

SFPIRG's RFEOI QUESTIONNAIRE

FOR THE SFSS SUB APPLICATION PROCESS

This is the Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group's (SFPIRG) expression of interest with regards to the allocation of organizational suites in the new Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS) Student Union Building (SUB). We are very excited about the ways in which SFPIRG actively contributes to the sense of community and the student experience at SFU – which we've been doing since we were established through student referendum in 1981! We here at SFPIRG can't wait to collaborate with the SFSS on making the SUB and the SFU student experience the best it can be!

Thanks in advance for your consideration!

Group's name:	Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group
Group's acronym:	SFPIRG
Name of group's representative:	Susan Chiv
Representative's contact information:	admin@sfpirg.ca 778-782-5339
Is your group an SFSS club? (yes/no)	No
Is your group an SFSS student union? (yes/no)	No
Does your group collect a levy from undergraduate students? (yes/no)	Yes
What is your group's stated mission?	Our mission is to engage students and community in social and environmental justice. Areas of work include: education, action, research, and community. SFPIRG brings together a diverse range of people and our work is all centred on a shared set of values. This includes a commitment to inclusive and accessible space, intersectional anti-oppression, decolonization and Indigenous sovereignties; self-representation, self-determination, and empowering student and community leadership; accountability, integrity, wholeness and healing; sustainability; and respectful communication.

How does your group improve the undergraduate student experience, as comprised of the following aspects?

- **academic,**
- **social,**
- **financial, and**
- **health and wellbeing.**

SFPIRG improves the academic conditions of undergraduate students in a number of ways. We support student research by maintaining an extensive resource library that gives students access to diverse research materials they may not be able to find in the SFU libraries. Our library shares an online catalogue with the SFSS Women's Centre and Out on Campus, so students who become a member of one of these three libraries have access to all three. We also work directly with student researchers, offering support and mentorship for students who wish to enhance their academic and project work through using an intersectional approach to the issues they are exploring. SFPIRG also supports undergraduate students' academic lives by working with SFU instructors and Teaching Assistants on inclusive program development for a diverse student body.

One of our programs, Letters for the Inside (LFTI), is a volunteer-driven research program that provides an opportunity for students to put their research skills to use in the real world. Prisoners from across the continent write in with research requests, and LFTI volunteers conduct the appropriate research and send the prisoners their findings. This program not only provides an opportunity to hone research skills, it also provides good experience that can be listed on future resumes.

With regard to the social experience of undergraduate students, we consider there to be two facets of this pillar in the SFSS's mission: the ability of students to connect socially, as well as their development as people with a sense of social responsibility.

SFPIRG is a space where people from diverse backgrounds can find community, and where they can clarify their values, and practice being active, ethical, engaged members of the broader community. Students who feel strongly about social and environmental justice can sometimes feel alienated on campus - SFPIRG provides a space where they can find other people who share their interests and values. Students have a number of ways to get involved. They can start or join an Action Group (student-led groups that work on a social or environmental justice issue of their choosing), or they can run for the SFPIRG Board and become a part of the governing body of our organization. Students can hone their research skills while doing good for others by volunteering with Letters for the Inside, a program that promotes access to information for incarcerated people, while encouraging students to engage critically with the justice system.

Students also come to SFPIRG for support and connection in order to run reading and discussion groups, put on film series,

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(cont'd) How does your group improve the undergraduate student experience, as comprised of the following aspects?

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and develop workshops. By coming together to learn about and take action on issues that are important to them and their communities, students develop vital skills such as collaboration, working compassionately and respectfully with others, project planning, and advocacy.

SFPIRG has also had many opportunities to support students as socially responsible communities members through collaboration with SFU Student Engagement in their work to support students' social, academic and professional development. We have, for example, offered consulting and workshop facilitation for SFU's leadership program, Passport to Leadership. This year we are also working with a group of students involved with the Peer Educator program and Embark, who seek to promote the use of reusable coffee tumblers on campus.

SFPIRG supports the financial conditions of undergraduate students in several practical ways. We are a referring Community Resource Partner with Quest Food Exchange, a program that runs not-for-profit grocery markets, allowing low-income people to shop with dignity for food at significantly reduced cost; our referrals give students access to locations across Metro Vancouver. SFPIRG also offers multiple Work-Study positions through the SFU Financial Aid program; this allows students who care about social and environmental justice to support our programs, explore their values, and follow their passions, at the same time as they earn money to cover their academic and living expenses. Students who have been involved with SFPIRG, whether as volunteers, Board members or Work-Study staff, receive valuable experience and opportunities for personal and professional development. We regularly provide references for these students in their applications for career opportunities, Co-op positions, leadership programs, cohort programs, and academic and educational programs. In addition to providing references, we mentor and support our students through resume writing and job interview processes.

SFPIRG offers programming and education directly related to the health and wellbeing of undergraduate students; we've provided programming on many health and wellbeing related issues, including healing from trauma, sexual health, ending sexual violence, and promoting health and sustainable activity through cycling. We also advise, support, and resource students, some whom are already involved at SFPIRG and many who drop in, who have experienced discrimination and violence.

SFPIRG has also supported students' health and wellbeing by

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(cont'd) How does your group improve the undergraduate student experience, as comprised of the following aspects?

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offering practical training and education to other student groups and organizations on campus who are serving student needs. We have supported SFU Health Peers (part of SFU Student Engagement's Peer Educators program) with training on recognizing and challenging bias and stigma in health-related settings and discourse. We have also offered Peer Support Skills training for service providers, including Out on Campus.

We are an organization that values inclusivity; therefore, we value accessibility. We understand accessibility to be essential to health and wellness for many people, and we also understand it to have many facets - wheelchair and scooter access, but also needs for ASL, large print resources, childcare and transit subsidies, and more. We have staff who are well-trained in disability justice issues, and as an organization we have worked with the Radical Access Mapping Project (RAMP), a community organization that performs accessibility audits, to better understand what it takes to make a space or an event more accessible. We happily share the knowledge we have by offering workshops and training to other groups, and the community at large. In the Summer of 2014, we were happy to work with the SFSS Board and volunteers, providing a workshop on accessible concert organizing.

Ultimately, a thread that runs through all our work at SFPIRG is advocating for a more just and inclusive world; one which prioritizes everyone's wellness, access, and participation.

Why does your group wish to have space in the SUB?

As a student society that has been active at SFU for the past thirty-six years, we know it is essential to our work that we be accessible and responsive to students, and that students are able to find us in the hub of student life at SFU. With space in the SUB, we will not only be able to engage the general student population, we'll also be more able to engage and collaborate with fellow student groups doing important work on campus. We have a long history of working with other student groups. At the SFSS, we've worked with the Board of Directors, the SFSS Women's Centre, Out on Campus, the First Nations Student Association, and, through the Student Union Resource Office, we have had the pleasure of offering training and support to various clubs and DSUs. We have also worked with other student societies, such as CJSF Radio, Embark, and The Peak. From years of experience, we know that the potential for collaboration grows exponentially with physical proximity to each other. Our historic proximity with Out on Campus and the SFSS Women's Centre has also allowed our groups to share resources, respond jointly in times of crisis, and for staff to be accessible to support each other when hostile individuals have presented some kind of threat.

With space in the SUB, we would also be well situated to continue as a hub for student collaboration, student leadership, and community building; in our history, we have been a gathering point and launching pad for other groups on campus. For example, LGBTQ+ students on campus formed an SFPIRG Action Group in the 1990s which successfully advocated and lobbied for an inclusive physical space for LGBTQ+ community; this resulted in Out on Campus being established in its current space in the Transportation Centre. Similarly, Embark originated from student advocacy and organizing as an Action Group at SFPIRG, growing and eventually separating to become an independent student society.

<p>How would your group use its dedicated space on a daily basis?</p>	<p>SFPIRG space in the SUB would see broad and thorough use in many of the ways our current space does. Our lounge would serve as a community-building social space and provide casual meeting space where all students, and especially members of our Action Groups, can explore and engage with social and environmental issues. It would also house our aforementioned resource library, and be a space for students to visit to access materials and resources for event planning and campaigns. The space would serve as a hub and research centre for our LFTI volunteer program. It would also be a drop-in space where visitors come to ask questions, and receive resources and support. Lastly, it would be used as office space for our student volunteers, student Work-Study staff, and our permanent staff.</p>
<p>What additional benefits would your group bring to the SUB as a whole?</p>	<p>There are many ways SFPIRG would contribute to an inclusive and engaged student community in the SUB.</p> <p>SFPIRG is a place for students to explore their values, and to learn that they can impact their communities for the better, both on and off campus. We are a visible presence of passionate and engaged community, which in turn energizes and encourages other students to become involved, whether it be with SFPIRG, with Out on Campus or the SFSS Women's Centre, in clubs and DSUs, with The Peak or CJSF Radio, or with any other student group in the building.</p> <p>SFPIRG would also bring tools, resources, and educational training opportunities to the SUB. We will continue offering training and workshops to all student groups. Past topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Shame, No Blame! Introduction to Diversity and Inclusion • Inclusive Movement Building - Ensuring that Your Movement Connects with the People • Inclusive and Accessible Event Planning • Advocacy and Inclusive Governance: So you joined a Board of Directors...now what? • Peer Support Skills <p>Lastly, we would be very happy to contribute the tools from our existing Bike Tool Co-op towards the workshop space in the SUB, to empower more students to develop repair skills, and encourage alternative modes of transportation to campus.</p>

<p>It will be important for spaces to be used throughout the week. Please explain how your group would keep its space open to undergraduate students every weekday between the first day of classes and last day of exams.</p>	<p>SFPIRG has both permanent staff and Work-Study staff who would keep the space open during business hours. Traditionally, SFPIRG has been a space where students engaging in social and environmental justice work have been welcome to book/use SFPIRG space outside of regular office hours. If SUB security practices permit it, we are interested in continuing to provide students with this kind of access.</p>
<p>How many staff members would work from the space? For how many hours per week would each person work?</p>	<p>SFPIRG has 3 permanent staff members who each work 28 hours/week. Each semester we have 3-6 Work-Study staff who typically work 8-10 hours/week.</p>
<p>If you currently have space on campus, on average, how many visitors do you receive each day?</p>	<p>10-30 visitors, depending on which semester, meetings that are running, programming, current sociopolitical events, etc.</p>
<p>How many undergraduate students (excluding staff) would you expect to use the space each day?</p>	<p>Nearly all visitors who use our space are undergraduate students. Most days, 100% of our visitors are undergraduate students.</p>
<p>Would your group have any special requirements for its space? Please explain. Note that any modifications to the building will be limited and any approved work would be at the group's expense.</p>	<p>The only possible modification that comes to mind is that, for earthquake preparedness and safety, we may wish to anchor our bookshelves to walls.</p> <p>In an ideal world, our 3 permanent staff would have 3 joint offices with retractable walls between them.</p>
<p>In addition to dedicated space, how would your group make use of other spaces in the SUB? e.g. meeting rooms, lounges, soundproof booths.</p>	<p>We would make use of the SUB's meeting rooms for confidential meetings, and event space for programming, such as workshops. We are excited about the programming possibilities that would open up if we were to have access to the workshop and community kitchen spaces. One strategy for promoting environmental sustainability is to encourage people to regain skills such as the repair of objects and safe food preservation. We would also do any special printing our organization requires with the SFSS Copy Centre.</p>
<p>For external groups only: Is your organization audited annually? If so, please attach your group's most recent audited financial statements.</p>	<p>Yes. Financial statements are attached.</p>

TESTIMONIALS ABOUT SFPIRG

Below are testimonials from over the years from SFU students, staff, and community members, including past SFPIRG Board members, work study students, and activists, as well as past SFSS Board members! Here is some of what they've had to say about their experiences with SFPIRG, the impact we've had on the SFU community, how our programming has supported their development, and more!

"SFPIRG has opened my eyes up to a plethora of issues that I was not aware of before... Like the other rotunda groups, SFPIRG is integral to the identity of SFU and contributes to the progressiveness that the university is known for." – SFU Student

"SFPIRG has remained the cornerstone of the university's organizing efforts and a hub for student mobilization. SFPIRG bolsters a sense of community, purpose, and experiential learning on campus. SFPIRG has been a home on campus for me!" – SFPIRG Board Member

"I am grateful that SFPIRG exists. They are a great organization run by amazing, caring and very helpful people. Even though I have graduated from SFU, I am still in contact with SFPIRG." – SFSS Board Member

"SFPIRG's trust and support was instrumental for us as a new grassroots project and helped us spread our message around SFU, and [the Greater Vancouver community] as well." – SFU Student-Run Organization

"Having SFPIRG on campus is such a blessing. It's an accessible and safe space for everyone to use. It's rich in resources. The staff are so supportive. These are my reasons for why I love SFPIRG, and I'm sure the list goes on." – SFPIRG Board Member

"I was in my first year and I remember coming into the SFPIRG space and falling in love with the sunlight coming through the giant windows and the comfortable seats with colourful pillows placed across from a vast and magical library." – SFPIRG Board Member

"SFPIRG is a place where you can relax, be yourself, and have fun! For me, like many other students, SFPIRG became a home on campus. More important though than the skills and experience that I gained, were the friendships and connections I formed." – SFPIRG Work Study Student

“Through SFPIRG and the other Rotunda Groups, I am slowly learning to be a member of a kinder, more generous, more compassionate and more inclusive community - and that is so valuable to me given the oppressive societies I grew up in.” – SFU Student

“Being involved in campus and community social & environmental justice work has made a huge difference in my graduate life. I am no longer simply discussing the issues of the day in seminars, but am practicing how to put those ideas into action with the SFPIRG community.” – SFPIRG Action Group Organizer

“Being on the SFPIRG board has been enlightening, challenging and rewarding. SFPIRG supports students & the campus community in their efforts towards making the world a better place, and the most fulfilling thing is knowing that I’m a part of that effort.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“My experience with SFPIRG has been overwhelmingly positive. Having a place to anchor the volunteer experience I need in order to obtain employment in the area of social justice has been very beneficial.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“I feel very fortunate to have been in a position that helps me assist students in changing our school community and raising awareness of anti-oppression issues.” – SFPIRG Work Study Student

“I have met so many passionate & driven individuals at SFPIRG and I’ve been exposed to a wide variety of perspectives on social issues. The centre has given me the ability to grow my network of compassionate people and allowed me to find my passion and voice within activism and advocacy.” – SFPIRG Action Group Organizer

“SFPIRG is my favourite place on campus... I really found myself in the community at SFPIRG, and because of this, there will always be a place in my heart for this beautiful student-led organization.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“It’s a bit sappy to say but SFPIRG has become this place that’s a bit like home away from home. I love the fact that I have this amazing resource, not only for school related stuff, but for me and everything I do.” – SFPIRG Work Study Student

“I am really enthusiastic about being a part of this incredible community, with people who care about the same types of social and environmental justice as I do, as well as the creation of awareness of other types of oppression and discrimination.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“SFPIRG has positively impacted my undergrad experience. I have gained various skills throughout my volunteer time here. Along with meeting new people and making friends, I have learnt how to manage the library.” – SFU Student

“As cliché as it sounds, this workshop truly put us into another’s shoes through making us

aware of the diversity of individuals and contentious issues regarding property around us.“ – SFSS Board Member

“SFPIRG played a fundamental role in facilitating my transition into SFU and in helping me to discover my passion and my voice. SFPIRG has a place for everyone -- I encourage you to drop by and see for yourself!” – SFPIRG Action Group Organizer

“The research I did with SFPIRG allowed me to write my final paper for my class, while simultaneously giving back to my local community. It engaged my education in a way that I had not previously experienced, and I highly recommend getting involved!” – SFU Student

“I am thrilled to be a part of this non-profit organization that has given me an avenue to engage in these issues my heart is heavy for. I look forward to ... building a sustainable vision and engaging the community around us.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“It was quite plain to me that the organization is an inclusive safe space that acts as a launchpad for students and members of the community, to engage with, and actively participate in social and environmental justice issues.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“SFPIRG is an important hub of positive social change and improvement. It is an amazing place to come together, a community, where you can be yourself and work towards the things you are most passionate about.” – SFPIRG Board Member

“Your conscious efforts to create a safe and inclusive space are much appreciated.” – SFU Student

“Enlightening and a good reminder of things we overlook as members of society regarding privilege.” – SFSS Board Member

“I feel like I now have a good foundation to intentionally be more inclusive and aware of my worldviews.” – SFU Staff Member

“Important input on accessibility [in the context of the] structural background of organizing and facilitating an event.” – SFU Student

“Good balance between introductory info and detailed / deep theory.” – SFU Student

“I feel inspired to learn more about intersectionality and find ways to integrate this learning into my personal and professional life.” – SFU Staff Member

“An amazing facilitator that put our group at ease, moved us through the content, provided multiple ways to understand the content, and wove it all together with serious examples, room to begin to understand the impact of this work, and with humour!” – SFU Staff Member

“Felt like a safe, truly non-oppressive space to learn and question.” – SFU Community Member

“Their ability to engage, share stories and open up a safe space for dialogue was refreshing.” – SFU Staff Member

“Fantastic presentation, well organized, open atmosphere, open facilitator with great info and a good mind for explanation.” – SFSS Board Member

“Handled facilitation challenges with sensitivity and compassion.” – SFU Community Member

“This has been a really great experience, both personally and professionally.” – SFU Community Member

“I appreciated the opportunity to think reflexively about the university, oppression, and intersectionality.” – SFU Student

“The workshop was rich, and full of great info (but not overwhelming). Great because it was specific to SFU community (students), and also presented ideas I can use in my community off-campus as well.” – SFU Student

“Took the time to establish safe space, very knowledgeable, open, and inclusive of all people in the room, and their social locations.” – SFU Community Member

“It was great to learn so much without drowning in technical jargon. Also, the environment they created was super safe, and I felt comfortable and so honoured to attend.” – SFU Community Member

“I came in knowing almost nothing and came out knowing much more!” – SFU Student

“This was an amazing workshop that opened up dialogue and created a safe space for people to share.” – SFU Community Member

“The workshop left me feeling informed and empowered.” – SFU Staff Member

“So much community building! Love it! I want more!” – SFU Community Member

SIMON FRASER PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP SOCIETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AUGUST 31, 2016

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of
Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group Society

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group Society, which comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2016 and the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

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

Auditor's responsibility

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

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

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group Society as at August 31, 2016, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. As required by the BC Society Act, we report that, in our opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

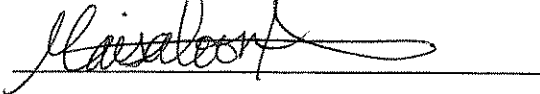
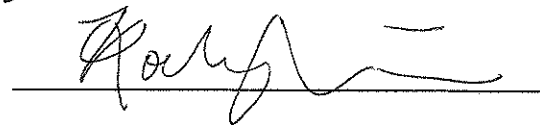
Coquitlam, BC
February 8, 2017

W. Bruce & Associates Ltd
Chartered Professional Accountants

SIMON FRASER PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AUGUST 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	\$ 77,585	\$ 59,516
Accounts receivable	128	2,800
Prepaid expenses	<u>2,697</u>	<u>2,863</u>
	<u>\$ 80,410</u>	<u>\$ 65,179</u>
 LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,200
Due to government agencies	<u>6,287</u>	<u>7,629</u>
	<u>9,587</u>	<u>10,829</u>
 NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	<u>70,823</u>	<u>54,350</u>
	<u>\$ 80,410</u>	<u>\$ 65,179</u>
 Commitments (Note 4)		

Approved by the Board of Directors:

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

**SIMON FRASER PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016**

	2016	2015	Budget
Revenues			
Membership fees	\$ 216,740	\$ 215,981	\$ 216,000
Grant and project revenue	7,883	21,875	2,000
Interest	8	7	6
Miscellaneous	<u>11,407</u>	<u>5,914</u>	<u>2,546</u>
	<u>236,038</u>	<u>243,777</u>	<u>220,552</u>
Administrative expenses			
Accessibility	8,413	-	3,600
Grants committee	1,158	3,159	2,000
Office and administration	20,895	41,112	14,798
Organization development	7,153	26,517	10,202
Operating (rent)	6,608	4,067	6,535
Outreach and media	688	2,346	850
Professional fees	3,417	3,279	3,180
Program and education	8,870	14,020	6,000
Research and education	-	-	200
Wages and benefits	<u>162,363</u>	<u>169,132</u>	<u>160,115</u>
	<u>219,565</u>	<u>263,632</u>	<u>207,480</u>
Excess / (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	16,473	(19,855)	13,072
Net assets, beginning of year	<u>54,350</u>	<u>74,205</u>	
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 70,823</u>	<u>\$ 54,350</u>	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

**SIMON FRASER PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW
FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016**

	2016	2015
Operating activities		
Excess/(deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year	\$ 16,473	\$ (19,855)
Net change in non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable	2,672	(1,318)
Prepaid expenses	166	2,539
Accounts payable	100	100
Due to government agencies	<u>(1,342)</u>	<u>7,468</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents	18,069	(11,066)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year	<u>59,516</u>	<u>70,582</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year	<u>\$ 77,585</u>	<u>\$ 59,516</u>

Cash and cash equivalents consists of:

Bank	\$ 77,080	\$ 59,062
Petty cash and floats	405	354
Shares	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
	<u>\$ 77,585</u>	<u>\$ 59,516</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

SIMON FRASER PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP SOCIETY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AUGUST 31, 2016

1. Purpose of Organization

The organization was formed to operate a public interest research group for the students of Simon Fraser University. The organization is incorporated under the BC Society's Act as a not for profit organization and is exempt from income tax under the Income Tax Act.

2. Revenue recognition

Restricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the general fund in the year in which the funds are received. No such funds were received in the past.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the general fund in the year received or receivable if the amount to be recorded can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assumed.

3. Economic dependency

The organization receives 92% of its income from the amounts assessed to students of Simon Fraser University

4. Commitments

The organization has signed a 4 year 3 month lease starting in July 2013. The minimum future lease payments are:

2017	\$ 9,150
2018	\$ 763
2019	\$ -
2020	\$ -
2021	\$ -

5. Financial Instruments

The organization uses risk management to monitor and manage its risk arising from financial instruments. These risks include credit risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk. The Organization does not use any derivative financial instruments to mitigate these risks

.1 Credit risk

Credit risks arise from two sources: cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. Cash and cash equivalents are deposited with reputable, major financial institutions to limit the credit risk exposure. The credit risk from counter parties not paying accounts receivable is not considered to be significant.

SIMON FRASER PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP SOCIETY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AUGUST 31, 2016

.2 Interest rate risk

The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to the following financial instruments: cash and cash equivalents and investments in interest bearing securities. Changes in interest rates can affect the fair value of investments and the cash flows related to interest income and expense.

.3 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk exposure is dependent on the receipt of funds from provincial government grants, membership fees and other sources to enable the Organization to pay its liabilities as they become due.