



ACGC
ALBERTA COUNCIL FOR
GLOBAL COOPERATION

ANNUAL

REPORT

2019 – 2020

ALL PEOPLE CAN FULFILL THEIR POTENTIAL AND PROSPER,
BECOME ENGAGED CITIZENS IN PEACEFUL, JUST, AND INCLUSIVE
SOCIETIES, AND THRIVE IN A HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE WORLD.



ACGC
ALBERTA COUNCIL FOR
GLOBAL COOPERATION

MISSION

Mobilize Albertans to become global citizens engaged in sustainable development. We do this by building the capacity of network organizations, representing members' interests with government and others, and increasing the awareness, knowledge, and connections of Albertans in global issues and sustainable development.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

EXECUTIVE

Chair

Danielle Gibbie – *Operation Eyesight Universal*

Vice-Chair

Jamie Charlebois – *University of Calgary International*

Treasurer

Fredda Cherlet – *Nafasi Opportunity Society*

Secretary

Ana Hoepfner – *CAWST*

Member-at-large

Bill Howe – *Edmonton Public School Board*

Executive Director

Leah Ettarh

DIRECTORS

Bashir Ahmed – *SCERDO*

Nina Delling – *United Nations Association in Canada
(Edmonton Branch)*

Wendy Fehr – *CAUSE Canada*

Monica Nino – *Development and Peace, Caritas Canada*

Flora Trebi-Ollennu – *TKOFCD*

Thank you to the following directors who completed their service with the board during the year:

Thomas Coldwell – *Mennonite Central Committee*

Chris Enns – *Bow Valley College*

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

There is no underestimating the impact the events over the past year have brought upon the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation, our members, the international development sector in Alberta, and the communities in which we serve.

Before we continue, we must first acknowledge our collective sadness for the many individuals who have lost their lives, and will lose their lives, during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and the many families and communities impacted by these losses. The ripple effects of the virus on our economies and social systems continue to grow, and the significant social progress made over the previous decades is at risk of being reversed. But while we are still in the midst of uncertainty, we find hope in the daily acts of solidarity, stories of resilience, and incredible commitment of people all over the world to break down barriers and work together to end the crises for all.

We are incredibly moved by the actions of ACGC members in addressing the impacts of Covid-19 in Alberta and around the world. For many ACGC members, they have struggled to find ways to continue this work without the funding provided by the Alberta Government through the Community Initiatives Program International Development grant, which was cut before the pandemic from the Alberta budget after 45 years, in October 2019. While it is clear that the financial impacts of Covid-19 on government budgets will be felt for decades to come, ACGC is committed to raising our voice and advocating that Canada not only maintain, but increase our commitment to official development assistance.

The Covid-19 crises has exposed great fissures in our communities – from gender inequality, economic inequality, and most notably racial inequality, brought to the forefront by the Black Lives Matter movement. While the road ahead will not be easy, the collective crises has unleashed a heightened collective awareness of the need to make immediate, transformative change. As organizations committed to global social justice, we have the responsibility to harness this moment, centre the voices of the most vulnerable, and expedite the transformational community changes we have been fighting for. The need to come together in solidarity has never been stronger. Indeed, as ACGC's motto states, we are 'Stronger Together'.

On behalf of the Board and Staff at ACGC, we are pleased to have the opportunity to continue to serve and support each other through the challenges the coming year will bring.



Leah Ettarh
Executive Director



Danielle Gibbie
Chair of the
Board of Directors

BE A KNOWLEDGE HUB

“Farmers Helping Farmers is benefiting in several ways from our participation in Spur Change programming to date. Through our Global Affairs Canada funding, we are moving our work to a larger scale and more formal project management approaches, and Spur Change is providing information and resources to help us in this progression. As well, Spur Change events are helping us become more connected with and integrated into the community of small and medium international development organizations across Canada, providing both valuable information and insights, and a greater sense of community. Thanks!”

Wendy MacDonald, Farmers Helping Farmers



Spur Change participants at first annual conference, hosted by ACGC in Edmonton in November 2019

ACGC plays a key role in facilitating capacity building through knowledge sharing, skill building, resource coordination, and connection to the broader international development sector. In 2019-2020, ACGC focused on launching the new 5-year Spur Change Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing Program for Small and Medium Organizations (SMOs). ACGC administers this program on behalf of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial and

Regional Councils (ICN), while national staff and ICN representatives guide the program in order to meet the needs of SMOs in both official languages in regions across Canada. ACGC played host to the first national conference in Edmonton in November 2019, with 116 youth, teachers, and SMO representatives from coast-to-coast-to-coast engaging in peer-to-peer learning.



Change for Children Association: Indigenous data collectors conducting baseline study and gender analysis in Nicaragua

This year also saw the launch of the Fund for Innovation and transformation (FIT), a five-year \$16.5 million national program of the Inter-Council Network administered by the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation. The program is designed to provide funding to Canadian small and medium organizations to test innovative solutions to specific development challenges that advance gender equality and empower women and girls in the global

South. Out of the ten proposals submitted by Albertan-based organizations in the first funding round, Change for Children Association, and Embrace International Foundation received funding for their projects. ACGC continues to ensure Albertan organizations are able to take full advantage of this new opportunity.

RAISE A COLLECTIVE VOICE

Read Zainab Azhar and Amanda Ncube's experiences as delegates on the Together Alberta website: together.acgc.ca/the-stories



Zainab Azhar speaking at the United Nations Civil Society SDG Forum on September 25, 2019

ACGC is dedicated to consulting a diverse set of stakeholders and building a collective voice that will advance the interests of members while building positive government relations. Locally, ACGC took action to voice concerns and extreme disappointment when the Government of Alberta's October 2019 budget cut the Community Initiatives Program International Development Grant program after 45 years.

Internationally, ACGC received Consultative Status with the UN ECOSOC in June 2019, allowing us to facilitate participation of Albertans in UN forums. While Covid-19 abruptly halted the travel plans of Alberta delegates to attend the Commission on the Status of Women in New York in March 2020, ACGC was able to ensure their participation in other key forums virtually.

ACGC is a member of the Inter-Council Network, a coalition of the eight provincial and regional Councils for International Cooperation committed to global social justice and social change. The ICN provides a national forum in which the Councils collaborate for improved effectiveness of the sector and identify common priorities for collective action. As leaders in public engagement and rooted in communities from coast-to-coast-to-coast, the ICN provides a platform for bringing

regional knowledge and priorities to the national level. ACGC is also a proud member of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, participating in collective action on national policy issues. ACGC staff participate in committees and initiatives within these coalitions, in order to ensure the voices and concerns of our member organizations are heard.



Representatives of the Inter-Council Network said farewell to Heather McPherson, ACGC's Executive Director, after Heather won a seat in the Edmonton-Strathcona riding in the October 2019 Federal Election. Heather McPherson served as ACGC's Executive Director from November 2008 until October 2019.

PROMOTE GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

ACGC has built expertise and prominence in engaging educators and youth in schools and championing young leaders as emerging global citizens. The new 'Inspiring Action for Global Citizenship' project, funded by Global Affairs between 15 May 2019 - 31 March 2023, will allow the organization to expand and reach new audiences, while continuing initiatives ACGC is known for, including

International Development Week. In celebration of 30 years of IDW in 2020, ACGC participated in a live national broadcast online, showcasing the work of the sector from coast-to-coast-to-coast. ACGC also marked the 9th Annual Top 30 Under 30 award, with a celebration at the new Calgary Central Library.

Visit the Top 30 Website at top30under30.acgc.ca



Top 30 Under 30 2020 at the Calgary Central Library

“This was an excellent “field trip” for my students. It provided a point of view that they may have not considered if it weren’t for this opportunity. It certainly grabbed the attention of students with its novel format - even the reluctant learners!”

Educator, InSight Project



The InSight Project at the Calgary Public Library, February 2020 (Credit: Sam Brooks)

In January 2020, ACGC launched the 'A Better World is InSight' project in partnership with the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Councils for International Cooperation. The InSight Project is a 360° video cylinder installation touring schools and libraries across Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. Through immersive 360° video and interactive workshops, InSight brings stories of global development to life for youth and members of the public. Three unique

workshops provide InSight audiences the opportunity to learn about the unique challenges women and girls face across the globe through developing empathy and understanding in becoming global citizens. ACGC hosted the installation in five locations between January - March 2020. Unfortunately, the rapidly developing Covid-19 pandemic caused the initiative to be placed on hold until it is safe to resume.

Visit the InSight Project www.insightproject.ca

CHAMPION THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ACGC works to champion the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and bring together Alberta sectors and actors working locally and globally to advance the SDGs. During the year, ACGC hosted multi-stakeholder roundtables on the SDGs across the province, and launched the SDG Hub, a program aimed at educating and empowering youth age 18-24 to take action on the SDGs in their communities. Stories emerging from

these initiatives are shared on an expanded Together Alberta website, featuring a map and blog highlighting the actions Albertans are taking to achieve the SDGs. Through providing a platform for dialogue, knowledge sharing, and action, ACGC helps ensure Albertans are actively engaged in the global efforts to end poverty, fight inequality, and address climate change by 2030.

Visit the Together Alberta website at together.acgc.ca



The Sustainable Development Goals Hub retreat in Jasper, Alberta in May 2019

Inspiring Action for Global Citizenship Impact

806,000 people reached with communications

4,755 participated in activities

72 youth workshops conducted

98% of participants indicated an improvement in their level of understanding of global issues, gender equality, and the SDGs

80% of respondents reported participation in the SDG hub increased their awareness of the benefits of serving their community and addressing the SDGs locally

SDG Youth Hub Impact

23 youth participants

18 SDG Projects created

2,547 service hours logged

Spur Change Impact

290 unique SMOs engaged

897 participants in learning opportunities

17 youth participated in Youth Champion Program from Benin, Tanzania, Haiti, Colombia, Ethiopia, Palestine, Zambia, Nicaragua, Kenya, Cambodia, and Canada

82% of Spur Change participant SMOs indicated an increased understanding of good development practices promoting gender equality and the SDGs

ENSURE ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AND IMPACT

Audit completed by SVS Group LLP Chartered Professional Accountants. A full financial statement can be accessed at: acgc.ca/2020financialstatement

2020 Revenue



2020 Expenses



ACGC is grateful for the contributions from the following external partners which helped us realize our mission this year:

- Global Affairs Canada
- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Government of Alberta Community Initiatives Program
- United Nations Association of Canada: Canada Green Corps
- Plan International Canada

Statement of Financial Position

as of March 31, 2020

2020 2019

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 477,830	\$ 550,147
Accounts receivables	\$ 15,102	\$ 9,135
Prepaid expenses and deposits	\$ 893	\$ 326
	\$ 493,825	\$ 559,608
Capital Assets	\$ 1,924	-
Total	\$ 495,749	\$ 559,608
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 25,311	\$ 5,768
Deferred contributions	\$ 447,271	\$ 543,403
	\$ 472,582	\$ 549,171
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	\$ 1,924	-
Unrestricted	\$ 21,243	\$ 10,437
	\$ 23,167	\$ 10,437
Total	\$ 495,749	\$ 559,608

Revenues	2020	%	2019	%
GAC: Inspiring Action	\$ 407,476	35.4%	\$ 306,042	64.5%
GAC: Spur Change	\$ 570,095	49.6%	\$ 25,259	5.3%
ESDC: SDG Mapping	\$ 48,469	4.2%	\$ 50,521	10.6%
CIP Alberta	\$ 19,038	1.7%	\$ 10,553	2.2%
Annual SDG Conference			\$ 48,157	10.1%
Membership	\$ 3,345	0.3%	\$ 12,626	2.7%
Canada Summer Jobs			\$ 9,078	1.9%
Other Income	\$ 4,533	0.4%	\$ 6,572	1.4%
Workshop	\$ 1,698	0.1%	\$ 2,544	0.5%
Speaker Bureau Project	\$ 1,781	0.2%	\$ 2,510	0.5%
Canada Service Corp (SDG Hub)	\$ 88,546	7.7%	\$ 963	0.2%
Interest Income	\$ 5	0.0%	\$ 340	0.1%
United Nations Association of Canada	\$ 5,325	0.5%		
Total	\$ 1,150,311	100.0%	\$ 475,165	100.0%
Expenses	2020	%	2019	%
ACGC capacity building			\$ 18,574	3.9%
Administration	\$ 84,563	7.4%	\$ 37,428	7.9%
Amortization	\$ 730	0.1%		
Communications and publications	\$ 73,598	6.4%	\$ 934	7.9%
Events	\$ 135,975	11.8%		
Inter-council network			\$ 5,571	1.2%
International Development Week			\$ 9,687	2.0%
Public engagement project			\$ 7,500	1.6%
SDG Hub Project			\$ 963	0.2%
SDG Mapping Project			\$ 61,074	12.9%
SDG Symposium			\$ 63,245	13.3%
Salaries and benefits	\$ 606,214	52.7%	\$ 280,097	58.9%
Sector collaboration			\$ 4,292	0.9%
Speakers Bureau Project			\$ 2,510	0.5%
Subcontractors	\$ 61,909	5.4%		
Travel	\$ 174,592	15.2%		
Total	\$ 1,137,581	99.0%	\$ 491,875	103.5%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 12,730	1.0%	\$ (16,710)	(3.5)%

ACGC MEMBERS 2019 – 2020

Bridges of Hope



BURMAN UNIVERSITY



Development and Peace
CARITAS CANADA



MARDA LOOP JUSTICE FILM FEST



Calgary Board of Education



The Alberta Teachers' Association



Change for Children



United Nations Association in Canada
Calgary Branch



United Nations Association In Canada
Association canadienne pour les Nation Unies



Visit: acgc.ca