

sparc bc
Annual Report

2021/2022





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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), x̣ṃəθḳʷəỵəm (Musqueam) and sə́lílwətaʔt (Tsleil-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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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. |

Message from the President

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. As we come together for this meeting, we have an opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments over the past year. As well, this is an important time to think about the future and the need to continue to work together with others to make meaningful progress against the myriad of complex social issues facing our communities today.

As I think back on events over the past year, I feel a sense of gratitude for the on-going generosity and support of our members and donors. Not only has their kindness helped to keep the Parking Permit Program strong amidst great uncertainty, but it has allowed us to actively work to address issues of poverty, homelessness, food insecurity and social isolation in our communities—issues that have grown in importance as the cost of food, housing and other necessities continue to increase.

There is no doubt that society continues to face some formidable social challenges with widening income inequality across many communities and more low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities struggling in the face of growing affordability pressures. We have also seen too many people lost to the opioid crisis and an increasing number of individuals experiencing homelessness in our communities. We know that now, more than ever before, there is the need for people and communities to come together to work for a better future -one that includes everyone.

Through SPARC BC's programs, initiatives and "calls to action" we have been able to actively work together with others to ensure that seniors have dignified access to healthy food and that individuals experiencing homelessness have clean dry socks and the other types of comforts needed to not only meet their basic survival needs but to help to build a deeper sense of belonging and connection. As well, through our research and partnerships we seek to build increased awareness and understanding across all levels of government, the public, and the media about needs that are going unmet and about ways to strengthen our communities by working together.

The implementation of the new provincial accessibility legislation also represents an important area of opportunity. As the Province moves forward on the implementation of the new legislation, we will continue to actively engage local governments and community partners to ensure that all citizens have access to opportunities that are meaningful and important to them. Through our

work with communities across B.C., we recognize that accessibility strengthens communities. To this end, we will continue to focus our efforts on removing barriers to inclusion with the goal of ensuring that our communities, workplaces, and services make space for everyone.

In closing, I would like to thank our members and donors for your commitment to working together to create a more just and healthy society for all. There is no doubt that your generosity and kindness has made a real difference in the lives of others and has helped to show that a better future is possible. Thank you for the role that you play and the difference that you make.

Wes Hewitt

Wes Hewitt
President, SPARC BC

Message from the Executive Director

As we gather today, we have a lot that we can take pride in. While much has changed, and continues to change in the world around us, we have been successful in finding new and different ways to deliver on our mission and to meet the future.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the Board for their decision to allow us to reinvest some of the funding from our reserves over this past year. Not only did this provide us with the ability to successfully navigate the complexities of the COVID-19 pandemic but it also allowed us to expand our investments in local capacity building efforts.

In reflecting on the accomplishments over the past year, I would like to recognize the significant contributions of our SPARC BC staff team. Their dedication and commitment in navigating the pandemic contributed to our success this year.

I also want to recognize the significant and important contributions of our members and donors and the difference that their support has made. In 2021/2022, SPARC BC received donations from more than 33,000 donors. This includes 5,000 individuals who stepped forward to support our 'calls to action'. The level of support that we receive from our members and donors is not only inspiring, but it is also incredibly motivating to know that there are more 33,000 individuals across B.C. who believe in our vision of a more just and healthy society for everyone.

It is also this support from our members and donors that helps us to maintain our focus on what is important. We know that a "just and healthy society" is one where seniors do not have to worry about their future and where children do not go to bed hungry. We also know that it is a society where everyone is invited to share their unique talents and abilities and to pursue their dreams. As well, we know that a "just and healthy society" is one where people and communities can come together to care for each other and to work together to find creative solutions to the diversity of needs and social challenges we face in our communities.

In looking at the result for 2021/2022, I am pleased to share the following highlights:

- More than 52,000 Parking Permits were issued thanks to the tremendous effort of Temi Akinwumi and her team.
- More than 146 Homelessness Community Action Grant projects were funded through the Province's Community Homelessness Action Grant program, with SPARC BC receiving an additional \$6M in funding to continue the program for an additional three (3) years. As well, we are currently working with the different project partners to put together some of the findings and to share some of the insights gained through this initial phase of funding.

I am also pleased to report that our fund-raising efforts were successful including:

- More than \$51,000 in funding was generated through our “calls to action” to support our Seniors’ Harvests Basket initiative with expanded partnerships across the province including Lush Valley Food Action Society, the Campbell River Nurturing Society, Land2Table in the North Okanagan as well as the Feast program in Castlegar.
- More than \$62,000 in funding was generated through our “calls to action” for Homeless Comfort Kits allowing us to not only provide comforts during Homelessness Action Week but to partner all year round. This included working with the Council of Community Homelessness Tables in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley, as well as expanding our reach to include Kamloops, Castlegar, Port Alberni and the Comox Valley.

We also had strong results in our work in Accessibility and Inclusion, including:

- Responding to more than 170 calls to our Accessibility and Enforcement phoneline as well as partnering with more than 16 communities for Access Awareness Day and National AccessAbility week events
- Our 2nd annual Accessible Parking Awareness Month in November was also successful in terms of helping us to raise awareness about the need for accessible parking across communities. This included a strong social media campaign led by Tanya Tejavssi, and her team.

The work of our Research, Planning and Community Development team also continues to have impact, with members of the team engaging in, or completing more than 45 different community-based research projects and initiatives. As well, we have been successful in creating a partnership with the Fraser Health Authority called Connect2Care. Through this partnership our goal is to work together with community-based organizations and partners to evaluate the individual and societal benefits of initiatives designed to promote and support more equitable access to health and other services through access to technology, or what some refer to as ‘digital health equity’. Other areas of focus within our Research and Consulting team also include community-based research and partnerships focused on the development of community needs assessments and local action plans related to affordable childcare spaces, access to affordable housing as well as dignified access to healthy food.

This year, we have also been engaged in research designed to deepen our understanding of how to support communities as we continue to come to terms with the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes a research partnership with the SRO Collaborative to look at potential strategies and opportunities for supporting linguistically isolated populations in accessing the information they need to

make appropriate choices about their health including access vaccines to protect them against the COVID-19 pandemic. Working in partnership with the SRO Collaborative, our research has focused on low income and isolated seniors living in Vancouver's Chinatown. As well, through the Community Data Program and a partnership with Vantage Point we have been looking at some of the longer-term economic impacts of the pandemic and the implications on the work force needs for the non-profit sector in B.C. going forward.

In closing I would like to say that while it has been an extremely busy year, it also has been a very rewarding year. This includes the privilege of working with so many dedicated and resourceful individuals who believe that by working together with a common purpose it is possible to do great things.

I would also like to acknowledge our Board and staff, and to thank you for your ongoing dedication and support. To our members and donors, I also want to express my deep appreciation for the support that you provide and the difference you make. It is through your generosity and support that we can show that by working together, better is possible. Thank you everyone for coming out this evening and for the difference that you make.

Lorraine Copas

Lorraine Copas
Executive Director, SPARC BC



Our Programs and Activities

2021/2022 Highlights

Highlights from 2021/2022



1,200

New members welcomed



Issued more than
52,000
Parking Permits



146

Homelessness
Community
Action Grants
funded



33,000

Donors supporting our
work



170

calls to our Accessibility
and Enforcement Line



\$62K

in support for our
Homeless Comfort
Kit initiative



\$51K

in support for our
Seniors' Harvest
Basket Initiative



20+

Communities engaged
in Homelessness Action
Week outreach



5,000

Members and Donors
responded to our
Calls to Action



13,000

smartphones
secured for
equity
deserving &
underserved
populations



45

Research
projects
in progress or
completed



13

Partners engaged in
our SPARC BC/Fraser
Health Connect2Care
partnership



16 communities
organizing Access
Awareness Day
activities

Strategic Priorities

Mission-Driven Work

Accessibility and Inclusion

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where all citizens have the chance to share their abilities and talents and access opportunities that are meaningful and important to them. To advance this vision, SPARC BC works to remove barriers that limit the active participation of people with disabilities to ensure that all citizens can participate in and contribute to their communities in real and meaningful ways. We also know that accessibility is about more than just the design of physical spaces and work to create communities, workplaces, and services where everyone is included.

Social Policy, Research and Advocacy

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where families and individuals have economic security, affordable housing, access to healthy food and 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 address historical patterns of inequity. Over the years, we have developed a reputation for ensuring that local planning and decision-making takes into consideration the full diversity of needs and actively work to create space for those whose voices are not always heard.

Community Development Education and Outreach

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where people and communities who are most affected by broader structural and systemic forces have an opportunity to participate in their future. Through using evidence-based research and social planning as a model for engaging and supporting communities, our community development education and outreach efforts seek to support communities in gathering the information they need to take action to address the issues that are important to them. This includes working to build a deeper understanding of the types of strategies and actions needed to improve access to opportunities for everyone and to ensure that all citizens have the future they deserve.

Programs and Services

SPARC BC's Social Enterprises

The Delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities

Every year, we assist more than 50,000 seniors and people with disabilities through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities. Through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program, we also work with local governments and other key community partners to ensure that our communities are as accessible and inclusive as possible and that all citizens can fully participate in all aspects of community life. At the same time, we also seek to ensure that local governments across B.C. understand the key features needed to ensure that accessible parking in British Columbia is truly accessible.

Research Planning and Consulting Services

SPARC BC provides research, planning and consulting services on a fee for service basis to all levels of government (federal, provincial, regional, local and First Nations). We also work with community-based agencies and service providers to provide education and outreach to meet the social development needs of people and communities across British Columbia. We do this in a values-driven way that is aligned with our mission and that seeks to solve problems, advance equity, and promote true social change. Operating as a social enterprise means that any revenue generated through our work is reinvested into the people and communities we serve.



Programs and Services

Parking Permit Program

Programs and Services

Parking Permit Program

Every year, we assist more than 50,000 seniors and people with disabilities through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities. Through the delivery of the Parking Permit Program, we work with local governments and other key community partners to ensure that our communities are as accessible and inclusive as possible and that all citizens can fully participate in all aspects of community life. At the same time, we also seek to ensure that local governments across B.C. understand the key features needed to ensure that accessible parking in British Columbia is truly accessible.

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

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Strengthen SPARC BC’s outreach and partnerships with communities across B.C. to promote accessibility and ensure that the Parking Permit Program remains strong.
2. Encourage innovation through investments in technology with key program partners to ensure that the Parking Permit Program is delivered in a professional, efficient and timely manner.
3. Continue to review our current business processes and strengthen our communication to ensure that our strategies are effective and that we continue to deliver high quality services to our clients, partners and stakeholders.



Strategic Priority

Accessibility and Inclusion

Strategic Priority

Accessibility and Inclusion

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where all citizens have the chance to share their abilities and talents and access opportunities that are meaningful and important to them. To advance this vision, SPARC BC works to remove barriers that limit the active participation of people with disabilities to ensure that all citizens can participate in and contribute to their communities in real and meaningful ways. We also know that accessibility is about more than just the design of physical spaces and work to create communities, workplaces, and services where everyone is included.

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.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Build and enhance SPARC BC’s relationships with local governments and local communities to achieve shared accessibility and equity goals.
2. Explore opportunities to influence policy change across all levels of government as it relates to the built environment and the social and physical infrastructure of communities.
3. Work to end disability poverty by calling for improved access to services and opportunities designed to allow for greater choice, inclusion, and opportunities for all.
4. Strengthen the system for delivering the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities by focusing our efforts on accessibility and enforcement.



Strategic Priority

Social Policy, Research & Advocacy

Strategic Priority

Social Policy, Research & Advocacy

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where families and individuals have economic security, affordable housing, access to healthy food and 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 address historical patterns of inequity. Over the years, we have developed a reputation for ensuring that local planning and decision-making takes into consideration the full diversity of needs and actively work to create space for those whose voices are not always heard.

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

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Conduct research to support positive policy change to better meet the needs of low-income families and individuals.
2. Develop 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.
3. Identify local strategies and initiatives to better meet the needs of vulnerable families and individuals including seniors, Indigenous people and communities as well as people with disabilities and children and youth living in poverty.
4. Identify opportunities to address issues arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the related social, economic, health and mental health challenges.
5. Build increased community capacity and resilience to climate change by encouraging and supporting community-scale planning designed to identify underserved communities and populations at increased risk of being impacted by climate emergencies.



Strategic Priority

Community Development Education

Strategic Priority

Community Development Education

Our vision of a just and healthy society is one where people and communities who are most affected by broader structural and systemic forces have an opportunity to participate in their future. Through using evidence-based research and social planning as a model for engaging and supporting communities, our community development education and outreach efforts seek to support communities in gathering the information they need to take action to address the issues that are important to them. This includes working to build a deeper understanding of the types of strategies and actions needed to improve access to opportunities for everyone and to ensure that all citizens have the future they deserve.

- 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 the promotion of greater digital equity.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Work with partners across BC to deliver a diverse range of community-based workshops through SPARC BC's Community Development Education (CDE) program while also providing leadership through the Community Data Program
2. Continue to support information sharing and knowledge exchange through the development of SPROUT publications, resource guides and other materials.
3. Recognize individuals and organizations making a significant contribution to social planning and social justice in B.C. through the annual Deryck Thomson Award.



Programs and Services

Research, Planning & Community Development

Programs and Services

Research, Planning & Community Development

SPARC BC provides research, planning and consulting services on a fee for service basis to all levels of government (federal, provincial, regional, local and First Nations). We also work with community-based agencies and service providers to provide education and outreach to meet the social development needs of people and communities across British Columbia. We do this in a values-driven way that is aligned with our mission and that seeks to solve problems, advance equity, and promote true social change. Operating as a social enterprise means that any revenue generated through our work is reinvested into the people and communities we serve.

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.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

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



SPARC BC's

Deryck Thomson Award

SPARC BC's

Deryck Thomson Award

About this Award

Named after one of SPARC BC's founding directors, the Deryck Thomson Award was established in 1991 by the SPARC BC Board of Directors to recognize individuals or organizations making a significant contribution to social planning and social justice in B.C. This Award is given annually to individuals or organizations that share our values and commitment to working to build a just and healthy society for all.

Eligibility

Nominees can be either organizations or individuals, who have demonstrated, through their professional and/or volunteer activities, a sustained commitment to social planning and social justice as well as community service through their involvement in the following activities:

- ◆ Building or enhancing community capacity and community well-being and supporting innovation that creates positive change for people and communities;
- ◆ Advocating for equity, fairness and dignity for all and through inclusion, integrity and learning;
- ◆ Advancing initiatives or policies that;
 - Integrate social, cultural, economic and environmental planning, decision making and action;
 - Raise public consciousness about the importance of social and community well-being;
 - Advocate for improved social policies and programs;
 - Ensure that those who are most affected have a voice in determining and implementing policies and programs that impact them and their families.

“We’re engaged in a noble profession with a significant past and a challenging future. While forces and events may swirl about us, our objectives have been the same—to develop the human condition while protecting its weakest from harm. The ways in which we go about the task may differ, but the goal remains constant.”

—Deryck Thomson



Our Difference Makers

Members & Donors

Our Difference Makers

Members & Donors

GOAL

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

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1. Strengthen connections with our members and donors.
2. Build and maintain the trust of our members and donors by demonstrating impact.
3. Continue to align our work with areas of focus that matter to our members and donors.
4. Continue to explore new methods of communication and outreach including exploring cost-effective and environmentally sustainable methods of communication.
5. Strengthen our connection to our members and donors by expressing our appreciation for their support.
6. Continue to explore new opportunities to build and strengthen connections with our members and donors.

Our Calls to Action



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



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



Help someone in need stay in touch





SPARC BC

Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting 2021/2022
Hybrid Virtual and In Person Meeting
4445 Norfolk Street, Burnaby BC
June 24, 2022
6:00 PM

1. Call the Meeting to Order
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Minutes from the Annual General Meeting—June 25, 2021
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Presentation of the Financial Statements for April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022
7. Appointment of the Auditors for 2022/2023
8. Report from the Nominations Committee—Election of Directors
9. Report from the Nominations Committee—2021/2022 Deryck Thomson Award
10. Message from the Executive Director
11. Adjournment

MINUTES

SPARC BC
Electronic Annual General Meeting 2020/2021
4445 Norfolk Street, Burnaby BC
June 25, 2021
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The President called the meeting to order.

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), x̣məθḳẉəỵəm (Musqueam) and səliwətaʔt (Tsleil-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.

MINUTES FROM THE AGM, JUNE 26, 2020

The President referred members to the minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on June 26, 2020. The President called for a motion to adopt the minutes as presented.

Motion: That the minutes from the Annual General Meeting held on June 26, 2020 be approved as presented.

MOVED: Wes Hewitt, **SECONDED:** Margaret Coombes, **CARRIED.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President welcomed the members and shared some of his reflections about the past year—a year that for many reasons was unlike any other. The President noted that like so many other organizations the COVID-19 pandemic challenged us in so many ways. At the same time, the pandemic has taught us many different lessons including lessons about the importance of community and the importance of continuing to have a shared sense of responsibility and caring for each other.

The President also observed that while in many ways it was a year of great uncertainty, the generosity and support of our members and donors enabled us to stay strong and

allowed us to continue to find innovative ways of bringing people and communities together to work to create a better future for everyone.

The President expressed his gratitude to the Board and staff for their ongoing commitment in working to advance SPARC BC's mission and concluded with an expression of his heartfelt appreciation for our members and donors for their tremendous support and their ongoing generosity. He noted that it is the kindness and compassion shown by our members and donors that helps to make a difference. On this note, the President called for a motion to adopt the President's Report.

Motion: That the President's Report be adopted.

MOVED: Linden Collette, **SECONDED:** Margaret Coombes, **CARRIED.**

The President asked Marla Reed, SPARC BC's Treasurer to present the Audited Financial Statements and to say a few words.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer (Marla Reed) noted that the Annual Report includes a detailed report about the revenue and expenses for 2020/2021 and that she will provide some highlights. The Treasurer started by recognizing that SPARC BC operates through a social enterprise model where the income generated through the Parking Permit Program and SPARC BC's Research, Planning, and Consulting Services is reinvested in the Board's strategic priorities and the organization's mission driven work.

In reflecting on the past year, the Treasurer noted that like the rest of the world we have had to look at our operations and adapt our work to respond in new and different ways to the challenges created through the COVID-19 pandemic. To some extent we were fortunate in that we were eligible for federal funding which helped us to sustain our programs and activities and avoid serious financial consequences.

The Treasurer also noted that we continue to be grateful for the strong support that we continue to receive from our members and donors. Not only does the generosity and kindness of our members and donors help to provide for the on-going stability of our programs and services but it also allowed us to remain confident about the future even during the pandemic and to continue to actively work together with others in pursuit of our mission. The Treasurer concluded by thanking our members and donors for their generosity. Following the presentation, the Treasurer put forward a motion that the Treasurer's report be adopted.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be adopted.

MOVED: Marla Reed, **SECONDED:** Linden Collette, **CARRIED.**

PRESENTATION OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2020/2021

The Treasurer referred members to the Audited Financial Statements for the period from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021, as prepared by KPMG.

The Treasurer noted that the Finance and Audit Committee met with KPMG as well as SPARC BC's staff, to review the Audited Financial Statements and the Audit Findings Report.

The Treasurer observed that the Auditors have confirmed that the operations of SPARC BC are being carried out efficiently and that there are good checks and balances in place. The Treasurer thanked staff for their commitment to the work of the organization and for acting in a responsible and accountable manner. In conclusion, the Treasurer put forward a motion that the Audited Financial Statements for 2020/2021 be adopted as presented.

Motion: That the Financial Statements for 2020/2021 be adopted as presented.

MOVED: Marla Reed, **SECONDED:** Linden Collette, **CARRIED.**

APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2021/2022

The Treasurer noted that the Finance and Audit Committee is recommending that KPMG be appointed to provide external auditing services to SPARC BC for 2021/2022.

Motion: That KPMG be appointed as SPARC BC's external auditing services for SPARC BC for 2021/2022.

MOVED: Marla Reed, **SECONDED:** Margaret Coombes, **CARRIED.**

The President thanked Marla and the Finance and Audit Committee for their efforts and invited the Chair of the Nominations Committee to come forward and present the Report from the Nominations Committee on the Election of Directors

REPORT FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Theresa Harding stepped forward to present the Report from the Nominations Committee.

Theresa noted that SPARC BC's 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.

Taking this into consideration, the Nominations Committee has put forward the following set of recommendations:

- A. That **Bev Onischak, Christene Walsh** and **Wes Hewitt** whose terms are ending in June 2021 be elected to serve for an additional one (1) year ending in June 2022;
- B. That **Tarita Davenock** and **Marla Reed** whose term is ending in June 2021, be elected to serve for an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2024;
- C. That **Michelle Novakowski** (Kelowna), **Laurie Paulin** (Hazelton), and **Jim O’Dea** (Vancouver) be appointed to the Board to serve for a three (3) year term ending in June 2024.
- D. That the vacancy created with the departure of **Dr. Angela Towle** (Vancouver) be filled at a later date.

Theresa provided some background about each of the Directors who have been nominated and noted that the bios for each of the Directors can be found on SPARC BC’s website.

Motion:

- A. That **Bev Onischak, Christene Walsh** and **Wes Hewitt** whose terms are ending in June 2021 be elected to serve for an additional one (1) year ending in June 2022
- B. That **Tarita Davenock** and **Marla Reed** whose term is ending in June 2021, be elected to serve for an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2024
- C. That **Michelle Novakowski** (Kelowna), **Laurie Paulin** (Hazelton), and **Jim O’Dea** (Vancouver) be appointed to the Board to serve for a three (3) year term ending in June 2024
- D. That the vacancy created with the departure of **Dr. Angela Towle** (Vancouver) be filled at a later date.

MOVED: Theresa Harding, **SECONDED:** Margaret Coombes, **CARRIED.**

2020/2021 DERYCK THOMSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Nominations Committee reported that there were five (5) nominees for the Deryck Thomson Award for 2020/2021. They included:

- **Positive Living North Bulkley Valley**, Smithers, B.C.
- **The Canadian Mental Health Association**, Salmon Arm, B.C.
- **The Phoenix Chamber Choir**, Coquitlam, B.C.

The SPARC BC Board of Directors also wanted to recognize:

- **The Indian Residential School Society** (North Vancouver) in honour and memory of the 215 children who never made it home and who were found on May 27, 2021 on the grounds of the former residential school site in Kamloops in unmarked graves.
- **A Way Home Society** (Kamloops) to recognize the tremendous work and legacy of Katherine McParland who passed away suddenly. The Award is being presented as a way of helping to continue to advance Katherine's vision of ending youth homelessness.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director thanked the Board and staff for their support over the year and noted that while there were many challenges, there is also much to be proud of.

ADJOURNMENT

The President thanked the Executive Director for her ongoing dedication and leadership. The President noted that this concludes the Annual General Meeting and called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: That 2020/2021 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.

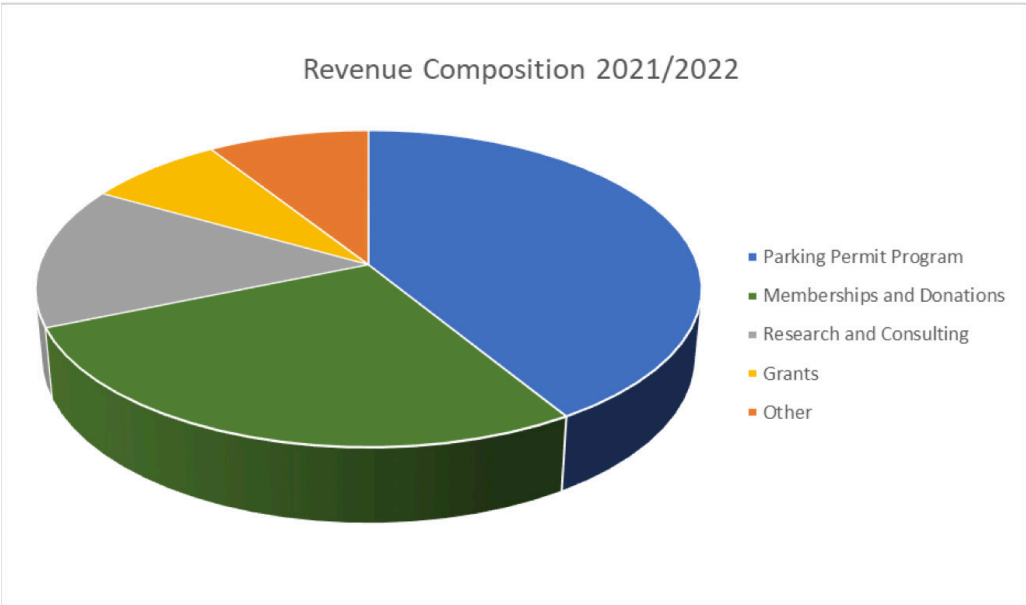
MOVED: Dorothy Blandford, **SECONDED:** Margaret Coombes, **CARRIED.**

Report from the Treasurer

I would like to present the Treasurer’s Report for 2021/2022. 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. This year, recognizing that we have had success in weathering the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board adopted a motion to allow for a deficit for this year. This allowed us to continue to navigate through the pandemic and to help to build and strengthen local community-based responses to issues of food insecurity, homelessness, and the sense of isolation that was so much a part of the pandemic. To this end, SPARC BC had an operating deficit of \$31,295 for 2021/2022 with revenues of \$3,324,560.

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. The graph below shows the different sources of revenue and their overall contribution to SPARC BC’s mission-driven activities.



The Parking Permit Program represents 41% of SPARC BC's overall revenue. In 2021/2022, SPARC BC realized \$1,369,215 in revenue from the delivery of the Parking Permit Program and issued more than 52,000 permits. The revenue generated through the processing fee of \$26 not only enables SPARC BC to administer the program for people who depend on accessible parking in their community, but it also supports our Accessibility and Enforcement phonenumber and our work with communities across British Columbia to advance broader accessibility goals.

In 2021/2022, contributions from members and donors totaled \$911,280 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 including our partnerships with communities and disability-serving organizations around accessibility-related initiatives as well as responding to the calls that come to our attention through our Accessibility and Enforcement phone line. Member and donor contributions to our "calls to action" also support our work in the area of homelessness and food insecurity including our Seniors' Harvest Basket initiative as well as our Homeless Comfort Kits.

Revenue generated through SPARC BC's Research, Planning and Consulting Services has also remained strong. In 2021/2022, \$482,167 in revenue was generated through contracted research. This represents 15% of SPARC BC's revenue. Members of our Research and Consulting team engaged in more than 45 projects over the course of the year which included the reinvestment of more than \$1,009,959 back into communities and local economies through our various projects, initiatives and partnerships. 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 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, 146 grants have been approved including 66 grants and \$1.8m in funding in 2021/2022. There was also an additional \$390k invested in 2021/2022 to support access to basic communication for individuals experiencing homelessness through the distribution of mobile phones. The provision of these phones helps to ensure that low-income and underserved populations are able to stay connected to the people and services that they need with this initiative being part of the provincial response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This initiative was also started in partnership with 7-Eleven and has resulted in the distribution of more than 13,000 phones to low-income and vulnerable individuals across the province.

In 2021/2022, SPARC BC continued to be eligible to receive federal funding of approximately \$171,862 through the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy and the Canada Emergency Rent subsidy programs. This funding helped us to navigate the pandemic and to avoid any serious financial consequences. It has also continued to provide us with increased financial stability at a time when there was a high level of uncertainty. Through this funding we were able to continue to deliver the Parking Permit Program and to continue to meet the needs of those who depend on our programs. We are grateful that we were eligible to receive this funding.

SPARC BC's annual operating expenditures for 2021/2022 were \$3,355,856. This includes revenue generated during this year as well as a reinvestment of funding from our reserves to support our mission-driven priorities and partnerships with communities. Key areas of focus for the year have included ongoing innovation and support for local initiatives designed to promote dignified access to healthy food and food security as well as local strategies and initiatives designed to respond to on-going issues around housing and homelessness. This year we have had the privilege of working more closely with different First Nations communities as well as develop a number of peer-based research projects and partnerships. We anticipate that these relationships will continue to be an important area of focus for 2022/2023.

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 2022/2023.

Sincerely,

Marla Reed

Marla Reed, Treasurer

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.

In looking at the current structure and composition of the Board, the Committee recommends that:

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 Committee also wanted to recognize **Christene Walsh** and **Margaret Coombes** who will be leaving the Board following the AGM and to thank them for their years of service.

Copies of the Directors bios have also been included in the following section.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the work of the Committee, the Nominations Committee is putting forward the following recommendations:

- A. That **Wes Hewitt** and **Bev Onischak**, whose terms are ending in June 2022 be nominated to stand for re-election for an additional three (3) year term ending in June 2025
- B. That, **Dr. Shelley Cook, Fraser Holland,** and **Sheila Lewis** be nominated to serve on SPARC BC's Board of Directors for a three (3) year term ending in June 2025
- C. That the one (1) remaining vacant position be filled at a future date.

NEW DIRECTORS JOINING SPARC BC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Shelley Cook—Ladysmith, B.C.

Dr. Shelley Cook previously served on SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2014 and has more recently agreed to serve for an additional three (3) year term. Shelley obtained her 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. Shelley 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, Shelley worked for the John Howard Society in the Central and South Okanagan where she was the Executive Director. Shelley was born and raised in Kelowna before moving to Vancouver Island where she attended the University of Victoria for both her undergraduate (Psychology) and graduate education (Human & Social Development) and more recently in her role as the Executive Director for the Cowichan Housing Association.

Fraser Holland—Langley, B.C.

Fraser Holland 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 the Langley Community Services Society. However, prior to joining LCSS, Fraser was the Director of Homelessness Services for Stepping Stone Services Society—a community-based service agency located in Langley. Through his work as part of the Langley Intensive Case Management Team, Fraser works as part of a multi-disciplinary team that is focused on client engagement, housing stability as well as brokering services to better meet the needs of individuals with a history of homelessness including clients who are 19 or older and who have chronic or dependent substance use. In addition to his significant experience in providing outreach services, Fraser also participates on the Board of the Homelessness Services Association as well as actively works and campaigns on issues of income security and poverty reduction and around the need for increasing the supply of affordable housing across communities.

Sheila Lewis—Kelowna, B.C.

Sheila Lewis 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 B.C. and currently holds the role of Provincial Women's Manager with Metis Nation of B.C. where she 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 the role as regional practice lead for Aboriginal Mental Wellness as part of their mental health and substance use network 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, the City of West Kelowna and University of British Columbia, Okanagan. Sheila also volunteers her time to support and facilitate Truth and Reconciliation Reading Circles designed to build and deepen community understanding of the 94 Calls to Action set out in the report.

CURRENT DIRECTORS SERVING ON THE BOARD

Wes Hewitt—Port Alberni, B.C.

Wes joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2019 and serves on Board's Finance and Audit Committee. Previously, Wes also served on the Board's Nominations Committee. Wes is the dedicated Executive Director for the Alberni Shelter Society where he is proud to be considered a community leader in the development of social housing and change in many areas. This year, Wes led his team to the completion of a new Supportive Housing/Shelter facility and has also established a Sobering and Assessment Centre, Harms reduction Site, Over-Dose Prevention Site, housing for low-income families and employment training within Port Alberni. Wes has enjoyed being an innovator in the fields of developing some of the best practices in Harms Reduction, Substance Use and Mental Health. Recently, Wes was appointed to the BC Poverty Reduction Forum which developed the first ever Poverty Reduction Plan and helped write the legislation that was introduced and passed. Some of the strongest connections that Wes has made with clients has been through tasks not associated with his work; tasks like assisting to fix a door, or helping out with carpentry, have led to a rewarding opportunity to learn and grow. Outside of Wes's occupation, he has deep community involvement as a Shriner and Freemason.

Christene Walsh—Campbell River B.C.

Christene joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2014 and has served as a Vice-President since 2018. Christene also serves as the Chair of the Board's Nominations Committee. Previously, Christene served on the Board's Governance Committee and the Board's Finance and Audit Committee. Christene is a registered social worker (MSW) and currently employed with Island Health as a Concurrent Disorders Clinician in their Mental Health and Substance Use division. Prior to joining Island Health, Christene worked with the Regional District of Central Okanagan [RDCO] as Manager, Police/Community Support Services. Previously Christene has also held various

community development roles within the Central Okanagan's social services sector. Prior to joining SPARC BC's Board of Directors, Christene worked with SPARC BC's research team in looking at the issues of hidden homelessness and family homelessness in smaller communities and urban centres outside of the Lower Mainland. Christene has a strong commitment to social justice and has worked in a broad range of roles in mental health & substance use services, palliative [cancer] care, hospital social work and child protection (Indigenous communities).

Tarita Davenock—Nanaimo, B.C.

Tarita joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2018 and has served as a Vice-President since 2019. Tarita also serves on the Board's Nominations Committee. Previously, Tarita served on the Board's Finance and Audit Committee and the Board's Governance Committee. Tarita has built a reputation as a global expert in the field of accessible travel, and inclusive tourism. A speaker and contributor to the Huffington Post, and other travel publications; her company Travel For All is Canada's premier accessible travel agency. Tarita is sought after for her extensive business knowledge as an entrepreneur with a disability and is passionate about creating access for all. Tarita has served in a diverse range of roles over the years in promoting greater accessibility including participating on the Accessible Tourism Committee for the Standards Council of Canada. Tarita has graduate degrees in English and Behavioural Psychology and is currently working on the completion of her Doctoral Thesis. Prior to establishing Travel For All, Tarita worked as a social worker.

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. Marla brings extensive knowledge of the community living movement and has worked in the social service sector for twenty-five (25) 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 the inclusion of adults with developmental disabilities and seniors in the Province and is committed to creating a more inclusive society for everyone.

Beverly Onischak—Castlegar, B.C.

Beverly joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2016 and serves on the Board's Governance Committee. 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 womens' 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.

Dr. Margaret Coombes—Langley B.C.

Margaret joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2019 and serves on the Board's Nominations Committee. Previously Margaret served on the Board's Governance Committee. Margaret is Director of the School of Social Work and Human Services for the University of the Fraser Valley. Margaret works to connect research to direct services while building capacity in local communities. Throughout Margaret's career, she has advocated for social justice of equity-seeking groups, and marginalized individuals and families. Margaret's substantive areas of interest have been and continue to be, how to best serve, engage, or intervene with children and their families who are often living in poverty, experience trauma, and come to the attention of the child welfare and justice systems. Since relocating to the Fraser Valley, Margaret is active on several community committees such as Archway, formerly Abbotsford Community Services, Safe Relations Safe Children Committee, Community Quality Initiatives with the Ministry of Child and Family Services and Mental Health, and the HUB, Positive Living. Margaret is also committed to ensuring that stakeholders are engaged in the decision-making process to bring about sustainable change and continues to participate in local and provincial initiatives to build safer and healthy communities that are inclusive and seek to engage all members.

Linden Collette—Cowichan Bay, B.C.

Linden joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2020 and serves on the Board's Finance and Audit Committee. Linden has been aware of the work of SPARC BC for several years, first in her role as the Executive Director at Social Planning Cowichan and now in her current role as the dedicated Executive Director of Community Options for Children and Families. Most recently, Linden participated in the community consultations on disability legislation of the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction and assisted SPARC BC staff in the facilitation of several meetings. With a passion for social justice and experience in research, policy development and practice, Linden brings valuable experience as a Director with SPARC BC.

Theresa Harding—Richmond, B.C.

Theresa joined SPARC BC's Board of Directors in 2020 and serves on the Board's Nominations Committee and Governance Committee. Theresa is a genuine supporter of working with communities to build a just and healthy society for all. Early in her career, with academic focuses on sociology, gender studies, and planning, her focus was to support inform all active engagements with social justice and equity. It is with these values that Theresa was prepared to practice collaborative community development by founding programs that would be integral to the Richmond Women's Resource Centre. Much of Theresa's values have been informed by hard circumstances and decisions experienced by many SPARC BC clients and research demographics, which puts her at a level of empathy and understanding to inform who she is and what does.

Laurie Paulin—New Hazelton

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 people. Laurie brings a strong background and passion for social justice and poverty law and has worked with clients with 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 works to assist those who are accused in developing an appropriate healing plan and other actions. Laurie as works to assist the various Elders in their role within the community court system. Laurie enjoys spending her free time out in nature with her son.

Jim O’Dea – Vancouver

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 over four decades with 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 the Manager of Housing Programs and Operating Agreements at Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC). Jim’s 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 affordable housing. Jim is currently a member of O’Dea Song – an organization that is committed to working to build housing and spaces for community and social enterprises.

Financial Statements of

Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia

Year ended March 31, 2022

Financial Statements of

**SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH
COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY**

And Independent Auditors' Report thereon

Year ended March 31, 2022



KPMG LLP
PO Box 10426 777 Dunsmuir Street
Vancouver BC V7Y 1K3
Canada
Telephone (604) 691-3000
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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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, 2022
- 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, 2022, 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 "**Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**" section of our auditors' 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.



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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 auditors' 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 auditors' 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.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Vancouver, Canada
June 24, 2022

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 4,608,507	\$ 4,968,825
Short-term investments (note 3)	336,099	452,487
Accounts receivable	1,436,508	416,721
Other receivable (note 13)	-	72,093
Prepaid expenses	144,683	209,814
Inventory	84,149	-
	6,609,946	6,119,940
Long-term investments (note 3)	239,521	99,000
Capital assets (note 4)	469,360	566,972
	\$ 7,318,827	\$ 6,785,912
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5)	\$ 648,681	\$ 565,702
Deferred revenue	3,202,947	576,507
Deferred contributions (note 6)	550,940	2,672,803
Current portion of deferred lease inducement (note 7)	23,346	23,346
	4,425,914	3,838,358
Deferred lease inducement (note 7)	128,402	151,748
	4,554,316	3,990,106
Net assets:		
Internally restricted (note 8)	1,642,995	1,642,995
Invested in capital assets (note 9(a))	317,612	391,878
Unrestricted	803,904	760,933
	2,764,511	2,795,806
Commitment (note 10)		
	\$ 7,318,827	\$ 6,785,912

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board:

_____ Director

_____ Director

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
Revenue:		
Permits	\$ 1,369,215	\$ 1,187,980
Contracted research	1,492,126	2,028,715
Grants (note 6)	2,192,851	1,945,382
Memberships and donations	911,280	912,156
Rental income	108,947	107,816
Interest income	22,920	32,335
Other income (note 13)	175,030	375,174
	6,272,369	6,589,558
Expenses:		
Audit and legal fees	37,602	27,018
Amortization of capital assets	121,479	109,494
Board and executive meetings	40,972	9,865
Computer and website maintenance	67,041	59,658
Direct mail fundraising	77,060	69,269
Disbursements - contracted research and projects	1,009,959	1,121,958
Disbursements - grants	1,937,851	1,718,282
Insurance	7,856	7,007
Marketing, publicity and promotion	64,633	74,742
Office supplies	44,655	48,625
Other expenditures	34,585	32,913
Photocopying	28,929	37,711
Postage and courier	129,184	133,374
Printing	57,109	50,291
Professional and consulting services	62,053	28,007
Programs and projects	777,336	773,882
Rental	234,336	221,750
Repairs and maintenance	17,076	17,905
Salaries, wages and benefits	1,508,554	1,630,172
Staff training and development	19,567	15,924
Telephone	25,827	18,274
	6,303,664	6,206,121
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ (31,295)	\$ 383,437

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, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	Internally restricted	Invested in capital assets (note 9)	Unrestricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 1,642,995	\$ 391,878	\$ 760,933	\$ 2,795,806	\$ 2,412,369
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	-	(98,133)	66,838	(31,295)	383,437
Change in invested in capital assets	-	23,867	(23,867)	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 1,642,995	\$ 317,612	\$ 803,904	\$ 2,764,511	\$ 2,795,806

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ (31,295)	\$ 383,437
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	121,479	109,494
Amortization of deferred lease inducement	(23,346)	(23,346)
	66,838	469,585
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(1,019,787)	126,764
Other receivable	72,093	(72,093)
Prepaid expenses	65,131	(85,857)
Inventory	(84,149)	-
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	82,979	88,379
Deferred revenue	2,626,440	(31,690)
Deferred contributions	(2,121,863)	(1,862,556)
	(312,318)	(1,367,468)
Investments:		
Acquisition of capital assets	(23,867)	(80,878)
Purchase of investments	(476,620)	(108,015)
Proceeds from maturity of investments	452,487	94,000
	(48,000)	(94,893)
Decrease in cash	(360,318)	(1,462,361)
Cash, beginning of year	4,968,825	6,431,186
Cash, end of year	\$ 4,608,507	\$ 4,968,825

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2022

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, 2022 and 2021.

(b) Investments:

Short-term investments are comprised of term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates and 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 and 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, 2022

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, 2022

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, 2022

3. Investments:

As at March 31, 2022, short-term investments consist of term deposits and guaranteed investment certificates maturing on varying dates from May 2022 to July 2022 at interest rates ranging from 1.00% to 1.05% per annum (2021 - 1.25% to 2.90%).

Long-term investments consist of a guaranteed investment certificate maturing in May 2023 and March 2024 at interest rates ranging from 2.10% to 2.60% per annum (2021 - 2.10%).

4. Capital assets:

			2022	2021
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
Computer equipment	\$ 103,996	\$ 73,688	\$ 30,308	\$ 53,846
Furniture and fixtures	111,359	87,435	23,924	47,768
Leasehold improvements	898,132	483,004	415,128	465,358
	\$ 1,113,487	\$ 644,127	\$ 469,360	\$ 566,972

5. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are government remittances payable of \$22,908 (2021 - \$18,417) for payroll related taxes.

6. Deferred contributions:

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

	2022	2021
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,672,803	\$ 4,535,359
Amounts received, including accrued interest	70,988	82,826
Amounts recognized as revenue	(2,192,851)	(1,945,382)
Balance, end of year	\$ 550,940	\$ 2,672,803

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2022

7. Deferred lease inducement:

	2022	2021
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 175,094	\$ 198,440
Amortization to rental expense	(23,346)	(23,346)
Balance, end of year	151,748	175,094
Less current portion	23,346	23,346
	\$ 128,402	\$ 151,748

8. 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, 2022, \$1,642,995 (2021 - \$1,642,995) is recorded in the reserve fund. During the year ended March 31, 2022, nil (2021 - \$217,622) was transferred from unrestricted net assets to the reserve fund.

9. Net assets invested in capital assets:

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

	2022	2021
Capital assets	\$ 469,360	\$ 566,972
Deferred lease inducement	(151,748)	(175,094)
	\$ 317,612	\$ 391,878

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2022

9. Net assets invested in capital assets (continued):

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

	2022	2021
Excess of revenue over expenses:		
Amortization of capital assets	\$ (121,479)	\$ (109,494)
Amortization of deferred lease inducement	23,346	23,346
	<u>\$ (98,133)</u>	<u>\$ (86,148)</u>
Change in invested in capital assets:		
Acquisition of capital assets	\$ 23,867	\$ 80,878

10. 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 and thereafter are as follows:

2023	\$ 127,110
2024	130,455
2025	130,455
2026	130,455
2027	130,455
Thereafter	65,228
	<u>\$ 714,158</u>

11. Employee and contractor remuneration:

For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022, the Society paid total remuneration of \$410,047 (2021 - \$454,663) to four (2021 - 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.

SOCIAL PLANNING AND RESEARCH COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2022

12. 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's is exposed to credit risk with respect to its accounts receivable. 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, 2022 and 2021, 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.

(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 2021.

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

13. 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, 2022, the Society recognized government assistance contributions related to CEWS of \$171,862 (2021 - \$346,672) which has been recorded as part of other income in the statement of operations. At March 31, 2022, other receivables of nil (2021 - \$72,093) relates to CEWS accrued but not yet received.