

SFPIRG was an important catalyst for my growth as an undergraduate student in deepening my analysis of social justice and equipping me with new perspectives and skills that have helped me both personally and professionally. SFPIRG is a much needed resource and a campus/community space that made my experience at SFU more meaningful by providing me with: opportunities to connect my learning to the real world, a safe and accessible space to explore my own experiences as a young woman of colour living on colonized unceded coast salish territories; and support for my grassroots organizing efforts towards creating a just and sustainable world. As a former SFPIRG board member, outreach volunteer, action group member, library patron, and workshop participant, I gained important skills in: consensus decision-making, workshop facilitation, public speaking, outreach, non-profit oversight and management, hiring, fund allocation, budget approval, grant administration, writing and changing organizational policy, collective agreement negotiation, and event coordination. Today, I continue to use these skills and experiences to inform my current community organizing for social and economic justice, as well as in my paid work coordinating non-profit operations. PIRGs will always have a place in my heart and I hope that more students and community organizers can continue to benefit from the invaluable services that SFPIRG can offer!

-Victoria (active at SFPIRG 2009-2014)