present the Treasurer's Report for 2022/2023. SPARC BC operates through a social enterprise model where any income generated through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program and our Research, Planning and Consulting work is reinvested in advancing SPARC BC's mission-driven work in the areas of accessibility and inclusion, income security and poverty reduction and community development, education, and outreach.

In presenting the Financial Statements it is important to note that central to SPARC BC's operational and financial success is the significant support we receive from our members and donors. Not only does the generosity of our members and donors help to keep our programs and services strong but their generosity also plays a central role in advancing our mission-driven work. In 2022/2023 SPARC BC had an operating surplus of \$17,400 with revenues of \$3,780,797.

SPARC BC's revenue includes income generated from the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities, funding from Membership and Donations, and revenue generated through providing Research, Planning and Consulting services to all levels of government as well as community-based partners. Each of the different sources of revenue and their overall contribution to SPARC BC's mission-driven activities are discussed below.

The Parking Permit Program represents 42% of SPARC BC's overall revenue. In 2022/2023, SPARC BC realized \$1,592,374 in revenue from the delivery of the Parking Permit Program and issued more than 58,600 permits. The revenue generated through the processing fee of \$26 not only enables SPARC BC to administer the program for people who depend on having access to accessible parking in their community, but it also supports our Accessibility and Enforcement phone line and our work with communities across British Columbia to advance broader accessibility-related goals.

In 2022/2023, contributions from members and donors totaled \$1,002,613 including funding for our various "calls to action". As a non-profit society and federally registered charity, SPARC BC relies on the generosity and support of our members and donors to support our mission-driven work. In 2022/2023 we continued to expand our different partnerships and initiatives to address issues of food insecurity among low income and vulnerable seniors through our Seniors' Harvest Basket initiative, as well as issues of digital equity and climate action through our Stay Connected Smart Phone Initiative and Extreme Heat Fans Project.

Revenue generated through SPARC BC's Research, Planning and Consulting Services has also remained strong. In 2022/2023, \$583,996 in revenue was generated through contracted research. This represents 15% of SPARC BC's revenue. Key projects and initiatives included working with the Provincial government to engage communities and local partners in addressing issues around affordable housing and homelessness, dignified access to healthy food as well as issues around food security and local food systems. We also worked with local government and community partners on the development of local housing action plans, as well as strategies and initiatives designed to prevent and reduce homelessness. A major research initiative that we started this year was the implementation of a "sector strengthening" research program designed to provide research and data support to the community social services sector in B.C.

We have continued to work with community partners and organizations across the Province to deliver the provincial Community Homelessness Action Grant program. This program was designed to support local efforts and community-based solutions for addressing homelessness. Over the life of the program, 240 grants have been approved including 57 grants and \$961,630 in funding in 2022/2023. As well, there was an additional \$828k invested in 2022/2023 to support access to basic communication for individuals experiencing homelessness through the distribution of basic smartphones. The provision of

these phones helps to ensure that low-income and underserved populations are able to stay connected to the people and services they need.

SPARC BC's annual operating expenditures for 2022/2023 were \$3,540,120. Key areas of focus for the year have included support for local strategies and initiatives designed to respond to issues around housing and homelessness, food insecurity as well as sector strengthening and capacity building. This year we had the privilege of working with the Provincial Government to launch our Welcome Home Kits initiative. This initiative is designed to provide basic household items to support individuals with a history of homelessness as they make a start in a new home. In 2022/2023 we provided more than 1,800 Welcome Home Kits to families and individuals across BC through partnerships with more than 60 different community-based agencies and service providers across 32 different communities. I am pleased to report that this funding has been renewed for 2023/2024.

In closing, I would like to thank the Finance and Audit Committee members for their ongoing efforts to ensure that SPARC BC's program and services are delivered in a responsive and accountable way. As a volunteer Board, I know that this can take considerable effort. I would also like to thank our members, donors, partners, and staff for a successful year and look forward to future success in 2023/2024.

Marla Reed

Marla Reed,
Treasurer/Secretary, SPARC BC

Report from the Nominations Committee

SPARC BC's Board of Directors is committed to working to advance social policy and social justice in B.C.

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 Nominations Committee noted that we have three (3) Directors who will be leaving the Board this year which means that there are three (3) vacant positions to fill.

Directors leaving the Board include **Tarita Davenock** who has served on SPARC BC's Board of Directors since 2018 as well as **Linden Collette** and **Theresa Harding** both of whom have served on the Board since 2020.

To fill these vacant positions, the Nominations Committee has engaged in a recruitment process and has identified two (2) individuals **Mia Burgess** and **Jessica Li** that they would like to nominate to serve on the Board for a three-year term ending in June 2026.

The following provides some background information about Mia and Jessica and the experience they bring to SPARC BC's Board of Directors:

Mia Burgess

Mia has held positions in non-profit organizations and government for a number of years, having completed her Masters degree in Community Development in 2019. Through her work experience and education, Mia has developed an in-depth understanding of the ways in which systems, policies and practices can trap people in poverty. Mia has worked alongside and within the provincial and federal criminal justice systems and has experience providing legal advocacy services for marginalized individuals at risk of homelessness. Mia also has experience in working on tenant education and tenants' rights. Through her experience working on issues of housing and homelessness, Mia helped to facilitate the creation of the BC10 network which was focused on strengthening the level of co-ordination and alignment between the federal and provincial homelessness funding. More recently, Mia has moved to Victoria where she led a non-profit organization that delivered brain injury support services to vulnerable clients. In this role, Mia launched a successful social enterprise designed to support individuals recovering from brain injuries. Mia currently adjudicates complex, sensitive claims submitted by injured workers in BC. Mia is passionate about social justice and is committed to working to build an inclusive society for all.

Jessica Li

Jessica Li is passionate about social justice. This passion motivated Jessica to pursue a career in law and to volunteer and work in the non-profit sector. In doing so, Jessica has had the privilege of playing a direct role in serving those experiencing barriers in accessing the services and resources they need. Jessica is analytical by nature and enjoys using her skills to address "wicked problems" and to work to develop solutions that can make a meaningful difference in the lives of those she serves. Jessica is a lifelong resident of British Columbia, born and raised and values the opportunity to work to create a better life for others. Jessica is excited to contribute to the diversity of SPARC BC's Board of Directors by offering her experience and perspectives and is committed to effecting positive social change through leading with the values of social justice, integrity, inclusion and learning.

RECOMMENDATION

The Nominations Committee is recommending that:

1. **Mia Burgess** and **Jessica Li** be nominated to serve on SPARC BC's Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending in June 2026.

2. That **Tarita Davenock, Theresa Harding** and **Linden Collette** be thanked for their years of service on the SPARC BC Board of Directors.
3. That the Board fill the vacancy created by the departure of Tarita at a later date.

Background for Current Directors

Wes Hewitt—Port Alberni, B.C.

Wes joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2019 and has served as the President of the Board since 2020. Previously, Wes also served on the Board's Finance and Audit Committee and the Board Nominations Committee. Wes is the Executive Director for the Alberni Shelter Society where he is proud to be considered a community leader in the development of social and supportive housing. The Port Alberni Shelter Society provides housing for low-income families and employment training within Port Alberni. Wes has enjoyed being an innovator in the field of harm reduction, substance use and mental health. Wes believes some of the strongest connections are made with clients through tasks not associated with his work; like assisting in fixing a door, or helping with carpentry. Outside of Wes's occupation, he has deep community involvement as a Shriner and Freemason.

Marla Reed—Dawson Creek, B.C.

Marla joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2018 and has served as the Secretary/Treasurer since 2020. Marla also serves as the Chair of the Board's Finance and Audit Committee. Marla is the Executive Director of the Dawson Creek Society for Community Living and brings extensive knowledge of the community living movement. Marla has worked in the social services sector for almost thirty years. Over the course of her career, Marla has worked with a broad range of partners on a wide range of community development initiatives designed to promote and support greater economic and social inclusion for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Marla's work has included the development of numerous housing options for low-income adults with developmental disabilities, families, and seniors. Marla is passionate about creating a more inclusive society for everyone and brings a depth of knowledge and experience around working in smaller, rural and northern communities.

Beverly Onischak—Castlegar, B.C.

Bev joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2016 and has served as the chair of the Board's Governance Committee since 2020. Beverly is a retired Nurse with more than 40 years of practice in acute care and complex care. Bev is also an educator with experience in providing instruction for nursing students. Bev has a long history of advocacy on issues of accessibility and disability. Bev currently serves on a number of Committees including the National Committee for Persons Living with Disabilities. Through her work, and 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 Mayor's Abilities Awareness Advisory Committee. Bev is also an active community volunteer who enjoys the Garden Club and Friends of the Library.

Jim O'Dea—Vancouver, B.C.

Jim joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2021 and is a member of the Board's Nominations Committee. Formerly the co-founder and principal of Terra Housing, Jim has been involved in the housing and community sector for more than four decades and has experience in working in senior level positions within the Federal and Provincial governments including BC Housing, the Ministry of Community Development, the Homeowner Protection Office, and Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC). Jim also brings national and international experience and has been recognized by the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA) and CMHC for his outstanding contribution to advancing the development of affordable housing. Jim is currently a member of O'Dea Song—an organization that is committed to social purpose real estate, including the creation of space for non-profit organizations engaged in working to support the social development needs and improve the quality of life in their communities.

Laurie Paulin—New Hazelton, B.C.

Laurie joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2021 and serves on the Board's Governance Committee. Laurie is Haisla and Haida and cares about working together with others to help Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples achieve social justice and equity. Laurie brings a strong background in poverty law and has worked with clients from a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences. Since 2018, Laurie has also played a central role in helping to establish the Indigenous Court in Hazelton and has served as a court navigator. In this role, Laurie assists individuals who are in the court system with a focus on helping them to develop an appropriate healing plan. Laurie also works to assist Elders in their role within the community court system. Laurie enjoys spending her free time out in nature with her son.

Dr. Shelley Cook—Ladysmith, B.C.

Dr. Shelley Cook previously served on SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2014 for a three (3) year term and re-joined the Board in 2022. Dr Cook has a PhD in interdisciplinary studies from the University of British Columbia, Okanagan where she used a participatory mixed methods approach to examine the socio-spatial aspects of street homelessness and the implications for human services planning. Dr Cook also brings significant experience and understanding in looking at the complex and specific housing and support needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Prior to completing her PhD, Dr Cook served as the Executive Director for the John Howard Society for the Central and South Okanagan. Dr Cook was born and raised in Kelowna before moving to Vancouver Island where she attended the University of Victoria for both her undergraduate degree (Psychology) and her graduate education (Human & Social Development). Currently, Dr Cook serves as the Executive Director for the Cowichan Housing Association.

Fraser Holland—Langley, B.C.

Fraser Holland joined the SPARC BC Board of Directors in 2022 and serves on the Board's Nominations Committee. Fraser has a long history of working on issues of housing and homelessness within the Metro Vancouver region and has been providing outreach services to individuals with a history of homelessness since 2006. Fraser is currently serving as the Program Manager for the Intensive Case Management Team within Langley Community Services Society. Prior to joining LCSS, Fraser was the Director of Homelessness Services for Stepping Stone Services Society. Fraser works as part of a multi-disciplinary team that is focused on client engagement and housing. In his role as Program Manager, Fraser seeks to find ways to support individuals who have a history of homelessness including clients who are 19 or older and who have a history of substance use. In addition to serving on SPARC BC's Board of Directors, Fraser also participates on the Board of Directors for the Homelessness Services Association of B.C. Fraser is committed to addressing issues of income security and poverty reduction and to finding ways to increase the supply of affordable housing in communities across B.C.

Sheila Lewis—Kelowna, B.C.

Sheila Lewis joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2022 and currently serves on the Board's Governance Committee. Sheila brings a strong background in leading gender-based analysis and in looking at issues of community health and well-being from an intersectional lens. Sheila is based in Kelowna and currently holds the role of Provincial Women's Manager with Metis Nation of B.C. In this role, Sheila leads research into the impact of provincial, regional, local, and national policies on the well-being of Metis women and their families. In her current role, Sheila is also engaged in working with the Federal government in developing an action plan designed to respond to the calls for justice arising from the findings of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Report. Prior to joining Metis Nation, Sheila held various roles with the Interior Health Authority including regional practice lead for Aboriginal Mental Wellness as well as the Aboriginal Regional Knowledge Coordinator. Sheila has also worked with the City of West Kelowna, the Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society, the Okanagan Nation Alliance, the Okanagan Nation Emergency Transition House, and UBC Okanagan. Sheila is deeply committed to working to help create new pathways forward for building bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and volunteers her time to support and facilitate Truth and Reconciliation Reading Circles. Through this work, Sheila seeks to help communities build a deeper understanding of the 94 Calls to Action arising from the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Financial Statements of

Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia

Year ended March 31, 2023



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Social Planning and Research Council of
British Columbia Society

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society (the "Entity"), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023
- the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies

(hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at March 31, 2023, 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.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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



Emphasis of Matter - Comparative Information

We draw attention to Note 3 to the financial statements (“Note 3”), which explains that certain comparative information presented for the year ended March 31, 2022 has been restated. Note 3 explains the reason for the restatement and also explains the adjustments that were applied to restate certain comparative information. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Matter - Comparative Information

As part of our audit of the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2023, we also audited the adjustments that were applied to restate certain comparative information presented for the year ended March 31, 2022. In our opinion, such adjustments are appropriate and have been properly applied.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity’s financial reporting process.

Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.



We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

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

Chartered Professional Accountants

Vancouver, Canada
June 21, 2023

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
		(Restated - note 3)
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 12,890,085	\$ 4,608,507
Short-term investments (note 4)	587,401	336,099
Accounts receivable	2,764,394	7,436,508
Prepaid expenses	121,844	144,683
Inventory	84,370	84,149
	<u>16,448,094</u>	<u>12,609,946</u>
Long-term investments (note 4)	-	239,521
Capital assets (note 5)	380,265	469,360
	<u>\$ 16,828,359</u>	<u>\$ 13,318,827</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 6)	\$ 196,385	\$ 648,681
Deferred revenue	2,842,878	3,202,947
Deferred contributions (note 7)	10,878,757	6,550,940
Current portion of deferred lease inducement (note 8)	23,346	23,346
	<u>13,941,366</u>	<u>10,425,914</u>
Deferred lease inducement (note 8)	105,056	128,402
	<u>14,046,422</u>	<u>10,554,316</u>
Net assets:		
Internally restricted (note 9)	1,769,729	1,642,995
Invested in capital assets (note 10(a))	251,863	317,612
Unrestricted	760,345	803,904
	<u>2,781,937</u>	<u>2,764,511</u>
Commitment (note 11)		
	<u>\$ 16,828,359</u>	<u>\$ 13,318,827</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board:

_____ Director

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Revenue:		
Grants (note 7)	\$ 2,945,431	\$ 2,192,851
Permits	1,592,374	1,369,215
Contracted research	1,301,776	1,492,126
Memberships and donations	1,002,613	911,280
Interest income	355,312	22,920
Rental income	127,368	108,947
Other income (note 14)	13,469	175,030
	7,338,343	6,272,369
Expenses:		
Audit and legal fees	36,000	37,602
Amortization of capital assets	105,922	121,479
Board and executive meetings	34,967	40,972
Computer and website maintenance	112,813	67,041
Direct mail fundraising	84,891	77,060
Disbursements - contracted research and projects	710,279	1,009,959
Disbursements - grants	2,829,841	1,937,851
Insurance	8,978	7,856
Marketing, publicity and promotion	101,039	64,633
Office supplies	34,963	44,655
Other expenditures	39,487	34,585
Photocopying	34,157	28,929
Postage and courier	165,352	129,184
Printing	86,679	57,109
Professional and consulting services	31,501	62,053
Programs and projects	952,096	777,336
Rental	248,488	234,336
Repairs and maintenance	6,095	17,076
Salaries, wages and benefits	1,652,826	1,508,554
Staff training and development	30,704	19,567
Telephone	13,839	25,827
	7,320,917	6,303,664
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 17,426	\$ (31,295)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	Internally restricted	Invested in capital assets (note 10)	Unrestricted	Total 2023	Total 2022
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 1,642,995	\$ 317,612	\$ 803,904	\$ 2,764,511	\$ 2,795,806
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	-	(82,576)	100,002	17,426	(31,295)
Change in invested in capital assets	-	16,827	(16,827)	-	-
Interfund transfer (note 9)	126,734	-	(126,734)	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 1,769,729	\$ 251,863	\$ 760,345	\$ 2,781,937	\$ 2,764,511

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
		(Restated - note 3)
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 17,426	\$ (31,295)
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	105,922	121,479
Amortization of deferred lease inducement	(23,346)	(23,346)
	100,002	66,838
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Accounts receivable	4,672,114	(7,019,787)
Other receivable	-	72,093
Prepaid expenses	22,839	65,131
Inventory	(221)	(84,149)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(452,296)	82,979
Deferred revenue	(360,069)	2,626,440
Deferred contributions	4,327,817	3,878,137
	8,310,186	(312,318)
Investments:		
Acquisition of capital assets	(16,827)	(23,867)
Purchase of investments	(343,408)	(476,620)
Proceeds from maturity of investments	331,627	452,487
	(28,608)	(48,000)
Increase (decrease) in cash	8,281,578	(360,318)
Cash, beginning of year	4,608,507	4,968,825
Cash, end of year	\$ 12,890,085	\$ 4,608,507

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

1. Nature of operations:

Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia Society (the "Society") is incorporated under the Societies 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.

2. Significant accounting policies:

These financial statements were prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting. The significant accounting policies are as follows:

(a) Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and short-term deposits which are highly liquid with original maturities of less than three months at the date of acquisition. There were no cash equivalents as at March 31, 2023 and 2022.

(b) Investments:

Short-term investments are comprised of term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates that have a maturity period of less than one year from the date of the statement of financial position.

Long-term investments are comprised of guaranteed investment certificates that have a maturity period of greater than one year from the date of the statement of financial position.

(c) Capital assets:

Purchased capital assets are initially recorded at cost. Repairs and maintenance costs are charged to expense. Betterments which extend the estimated life of an asset are capitalized.

Capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset	Rate
Computer equipment	3 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 years
Leasehold improvements	over the term of the lease

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(c) Capital assets (continued):

Capital assets acquired during the year but not placed into use are not amortized until they are placed into use.

The Society reviews for impairment the carrying value of capital assets to be held and used whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that associated future economic benefits or service potential have been reduced. If such conditions exist, an impairment loss is measured at the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its fair value or replacement cost.

(d) Revenue recognition:

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions, which include grants and donations. Under this method, contributions with specific external restrictions are recorded as deferred contributions and recognized in the period the related expenses are incurred or the restrictions are met. Unrestricted contributions, which include memberships and donations, are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is assured.

Revenue from the sale of parking permits is recognized when the permit is provided and collection is reasonably assured.

Revenue from contracted research is recognized on the percentage of completion basis as the contracted research project is performed. The percentage of completion is typically determined using an output method based on management's estimate of the progress on the project. Disbursement that are recoverable or reimbursable under the terms of the project contract are recognized as the related eligible disbursements are incurred. A provision is made for the total anticipated loss when the estimates of total costs on a project contract indicate a loss.

Deferred revenue relates to amounts received for contracted research projects but not yet recognized.

Rental revenue is recognized on an accrual basis over the lease term as earned.

Interest income from cash, short-term investments and long-term investments is recognized as earned.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(e) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Freestanding derivative instruments that are not in a qualifying hedging relationship and 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 any such financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of the 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 the effective interest rate method.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indications of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, the Society determines if there is significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future 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.

(f) 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 the lease term.

(g) Contributed materials and services:

Volunteers contribute their time each year to the Society. Because of the difficulty of determining the fair value of these services, the value of contributed services are not recognized in these financial statements.

Contributed materials and supplies are not recognized in these financial statements.

(h) Use of estimates:

The preparation of these financial statements 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.

Items subject to such estimates and assumptions include percentage of completion on contracted research projects. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

3. Restatement of comparative information:

During fiscal 2023, the Society identified a \$6,000,000 contribution receivable that was erroneously not accrued as at March 31, 2022. As a result, accounts receivable and deferred contribution as at March 31, 2022 were understated by \$6,000,000.

The following adjustments were made to restate the comparative information as at and for the year ended March 31, 2022:

	As previously reported	Adjustment	As restated
Statement of financial position:			
Accounts receivable	\$ 1,436,508	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 7,436,508
Total current assets	6,609,946	6,000,000	12,609,946
Total assets	7,318,827	6,000,000	13,318,827
Deferred contributions	550,940	6,000,000	6,550,940
Total current liabilities	4,425,914	6,000,000	10,425,914
Total liabilities	4,554,316	6,000,000	10,554,316
Total liabilities and net assets	7,318,827	6,000,000	13,318,827
Statement of cash flows:			
Accounts receivable	\$ (1,019,787)	\$ (6,000,000)	\$ (7,019,787)
Deferred contributions	(2,121,863)	6,000,000	3,878,137
Note 7 - Deferred contributions:			
Amounts received or receivable	\$ 70,988	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 6,070,988
Balance, end of year	550,940	6,000,000	6,550,940

The above restatement did not have any impact on the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets, or net cashflows from operating activities.

4. Investments:

As at March 31, 2023, short-term investments consist of term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates maturing on varying dates from May 2023 to March 2024 (2022 - May 2022 to July 2022) at interest rates ranging from 2.10% to 4.25% per annum (2022 - 1.00% to 1.05%).

As at March 31, 2022, long-term investments consisted of a guaranteed investment certificate maturing in May 2023 to March 2024 at interest rates ranging from 2.10% to 2.60% per annum.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

5. Capital assets:

			2023	2022
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
Computer equipment	\$ 119,455	\$ 95,671	\$ 23,784	\$ 30,308
Furniture and fixtures	111,359	106,140	5,219	23,924
Leasehold improvements	898,132	546,870	351,262	415,128
	\$ 1,128,946	\$ 748,681	\$ 380,265	\$ 469,360

6. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are government remittances payable of \$2,711 (2022 - \$22,908) for payroll related taxes.

7. Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions represent unspent externally restricted amounts received by the Society for specific purposes. Changes in deferred contributions are as follows:

	2023	2022
		(Restated - note 3)
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 6,550,940	\$ 2,672,803
Amounts received or receivable	7,273,248	6,070,988
Amounts recognized as revenue	(2,945,431)	(2,192,851)
Balance, end of year	\$ 10,878,757	\$ 6,550,940

8. Deferred lease inducement:

	2023	2022
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 151,748	\$ 175,094
Amortization to rental expense	(23,346)	(23,346)
Balance, end of year	128,402	151,748
Less current portion	23,346	23,346
	\$ 105,056	\$ 128,402

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2023

9. Internally restricted net assets:

The Board of Directors has approved a reserve fund of at least one-half of the annual operating budget or \$500,000 whichever is more to provide for the ongoing financial stability of the Society. The reserve fund will be set aside to be used to maintain operations during difficult financial circumstances; or to cover contingent liabilities. The reserve fund is not available for other purposes without approval of the Board of Directors.

As at March 31, 2023, \$1,769,729 (2022 - \$1,642,995) is recorded in the reserve fund. During the year ended March 31, 2023, \$126,734 (2022 - nil) was transferred from unrestricted net assets to the reserve fund.

10. Net assets invested in capital assets:

(a) Net assets invested in capital assets are comprised of the following:

	2023	2022
Capital assets	\$ 380,265	\$ 469,360
Deferred lease inducement	(128,402)	(151,748)
	\$ 251,863	\$ 317,612

(b) Change in net assets invested in capital assets is comprised of the following:

	2023	2022
Excess of revenue over expenses:		
Amortization of capital assets	\$ (105,922)	\$ (121,479)
Amortization of deferred lease inducement	23,346	23,346
	\$ (82,576)	\$ (98,133)
Change in invested in capital assets:		
Acquisition of capital assets	\$ 16,827	\$ 23,867

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11. Commitment:

The Society entered into a ten-year lease agreement for its premises which expires September 30, 2028. Basic rental payments excluding goods and services tax, operating expenses and property taxes for the next 5 fiscal years are as follows:

2024	\$	127,110
2025		130,455
2026		130,455
2027		130,455
2028		130,455
Thereafter		65,228
	\$	714,158

12. Employee and contractor remuneration:

For the year ended March 31, 2023, the Society paid total remuneration of \$476,313 (2022 - \$410,047) to five (2022 - four) employees and contractors for services, each of whom received total remuneration of more than \$75,000.

The Society's Board of Directors do not receive remuneration.

13. Financial risks:

(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 is exposed to credit risk with respect to its cash and accounts receivable. The Society holds all of its cash with a British Columbia authorized credit union. The Society deals with creditworthy counterparties to mitigate the risk of financial loss from defaults on its accounts receivable. The Society assesses, on a continuous basis, accounts receivable and provides for any amounts that are not collectible in the allowance for doubtful accounts. As at March 31, 2023 and 2022, there was nil allowance for doubtful accounts.

(b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Society will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. The Society manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. The Society prepares budget and cash forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfill its obligations.

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13. Financial risks (continued):

(c) Interest rate risk:

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the value of fixed income investments held by the Society. The Society manages this risk by investing in highly rated term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates with varying maturity dates.

There has been no significant change to the financial risk exposures outlined above from 2022.

The Society believes that it is not exposed to significant currency or market risks arising from its financial instruments.

14. Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Canadian government introduced the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ("CEWS") to assist eligible organizations who experienced specified percentage declines of eligible revenue during the claim periods. During the year ended March 31, 2023, the Society recognized government assistance contributions related to CEWS of nil (2022 - \$171,862) which has been recorded as part of other income in the statement of operations.