



SIMON FRASER
PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021



**Let's build a just and compassionate
world together**





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COMMITMENT TO LAND AND SOLIDARITY

We acknowledge that SFPIRG occupies unceded Indigenous land of Coast Salish peoples. Unceded means that this land was never surrendered, relinquished or handed over in any way.

To our current knowledge this includes the lands and peoples of:

Musqueam
(Burnaby, Vancouver,
and Surrey campuses)

Semiahmoo
(Surrey campus)

Skwxwú7mesh
(Burnaby, Vancouver,
and Surrey campuses)

Kwikwetlem
(Burnaby and Surrey
campuses)

Katzie
(Surrey campus)

Qayqayt
(Surrey campus)

Kwantlen
(Surrey campus)

Tsawwassen
(Surrey campus)

Tsleil-Waututh
(Burnaby,
Vancouver, and
Surrey campuses)



We support the varied strategies that Indigenous peoples are using to protect their land and their communities, and we commit to dedicating time and resources to working in solidarity. We acknowledge that we, as people living and working on unceded and occupied lands, are accountable to the laws and protocols of the people who have cared for this land since time immemorial. It is our intention to continue learning how to honour this responsibility.



WHAT AND WHO IS SFPIRG?

The Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG) is your student-led and student-funded resource centre on campus for social and environmental justice. Join us to build a more just and compassionate world together!

Our mission

Our mission is to engage students and community in social and environmental justice. We do this through education, community research, direct action, and organizing. Throughout all our work, we aim to build communities working together for justice and liberation.

Our history

PIRGs were established across North American campuses in the 1970's and 80's as a way for students to advocate for social change and progress student issues as important national issues. SFPIRG was established through referendum by students on SFU's Burnaby campus in 1981. Since then, SFPIRG has engaged in all kinds of exciting work and has positively impacted the lives of SFU students and the wider community.

Our governance

We are a registered non-profit organization under the BC Societies Act with our own constitution and bylaws making us independent from the University, the Simon Fraser Student Society, and the Graduate Student Society.


We are governed by a student-led board of directors who guide the direction, vision and growth of SFPIRG. We also have a team of three unionized staff who carry out the work and hold institutional memory of the organization. SFPIRG uses consensus decision-making as the basis for our work.



OUR VALUES



SFPIRG brings together a diverse range of people and our work is centred on a shared set of values. SFPIRG's organizational values serve as a guide for the work of SFPIRG. We invite everyone to come and talk with us about these values and to work with us in translating them into action!



Inclusive and Accessible Space

We recognise and respond to diverse access needs and are committed to the principles of disability justice.

Accountability, Integrity, Wholeness, and Healing

We are accountable to our membership and hold space where people can be their whole selves. We believe that this work requires continual learning, growth, curiosity, compassion, and self reflexivity.

Empowering Student and Community Leadership

We value individuals and communities working and speaking from their own experience, social locations, community histories and diversity of approaches that guide the SFPIRG.

Sustainability

We strive to live in harmony with our environment and minimize our ecological footprint.

Intersectional Anti-oppression

We acknowledge that systems of oppression exist, are interconnected, and multi-faceted. This requires us to challenge them in multiple ways and to ensure that our every day actions match our values.

Indigenous Sovereignty and Decolonisation

We acknowledge that we, as people living and working on unceded and occupied lands, are accountable to the laws and protocols of the people who have cared for this land since time immemorial.

Body Sovereignty and Diversity

We resist violence against all marginalised beings and bodies and we support the right to exist in a social reality that allows for non-coercive consent and reproductive rights.

Respectful Communication

We commit to engaging in open and respectful dialogue with anyone who is willing to do the same.

OUR TEAM



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 2020-April 2021 Directors

Aiswariya Alagu-Sunder

Annie Bhuiyan

Saima Chowdhury

Adriano D'Alessandro

Fahim Faysal

Constantin Lozitsky

Susan Naseem

Pariya Zabihi

May 2021-April 2022 Directors

Palwasha Saeed

Hannah Male

Gurleen Aujla

STAFF COLLECTIVE

Susan Chiv, Director of Administration

Kalamity Hildebrandt, Director of Research and Education

Gabby Doebeli, Director of Engagement

Chantelle Spicer, Director of Engagement



OUR TEAM



WORK STUDY STUDENTS & TEMPORARY STAFF

Fall 2020

Istiaque Akib - Communications & Social Media Coordinator

Jhanvi Indatissa - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Fegor Obuwoma - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Moroti Soji-George - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Spring 2021

Yasar Akib - Communications & Social Media Coordinator

Narges Bastan - Electoral Officer

Long Do - Communications & Social Media Coordinator

Fegor Obuwoma - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Jhanvi Indatissa - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Rakiya Momoh - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Amal Poznikoff - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Moroti Soji-George - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Summer 2021

Ngoc Le - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Fegor Obuwoma - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Amelia Luong - Communications & Social Media Coordinator

Long Do - Communications & Social Media Coordinator

Amal Poznikoff - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer

Moroti Soji-George - Mutual Aid & Alternative Community Safety Organizer



YEAR IN REVIEW



Year in Numbers

37

workshops

695

registrants
for events

30

volunteers

2,000+

social media
interactions

Signing the sublease agreement + finalisation of the space campaign

In October 2020 SFPIRG moved into our new space in the Student Union Building and at the end of April 2021 we officially signed a sublease with the SFSS.

This sublease guarantees long-term space for SFPIRG and stability after many uncertain years of student activists campaigning and fighting alongside other threatened Rotunda groups to resist displacement and eviction from SFU Burnaby campus.

We are so grateful to our communities for all of your support that made this possible. While SFPIRG offices remain closed to the public due to COVID-19, we look forward to safely welcoming everyone to our new space in the near future.



Student
organizing
works!

YEAR IN REVIEW



Our mandate and the diverse communities we serve allow us to be engaged in a wide range of work.

The main parts of our work include

Education

**Community
research**

**Action &
organizing**

**Building
community**

Education

The impact of COVID-19 in our communities continues to affect our ability to put on accessible in-person educational programming. However, the role of education through social media has allowed us to keep building awareness in our community on issues of gender-based violence, climate change, Palestinian oppression, abolition, trans rights, consent, and more.

During the reporting period, we did host spaces for learning together including:

Social Justice Office Hours

TA/TM Equity Support

Sexualized Violence, Transformative Justice and the Shift Away from Criminalization workshop (SAAM)



YEAR IN REVIEW



Action and Organising

Transformative Justice Summer School

In July 2021, SFPIRG put on 4 full-day interactive online workshops on a range of topics connected to transformative justice, including police abolition and getting cops off campus, non-coercive approaches to mental health, and mutual aid. Registration was in the hundreds, reflecting a growing collective awareness of the violence that the police so often perpetrate against members of marginalized populations, and an interest in building alternative safety and support systems in our communities.



The Summer School was supported by many campus and community groups, including:

- SFU Students of Caribbean and African Ancestry (SOCA)
- SFU Disability and Neurodiversity Alliance (SFU DNA)
- The Simon Fraser Student Society (SFSS)
- The AMS Sexual Assault Support Centre (SASC) at UBC
- The UBC Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Office (SVPRO),
- The UBC Social Justice Centre
- Pivot Legal Society
- PeerNetBC
- Defund604 Network
- TSSU Solidarity and Social Justice Committee



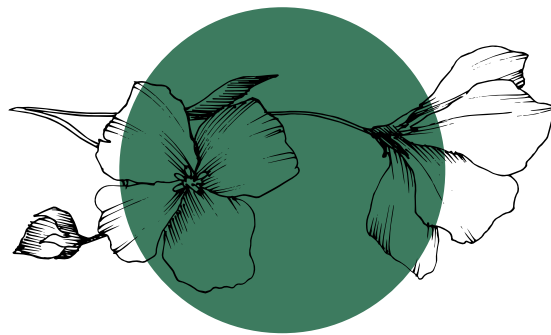
The events featured 21 speakers or panelists from 13 different organizations on and off campus, providing many perspectives on abolition and futures without police. Through breakout rooms and interactive sessions, participants were also able to discuss and dream what this looks like in their lives and how we work together towards more just futures.

YEAR IN REVIEW



Growing from the Transformative Justice Summer School

The work of learning and leaning towards transformative justice, abolition, and community-building did not end with the Summer School. Following the School, SFPIRG continued to organise with students on campus through the coalition known as No Cops on Campus. This collective is made up of SFU faculty, students, staff, and union executives who share the goal of eliminating police and policing presence on all SFU campuses while pushing SFU to take immediate harm reduction actions that foster real community safety.



Volunteer Projects

Each semester, SFPIRG runs volunteer programs that engage students in collectives that invite learning, skill building, and growth.

Relocation
Team

Mutual Aid &
Alternative
Community Safety
Organising Team

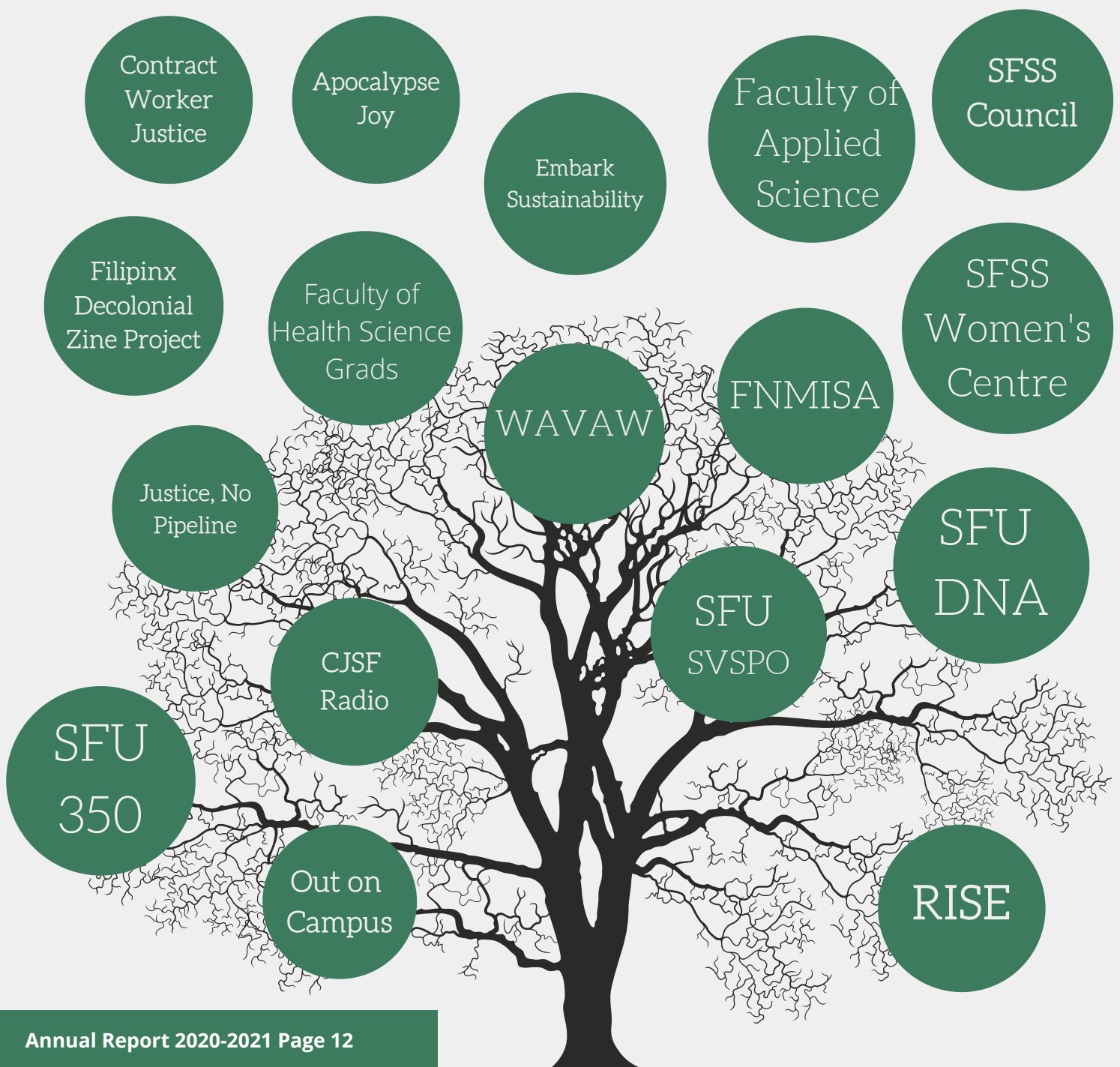
Communications
and Social Media
Collective

YEAR IN REVIEW



Building Community

In our reporting period, we had the pleasure of working alongside and in solidarity with many amazing communities of collectives. This might look like SFPIRG endorsing campaigns or actions, learning together, or providing resources. It always looks like building community that support one another and creates sustainable social justice and environmental movements.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

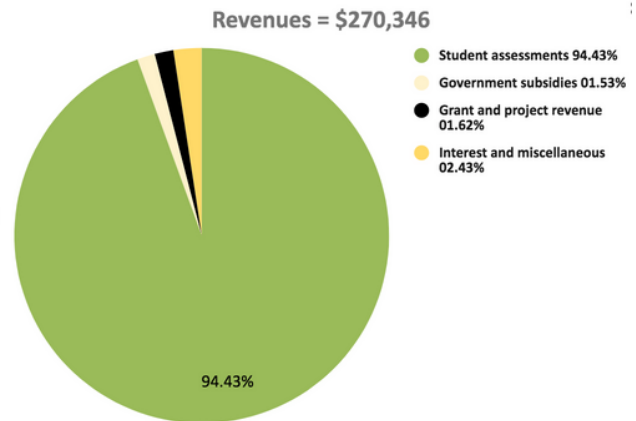


Below is a summary of SFPIRG's revenue and expenses during the September 2020-August 2021 fiscal year. The full audited financial statements can be found at <https://sfpirg.ca>.

Revenues

total revenue: \$270,346

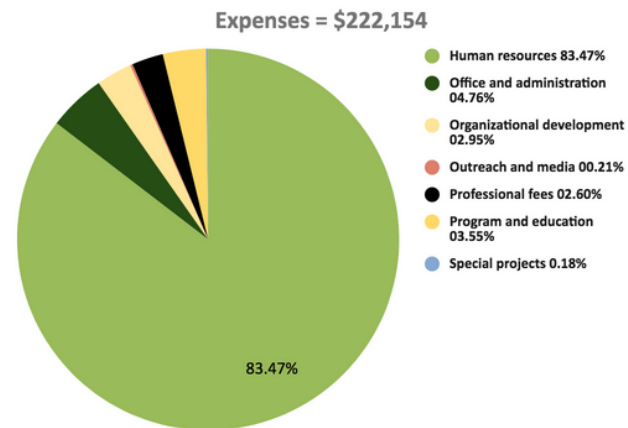
Student assessments 94.43%	94.43%	255,276
Government subsidies 01.53%	1.53%	4,125
Grant and project revenue 01.62%	1.62%	4,389
Interest and miscellaneous 02.43%	2.43%	6,556
	100.00%	270,346



Expenses

total expenses: \$222,154

Accessibility 02.27%	2.27%	5,040
Human resources 83.47%	83.47%	185,443
Office and administration 04.76%	4.76%	10,576
Organizational development 02.95%	2.95%	6,556
Outreach and media 00.21%	0.21%	456
Professional fees 02.60%	2.60%	5,775
Program and education 03.55%	3.55%	7,897
Special projects 0.18%	0.18%	401
	100.00%	222,154





YOUR CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ON CAMPUS

email: info@sfpirg.ca

website: www.sfpirg.ca

facebook: www.facebook.com/sfpirg

instagram: [@sfpirg](https://www.instagram.com/sfpirg)

twitter: [@sfpirg](https://twitter.com/sfpirg)