

Annual Report 2021-2022



ACGC

ALBERTA COUNCIL FOR
GLOBAL COOPERATION



Our Vision

All people can fulfill their **potential and prosper**, become engaged citizens in **peaceful, just**, and **inclusive** societies, and thrive in a **healthy, sustainable** world.

Our 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.

Our Values

Respect, Inclusiveness, Equality, Empowerment, Human Rights, Collaboration, Accountability, Transparency, Sustainability, and Mutual Learning.

STRONGER TOGETHER

It is with great pleasure that we have served the organization for the past year. Continuous waves of the Covid-19 pandemic have posed many challenges but, as ACGC's motto reminds us, we are 'stronger together.'

For the first time in our records, the Board of Directors waived membership fees to recognize the financial challenges caused by the pandemic. Our programming required significant risk management and scenario planning to operate but we found creative ways to build community, provide opportunity, and go deeper into our work. The Board of Directors also took the opportunity to dive into deep collective work, updating policies to drive more equitable, inclusive, and safe practices at our organization. Through a shared vision, we also began on a new 2023-2026 strategic plan. Coming out of the pandemic, our organization will have clearer priorities and stronger practices to weather future challenges.

While we faced significant challenges, we found time as a network to celebrate. Since being founded in December 1973, ACGC has undergone four different iterations and, combined, will celebrate its 50th year in 2023. In the lead-up to this anniversary, we marked a smaller milestone on 7 June 2021, our 25th year in our current form, with a small online gathering of the former and current board and staff, including three former executive directors. As we navigated

one of the worst waves of the pandemic, the event was a great opportunity to reflect on our network's rich history, the collective impact we have had over the years and, most importantly, the strong bonds, relationships and connections built through being part of ACGC. We are honoured to have been but a small part of this larger history and look forward to the impact we will have together in the years to come.

In solidarity,

 *Leah Ettarh* *Felipe Civita Ferreira*

Leah Ettarh, Executive Director & **Felipe Civita Ferreira**, Chairperson

198

ORGANIZATIONS
IMPACTED

2904

YOUTH
ENGAGED

467

EDUCATORS
SUPPORTED

Our Impact

4720

PROGRAM
PARTICIPANTS

811,983

REACHED
ONLINE

Promoting Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing

Providing opportunities for organizations to build knowledge and making space for critical reflection are pillars of ACGC's work. Throughout the year, we offered various opportunities, from communities of practice to technical training in results-based management, and concentrated efforts to address racism in international cooperation by offering a series on human-centred design. While delayed due to Covid-19, we launched our new leadership program, *Confluence: Where Leaders in International Cooperation Meet*, with a small pilot cohort. Through the **Spur Change Program**, our national collaborative program with the **Inter-Council Network** (ICN), we continued to be able to support small and medium organizations (SMO) to build their capacity. Also in collaboration with the ICN, we tested innovations and shared learning through the **Fund for Innovation and Transformation** (FIT) by helping organizations apply for and manage funding from Global Affairs Canada through the Development Impact Window for SMOs. ACGC prioritizes being adaptive and responsive to organizational needs, tapping into the significant expertise of our membership and fostering collaboration in order to build greater sector capacity.



“Confluence allowed me to connect with other leaders in our sector to share ideas, collaborate, mentor and be mentored.

This program is vital to the success of our sector!”

Confluence 2021 Participant

Engaging Youth In Meaningful Opportunities

ACGC prioritizes making space for youth to learn, share, and take action as critical global citizens. Despite the ongoing challenges posed by Covid-19, ACGC provided space for youth to think critically about global issues and take meaningful action to achieve the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** [SDGs]. To ensure our work is grounded in youth experience, ACGC convened youth from across Alberta to provide recommendations to support them in their journeys and actions as global citizens. This work culminated in the youth-led report, **17 Calls for the 17 SDGs**, which was presented to ACGC members and Provincial MLAs.

As a network, ACGC is able to facilitate partnerships between youth and organizations working on issues they are passionate about. In Alberta, our *SDG Youth Hub* provides an opportunity for youth to serve their communities alongside Alberta-based organizations. Nationally, the *Spur Change Youth Champion Program* enabled youth and associated SMOs to build their capacity to engage the public on global issues. We continued to recognize youth who demonstrated passion and commitment to their communities through our *Top 30 Under 30* award and spearheaded a new initiative coast-to-coast-to-coast, the *Canada SDG Youth Awards*, in partnership with the **Together|Ensemble** conference, recognizing youth-led initiatives taking meaningful action on the SDGs in Canada.



“The Hub is important because youth have the energy to mobilize these goals. They have the energy and the time and resources to do so and when we come together we can make a lot of change.”

SDG Youth Hub 2021 Participant

Supporting Global Citizenship Education

Supporting the professional learning of educators is critical to equipping the next generation of ethically and globally engaged citizens. ACGC promotes global citizenship education by equipping educators with learning opportunities, resources, and experiences for K-12 students.

The impacts of Covid-19 over the past year have added considerable strain to the education system, resulting in significant learning disruption, and added stress on educators. Through the Spur Change *Share & Learn Series* and the Alberta educator roundtables, ACGC focused on providing informal communities for educators to connect and learn from each other, where supportive relationships were fostered. To mitigate the health risks of Covid-19, ACGC hosted remote classroom workshops, conducted workshops at teachers' conventions, and moved our 360-video engagement program, *A Better World is InSight*, out of schools and into public locations where schools and the general public could visit based on their comfort level. Resources created throughout the year continued to be shared with educators on our various web pages, resource databases, and in regular tailored educator newsletters.



“ I have learned how to address gender equality in the classroom and I feel empowered as an educator. ”

Share & Learn Series Participant

National Collaboration For A Stronger Sector

As a civil-society network, it is vital that we continue to ensure civil-society space and participation in decisions that impact our communities. As one of the eight Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation that form the **Inter-Council Network**, ACGC is able to ensure Albertans are informed, engaged, and participate in national and international dialogues to drive better policy and practice in the international cooperation sector. We had the opportunity this year to meet with the new Minister for International Cooperation and new leaders at Global Affairs Canada, raising a collective voice for our members. As specialists in public engagement, our collective work focused on researching and building a knowledge base of feminist, anti-racist, and decolonial approaches to public engagement. We also continued our research into SMOs to build a broader knowledge base of this unique subset of the international cooperation sector.

Internationally, as a **UN ECOSOC** accredited organization, we facilitated Albertan participation in international forums on the issues of climate change and human trafficking. Nationally, through membership in **Cooperation Canada**, we built on our leadership pledges towards anti-racism and the prevention of sexual exploitation through participation in the **Anti-Racism in Cooperation Hub** and **Digna**. By participating in these collective actions, we addressed the issues of direction and control in the charitable sector, disseminating knowledge to our members. We also continued to drive national dialogue and action on the SDGs by being a key partner in the Together | Ensemble movement, adding value to this year's conference via the *Canada SDG Youth Awards*. We were honoured to see our work highlighted in Canada's first national report on SDG implementation, **Taking Action Together: Canada's 2021 Annual Report on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals**.



Our Finances

2021-2022



Our Funders

ACGC is appreciative of the support of the following institutional partners which made our work possible during the year.



In partnership with

Canada



Employment and
Social Development Canada



COLLEGES &
INSTITUTES
CANADA

COLLÈGES &
INSTITUTS
CANADA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2022

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 949,764	\$ 482,140
Accounts receivable	8,442	12,154
Prepaid expenses and deposits	1,183	1,393
	959,389	495,687
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 3)		
	2,143	2,945
	\$ 961,532	\$ 498,632
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 65,367	\$ 29,581
Deferred contributions (Note 6)	765,837	389,399
	831,204	418,980
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	2,143	2,945
Unrestricted	57,679	30,042
Internally restricted (Note 7)	70,506	46,665
	130,328	79,652
	\$ 961,532	\$ 498,632

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022	%	2021	%
REVENUE				
GAC grant: Spur Change (Note 8)	\$ 638,945	48.4	\$ 635,412	58.1
GAC grant: Inspiring Action	507,846	38.5	393,116	35.9
SDG Awards	89,692	6.8	-	-
Alberta SDG Hub	52,567	4.0	40,193	3.7
Canada summer jobs	9,406	0.7	8,871	0.8
Membership	-	-	7,541	0.7
Colleges and Institutes Canada	9,164	0.7	6,120	0.6
Workshop	750	0.1	2,005	0.2
Other income	10,040	0.8	191	-
Interest income	108	-	37	-
	1,318,518	100.0	1,093,486	100.0
EXPENSES				
Administration	73,528	5.6	54,176	5.0
Amortization	1,930	0.1	1,847	0.2
Communications and publications	69,880	5.3	51,137	4.7
Events	58,941	4.5	49,598	4.5
Salaries and benefits (Note 9)	858,754	65.1	718,895	65.7
Subcontractors	162,531	12.3	160,088	14.6
Travel	42,278	3.2	1,260	0.1
	1,267,842	96.1	1,037,001	94.8
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 50,676	3.9	\$ 56,485	5.2

For full audited statements visit www.acgc.ca/about-us/bylaws-and-annual-reports

Our Leadership

CHAIR

Felipe Civita Ferreira – *Norquest College*

VICE-CHAIR

Bev Carrick – *Embrace International Foundation*

TREASURER

Lorraine Swift – *Change for Children Association*

SECRETARY

Danielle Skogen – *Canadian Humanitarian*

MEMBER AT LARGE

Aditya Chaudhuri – *Engineers Without Borders, Calgary Professional Chapter*

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

Carrie Malloy – *University of Alberta, International*

Daniel Zopoula – *Bridges of Hope*

Flora Trebi Ollennu – *Trebi Kuma Ollennu Foundation for Community Development (TKOFCD)*

Katrin Hoffman – *Sombrilla International Development Society*

Kristin Poch* – *Operation Eyesight*

Murwarid Ziayee – *Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan*

Nina Delling – *United Nations Association of Canada, Edmonton Branch*

Tahira Ebrahim – *Bow Valley College*

**Appointed by the Board in December 2021 following resignation of Ashely Anderson, Operation Eyesight*

Leah Ettarh – *ACGC Executive Director*

Our Partners

ACGC is a member of the Inter-Council Network (ICN), a coalition of the eight Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation. ACGC operates the Spur Change program on behalf of the ICN and also collaborates with the Fund for Innovation and Transformation (FIT), operated by the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation on behalf of the ICN, promoting knowledge sharing within Alberta. ACGC is also a member of Cooperation Canada, a coalition of Canadian civil-society organizations working in the international development



Accreditations

Fair Trade Workplace: ACGC is proud to be a Fair Trade Workplace certified by the Canadian Fair Trade Network. Fair trade supports the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, addresses climate change through improved agricultural techniques, and encourages business practices that reduce poverty for producers in the global south. To find out more about fair trade and fair trade workplace certification visit the [Canadian Fair Trade Network](#).

United Nations ECOSOC: As of June 2019, ACGC holds Special Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Consultative status provides NGOs with access to not only ECOSOC, but also to its many subsidiary bodies, to the various human rights mechanisms of the United Nations. Learn more about [consultative status with ECOSOC](#).

Our Members



Our Members



Pamir Canadian
Multiculturalism Council





ACGC

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