



ACGC
ALBERTA COUNCIL FOR
GLOBAL COOPERATION



ALBERTA COUNCIL FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION
2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



ACGC Mission and Objectives

The Alberta Council for Global Cooperation (ACGC) is a coalition of voluntary sector organizations located in Alberta, working locally and globally to achieve sustainable human development.

We are committed to international cooperation that is people-centred, democratic, just, inclusive, and respectful of the environment and indigenous cultures. We work towards ending poverty and achieving a peaceful and healthy world, with dignity and full participation for all.

Members of the Council pursue these goals through supporting global citizenship programs and participatory projects with international partners.

The Council's goal is to support the work of its members through networking, leadership, information sharing, training and coordination, and representing their interests when dealing with government and others. The objectives of the Council are to promote and mobilize greater Albertan participation in assisting international development.

The objectives are to be achieved in the following ways:

- to consistently reflect in all ACGC policies, activities and services, the principal philosophies embodied in the Council's Mission and Development Principles;
- to facilitate effective member networking and capacity building both internationally and domestically;
- to coordinate and support members' activities in an effective manner;
- to provide leadership on issues of concern to members;
- to provide members with relevant and effective services;
- to be an effective advocate and representative to government agencies and the public for international development concerns on behalf of the membership and to keep member organizations informed as to important shifts in Canadian foreign policy.

Board and Staff Members 2014-15

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Marion Perrin
*Canadian Moravian
Mission Society*

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Calgary Board of Education

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Change for Children Association

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*United Nations Association
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Keiskamma Canada Foundation

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Sanitation Technology [CAWST]*

Bill Howe
*Centre for Global Citizenship,
Education and Research [CGCER]*

Dave Hubert
Canadian Peacemakers International

Rebecca Kresta
Engineers without Borders [EWB]

Francoise Ruban
*Alberta Teachers' Association
[ATA]*

Staff Members – 2014-2015

Executive Director:
Heather McPherson

Program Manager:
Leah Ettarh

**Government Relations and
Community Outreach Coordinator:**
Noelle Jaipaul

Communications Officer:
Kelly Parkatti

**International Development
Week Coordinator:**
Chelsea Donelon

J7 Coordinator:
Richie Assaly

Program Assistant:
Rumbi Zinyemba

Bookkeeper:
Shaun Devine

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Letter from the Executive Director and Chair



Marion Perrin, Heather McPherson, and
Thelma Armstrong visiting Moravian
Projects in Tanzania

This has been a remarkable year for the international cooperation and the global citizenship education sector in Alberta, Canada and the world!

In September 2015, over a 150 world leaders adopted the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Governments around the world committed to achieving the 17 new Sustainable Development Goals, aimed at ending poverty, hunger and inequality, taking action on climate change and the environment, improving access to health and education, and building strong institutions and partnerships. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets are inclusive, integrated and universal.

Recognizing the pivotal moment in time, ACGC staff were in New York City for the historic signing of the 2030 Agenda and were able to share our knowledge of the new global goals through a number of exciting initiatives

and partnerships. ACGC staff shared perspectives on the universality of the SDGs, and thoughts and ideas on how to achieve these highly aspirational global goals at a number of presentations to Provincial governments in Alberta and British Columbia, to students at a number of secondary and post-secondary institutions, at a brown bag lunch at Global Affairs Canada, and through a number of public engagement opportunities such as the highly acclaimed SDG calendar and our very entertaining SDG Prize Wheel.

Also on the world stage, we saw the historic negotiation of the Paris Agreement, a global treaty on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and action on climate change negotiated by 196 parties at the United Nations Climate Change Conference or COP 21 held in Paris. ACGC Board Member Aleah Loney was in attendance and was able to share what happened with ACGC members in a webinar following the important event.

Closer to home, in Canada, we saw equally exciting changes, including a Federal election that saw a new government sweep into power with a significant majority. Following the election, civil society was invigorated by comments from the new Prime Minister who declared “Canada is back!” and mandated the new Minister of International Development to “have meaningful dialogue with civil society”, and to “refocus Canada’s development assistance on helping the poorest and most vulnerable”. A significant consultation process was undertaken and ACGC played a key role in capturing the voices of our sector in Alberta and sharing our perspectives with the Federal Government.

In Alberta, there was also a significant shift in government with a new government taking the reins after over 40 years of single party dominance. The Alberta Government has been very open to

“Ours can be the first generation to end poverty – and the last generation to address climate change before it is too late.” - Ban Ki Moon

discussions regarding international cooperation, global citizenship education, and the important role Alberta can play in reducing poverty and inequality around the world. ACGC staff and board members were able to meet on several occasions with the Minister for Culture and we feel the relationship between international cooperation civil society and the Provincial Government is the strongest it has been in many years.

Part of the renewed relationship building with the Provincial and Federal Governments has been a result of ACGCs targeted commitment to increasing our role as advocates for the sector. In the past year, ACGC developed a new position within our staff structure directly focusing on government relations. This new allocation of human resources has allowed ACGC to increase the sector’s collective impact, creating briefing notes, and providing an additional link to government officials.

Throughout the year ACGC programming, designed to contribute to an increase in the effectiveness of development being designed and implemented by Alberta organizations and enhanced awareness and action of Albertans (particularly youth) in issues of international cooperation as a way of contributing to the reduction of global poverty, has thrived. The rest of this publication outlines the important work ACGC staff undertook in the 2015-2016 year focusing on capacity building, public

engagement, communications and advocacy. In addition, ACGC has undertaken a complete rebranding and a new website will be online soon.

In addition to our work in Alberta, ACGC continues to collaborate with the other Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation across Canada through the Inter-Council Network (ICN). ACGC has also developed partnerships with many other stakeholders, including Aga Khan Foundation Canada, and EQWIP Hubs Program developed by Canada World Youth and Youth Challenge International, and the Alberta Learning Consortia. Additional projects like the selection of the J7 delegates for Global Affairs Canada have also increased ACGCs role in youth engagement in Canada. In the coming year we anticipate continuing our collaborative work for increased impacts.

After over a decade of instability and insecurity in the civil society sector, both provincially and federally, ACGC recognizes that we are now at a critical point in time. While at the international, federal, and provincial levels, there has been vocal support of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement; civil society actors must be prepared to take action. Over the past year ACGC has worked with civil society organizations to build strong, communicative relationships through which we can share expertise and best practices. ACGC has worked

towards achieving the SDGs and Paris Agreement, as well as best methods for increased advocacy in the government and private sector.

We are excited about the possibilities looking to the coming year and we look forward to finding innovative ways to work with government, civil society, and our members to achieve the goal of reduced inequality and a peaceful and healthy world with dignity and full participation for all.

To finish, we want to thank the fantastic ACGC staff that brings unflagging enthusiasm, creativity, and energy to their roles every day. ACGC would not be able to achieve the things it does without the talented team we have in the ACGC office. We would also like to thank our board of directors who contribute so much to the vision and direction of the council. And finally, our grateful appreciation goes out to the best volunteers any organization has ever had! We are humbled by the commitments and support from the staff, board and volunteers and we can’t wait to see what can be accomplished in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Marion & Heather

Building Sector Capacity

Annual General Meeting and Conference

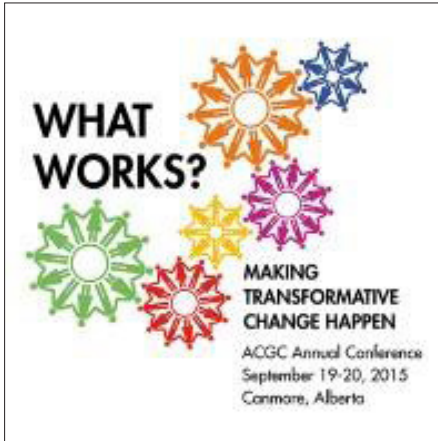
ACGC's Annual Conference is a dedicated multi-day, immersive event that provides members with opportunities for capacity building, skill development, and collaboration. The 2015 conference "What Works? Making Transformative Change Happen" was held September 19-20 in Canmore, Alberta and brought together 77 member delegates, development practitioners, academics, and students from across the province. The conference focused on building understanding of the SDGs, their indicators, and their practical application to international

development. Members were encouraged to reflect on their development practice and consider ways to ensure effective development that moved towards fulfilling the SDGs.

ACGC convened international development practitioners and scholars from all over Canada and the world to share their knowledge and experience with ACGC members. The opening panel, "Universality in the Post-2015 Agenda" included the Executive Directors of ACGC and its sister council, British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC), as well as a youth member from ACGC's sister council in Saskatchewan.



Participants at work during ACGC's 2015 Annual Conference



ACGC's 2015 Annual Conference poster

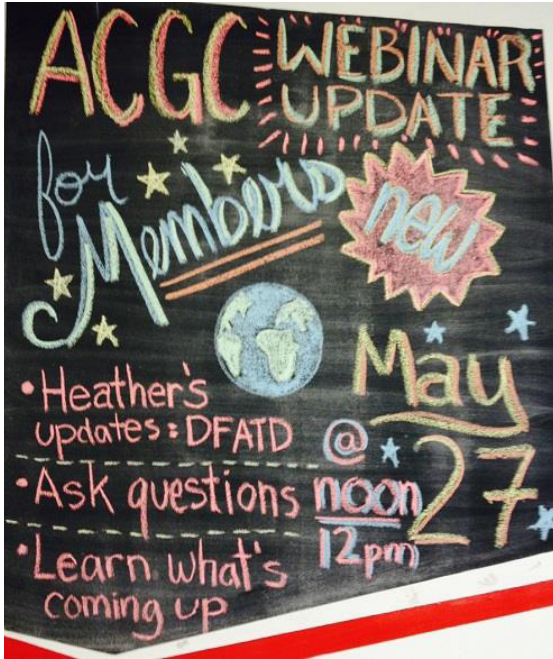
TOP:

Photo of participants at ACGC's 2015 Annual Conference: *What Works - Making Transformative Change Happen*

It additionally featured an international development specialist from Carleton University, Shannon Kindornay, and the chief program officer of a Nepalese civil society organization, Tamakoshi Sewa Samiti. The annual conference also had sessions with facilitated discussion and sharing of resources and knowledge on good practice within good practice in the implementation of SDGs, including a roundtable discussion on civil society engagement with representatives from the Government of Alberta and a session the “Blanket Activity”, facilitated by Kairos Canada, that visually represented the colonization of Canada and the after-effects that continue to this day. The keynote address, “Working with First Nations Communities:

Indigenous Perspectives on the SDGs” was given by Danika Littlechild, a Cree lawyer and Vice-President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. The annual conference had clear positive outcomes, with 88% of attendee evaluation surveys stating that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the conference.





LEFT:
Webinar promotion

RIGHT:
Change Your World Tour
Development Drinks in Edmonton

Member Workshops and Webinars

ACGC prioritizes building the capacity and skills of our member organizations to help them maintain their effectiveness in our rapidly changing sector. Between April 2015 and March 2016, ACGC held 19 capacity building and skill development activities for members, with members indicating an overall level of satisfaction of 80% across these various skill development opportunities. These capacity building activities were varied to meet the diverse needs and availability of our members and included online webinars, one-on-one meetings and also supporting members internal capacity building needs.

Over the past year, ACGC hosted five online webinars for our members. Four of these webinars were focused on knowledge sharing, in which ACGC was able to share important information regarding issues in international development. In particular, one of these webinars was used to brief members about the UN SDG Summit, sharing with them key events and issues that arose during the summit in New York in September 2015, as well as to discuss ways of moving forward on the SDG agenda. Another of the knowledge sharing webinars brought members together to listen to an ACGC youth member share her experience at the Paris Climate Change Conference. A capacity building social

media webinar brought in a computer programming professional to provide members with skills to improve their reach and effectiveness online. ACGC also co-hosted one webinar with the ICN, providing members across the country with an update and reflections from the Inter-Council Networks Youth Delegation to the UN SDG Summit, of which an ACGC staff member was a part.

Networking and Stakeholder Engagement

Providing a platform for members to convene, share ideas, and connect is a core function of the coalition. ACGC staff strive to keep up to date with members work in order to facilitate links and information sharing that is needed to maintain a strong sector in Alberta. One way we've done this is through Development Drinks. Over the course of the year, ACGC hosted or co-hosted three Development Drinks in Edmonton and two in Calgary. These events are an excellent way for numerous members to come together to meet one another, discuss their challenges and successes, and generate ideas for collaboration and solutions within the context of

international development issues. ACGC was pleased to see that three Development Drinks were spearheaded by member organizations, which serves as a reminder that informal, in-person networking remains a priority, even in an increasingly digital age. As 2015 ushered in an opportunity to engage with a new Provincial government, ACGC convened two member taskforces to develop recommendations for the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Ministry of Education which would ultimately increase public engagement and support for Alberta-based international development organizations. ACGC was encouraged by the level of participation on these taskforces, as well as the enthusiasm in which

members worked together to create recommendations and present their results to the Minister of Culture and Tourism. ACGC was also pleased to provide two training workshops on the Sustainable Development Goals to staff in various provincial government departments.

ACGC 2015 Conference attendees participating in Kairos Canada's Blanket Activity



Public Engagement

ACGC hosted 45 separate public engagement events with 2718 participants. 29 of these events were for youth, with 1089 youth in attendance!



ACGC has been focusing its public engagement efforts on linking the public directly with the work of ACGC member organizations and helping build the capacity of member organization to reach new audiences, especially youth. With the launch of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, much of ACGC's focus has been on aligning our programs and outreach to help educate the public on the 17 goals, efforts which will continue throughout the next few years.

ACGC partners with educators and students throughout the year to achieve many of our Public Engagement goals. Through classroom presentation, student workshops, and teacher resource development, ACGC reaches an enormous number of students every year, and more importantly, ACGC is increasingly able to reach students and teachers in regions of Alberta whom do not often receive the benefits of educational outreach. As an

example, in 2014-15, ACGC launched a program to connect Alberta classrooms with ACGC members, through the use of literature. Through the Global Literature Circle program, classrooms may sign out a set of novels to read in their classroom; upon completion, an ACGC member which operates in the region where the novel is based, supports the learning by presenting to the classroom. This initiative aims to support globally-focused classrooms, while at the same time helping ACGC members engage with younger audiences.

LEFT:

ACGCs added the Sustainable Development Goals wheel to its toolkit, a fun way to educate the public on the 17 goals!

RIGHT:

Chelsea at the Teacher's Convention

In addition to numerous school presentations and student and teacher supports, ACGC plays an important role in the facilitation of various youth conferences, from conducting break-out sessions with The Center for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology's Youth Wavemakers Summit, and leading a large group simulation at the Calgary Board of Education's International Youth Leadership Summit, to helping facilitate a full day of youth programming at Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan's National Symposium. As ACGC completed new workshops, materials were compiled and published, and are now available free to download on ACGC's website.

Supporting teachers continues to be a priority for the Council. ACGC represented member organizations at the Edmonton and Calgary teachers' conventions, while also facilitating two professional development workshops for teachers in Edmonton. ACGC was pleased to co-facilitate a full day of activities for teachers returning from their international placements with the Alberta Teachers' Association. ACGC focused on introducing teachers to the Sustainable Development Goals, while also highlighting the many resources ACGC member organizations have to support global citizenship education and learning. Four member organizations participated in the day

through a fun 'speed-dating' session, allowing teachers an opportunity to make connections and ask questions. Finally, ACGC was excited to actively support a coalition of ACGC members and other Edmonton based organizations to launch the Edmonton Peace Festival from September 21st – October 2nd 2015, at the same time, participating on a panel discussion at the University of Alberta as part of this festival. We are pleased to provide guidance, support, and promotion to help member organizations find creative ways to engage and encourage Albertans as active, global citizens.

Leah at IYLS Day with the
Calgary Board of Education





2015 Change Your World Youth
in Belle, South Africa

Change Your World Youth Leadership Tour

In July 2015, ACGC was pleased to offer the fourth Change Your World Youth Leadership tour. In conjunction with ACGC member the Keiskamma Canada Foundation, ACGC brought a team of five youth from across Alberta to the Eastern Cape of South Africa to visit the various projects of the Keiskamma Trust, while also spending time building friendships with local youth.

The youth were honoured to learn about the history and current reality of the HIV and AIDS epidemic in the region, and the role art has played in bringing hope and employment to the local community. Visiting the

Trusts music program, garden program, education programs and art programs helped youth gain a deeper understanding of the partnership between the Alberta-based Keiskamma Canada and their partner in combating extreme poverty in the region. The youth were excited not only to learn from the local community, but also to be invited to document and share their story through their documentary, “Community Solutions for Sustainable Development: Perspectives from South Africa.”

“I learned a lot about how international development can be done in a way that is not destructive to the community it helps. I learned the importance of empowering people through knowledge and especially employment opportunities. Moreover, I learned a bit of the history of South Africa in a way that I would never have understood from reading about it in school.” - Youth Participant

ACGC focused this year tour on reaching out across the province, designing a selection process to ensure that peri-urban and rural youth were better represented on the team along with urban youth. 57 youth applied from across the province, with the final five selected representing diverse geographic and cultural backgrounds. While only five youth were able to participate in the program, 17,335 people viewed updates through social media about the Change Your World tour program, six traditional media outlets featured stories about the youth, including three television networks, and 1039 people watched the Change Your World documentary, both in

person and online. Furthermore, the youth made 18 public presentations in Peace River, Edmonton, Wainwright, Canmore, and Lethbridge, with 91%

of audience members stating that they were “more interested in international development as a direct result of listening to the youth speak.”



Photo of Change Your World Youth Tapestry

Engaging Government



Edmonton City Councillor Andrew Knack and Heather McPherson Declaring International Development Week in Edmonton at the 2016 Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch

This past year has been one of great change. Canada and Alberta have both experienced a change in governmental leadership. This has presented ACGC and its members with an opportunity to work with the new provincial and federal governments on areas of great importance for civil society and the international cooperation sector. At both the provincial

and federal level, ACGC has been able to build important relationships with elected leaders, while at the same time, urging both governments to support small and medium-sized organizations working in international cooperation and global citizenship. ACGC sees 2016-17 as a year of opportunity.

Provincial Government

A developing relationship with the Alberta Provincial Government across the province has been an area of growth for the Council over the past year, with a multitude of opportunities for dialogues, collaborative planning, and increased financial support for ACGC members. ACGC is currently working closely with the Provincial government to review the amount of funding available to international cooperation projects. ACGC is also working with Alberta Learning Consortia and the Ministry of Education to provide input to the massive curriculum review underway in Alberta.

White Paper

In October, ACGC staff and Government Relations Committee wrote a white paper outlining two areas where the provincial government could more effectively support civil society organizations doing international development work. Outlining the current state of provincial funding for Alberta-based international development projects and a comparative analysis of other provincial approaches, the paper recommended that the Government of Alberta:

1. Increase the Community Initiatives Program (CIP) International funding available to civil society organizations.
2. Implement a 15% cost-sharing protocol for the CIP funding, in line with the granting agreements of large agencies and the Government of Canada's protocol on international development for the civil society organizations grants.
3. Eliminate the \$25,000 funding limit per organization, and allow multi-year and multi-project funding.
4. Set-up a pilot advisory council containing international development professionals and community leaders to act as a sounding board of expertise and experience for the Government of Alberta.

ACGC is pleased with the willingness of the government to work with us on the recommendations.



RIGHT:

Minister of Culture and Tourism, Ricardo Miranda, congratulating ACGC's Top 30s at the 2016 Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch



ACGC Executive Director Heather McPherson with Former Prime Minister Joe Clark and Italian Ambassador Gian Lorenzo Cornado

Educating Provincial Leaders on The Sustainable Development Goals

Having a youth delegate at the September 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Summit placed ACGC as an expert on the Sustainable Development Goals and opened up opportunities for us to do numerous sessions on the SDGs to various audiences over the past year including post-secondary institutions, various Government of Alberta ministries, and civil society. ACGC did presentations with the Alberta International Development Office, Ministry of Economic Trade and Development, as well the Ministries of Education and Advanced Education.

Furthermore, ACGC was able to provide members with opportunities to build their capacity to engage with elected officials and the public service, due in large part to the openness and receptiveness of government stakeholders to work with ACGC. For instance, the Centre for Global Citizenship Education and Research, an ACGC member, was invited to participate along with ACGC in developing and presenting an information session on the SDGs for public servants in Alberta's Ministry of Advanced Education providing their knowledge and expertise, and to engage critically with the SDGs, namely Goal 4, Quality Education. Members were invited to attend meetings with public servants and provincial gov-

ernment officials on seven occasions, and ACGC worked with members prior to and following these meetings to provide additional support on different aspects of engaging in the governmental policy process. This is a new area of capacity building and advocacy offered by ACGC, and has been exceptionally well received by members.

Member of Parliament Linda Duncan
at the Top 30 gala

Federal Government

Knowing that international cooperation and development will be more effective and sustainable if communicating best practices, articulating lessons learned, and sharing expertise is undertaken, ACGC has determined that a key aim of its programming is increased collaboration. During the previous year, ACGC worked closely with Global Affairs Canada staff and government officials, meeting regularly in Ottawa and, even, on occasion, in Alberta, to share the perspectives of our members, to communicate important updates and information, and to ensure the open path for communication between the federal government and the civil society organizations (CSOs) working in Alberta.

ACGC plays a key role in facilitating discussions between our members and the federal government on development issues. Within the past fiscal year, ACGC convened our members to meet with staff from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD). Specifically, Erik Nielsen, Senior Innovation Advisor with Partnerships for Development Innovation Branch, consulted with ACGC members in September 2015 and, working with ACGC staff and members, a meeting was organized, convened, and promoted by ACGC.



International Development Week



International Development Week, an initiative of Global Affairs Canada, is an exciting time for ACGC programming. During the 26th International Development Week (IDW) – which took place February 7-13, 2016 – ACGC was able to directly reach 38,061 Albertans throughout the province including the 722 people who came out to our events. The following are ACGC events during IDW: Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch: This year ACGC released our 5th annual Top 30 Under 30 Magazine, which as of February 18th, 26,643 people had read online and through printed copies. That’s almost a 4 fold increase in reads over last year. ACGC also hosted the 2016 Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch in Edmonton, Alberta, to recognize the outstanding

work of the Top 30s. We were thrilled to hear from one of the Top 30s from the South Africa, Nosipho Ngqula, a partner of ACGC member Kieskamma Canada.

Development Drinks: ACGC and members hosted three Development Drinks in two cities, engaging 97 Albertans on the work of our members and development issues during International Development Week.

LEFT:
Top 30s at the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch with Minister Miranda and Heather McPherson

BOTTOM:
Invitation to the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch



Engaging Government Officials in IDW

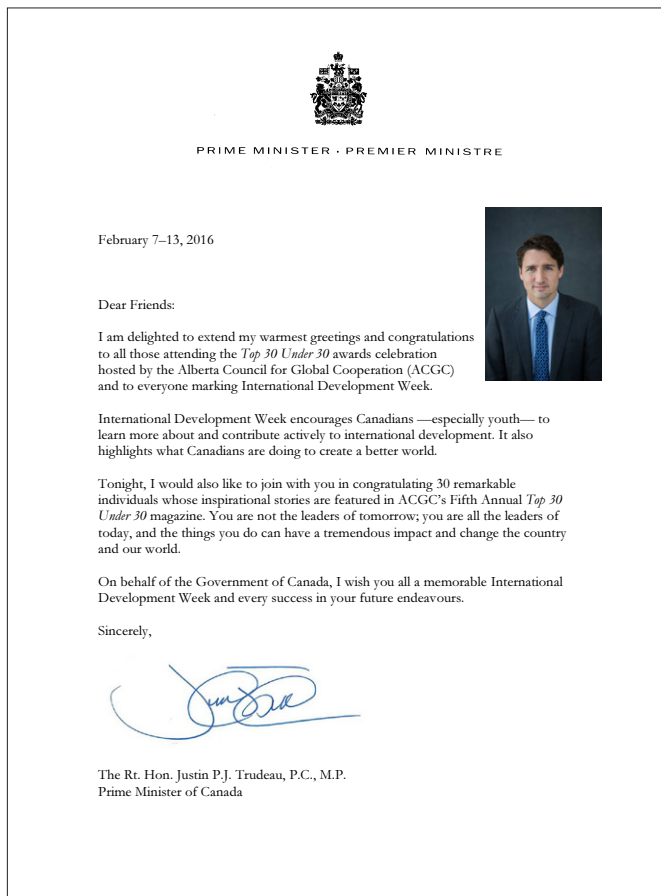
ACGC successfully engaged local and provincial government for International Development Week with 6 politicians attending the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch including the Minister Ricardo Miranda. ACGC was honoured to include a letter of congratulations from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine. Further, ACGC's Executive Director Heather McPherson attended a dinner with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Thursday of International Development Week.

IDW in Social Media

Through strategic use of social media ACGC extended our reach so that our content gained 286,195 social media impressions to 87,160 unique people on Facebook alone, and actively engaged 10,696 people. Additionally, the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine was highlighted in 3 traditional media outlets in Edmonton, Medicine Hat and Weyburn, Saskatchewan reaching over 55,449 readers.



Nosipho Ngqula speaking at the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Launch



Letter from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine



ACGC Communications

A priority of ACGC this year was to develop a communications strategy, in line with the councils core strategic directions, to guide ACGCs communications goals, objectives, and related strategies and practices. This strategy, completed in March 2016, will now guide ACGC in building, maintaining, and protecting ACGC's image and reputation among both internal and external stakeholders, while allowing the council to represent our member organizations in the most effective manner possible. Overall, over 47,000 Albertans were directly reached or follow ACGC through 14 different communication methods, including e-bulletins, published newsletters, media releases, the ACGC website, and various social media channels.



Relaunched of ACGC Connect Newsletter

ACGC Publications

ACGC maintains three electronic publications, tailored to specific audiences. In the 2014-2015 year, subscribers to our three publications increased by 14%.

ACGC E-Bulletin

The E-Bulletin continues to be an important communication tool to disseminate information to the public about members' events and programming, ACGC's capacity-building opportunities, job/volunteer openings, and other items of interest with ACGC members, the CSO community, and the general public. The ACGC E-bulletin, released on a bi-weekly basis, allows ACGC and member organizations to share information about upcoming events, opportunities,

and news with a general, public audience. Sign-ups to ACGCs e-bulletin increased from 794 to 959 recipients this year, a growth of 21%. ACGC encourages the public to sign up for this list at every event we attend and host.

ACGC Connect

The ACGC Connect Newsletter relaunched in 2015 after a short hiatus. The Spring 2015 Connect was printed and mailed to members with a notice that all future newsletters would now only be available electronically. ACGC released a total of three Connect newsletters, sending them directly to member organizations by email and posting them on the ACGC website. In conjunction with the release of each Connect newsletter, ACGC is now hosting member-update webinars, allowing for the opportunity to discuss

any of the announcements and content in more detail.

ACGC Teach

The ACGC Teach newsletter is issued on a regular basis to educators across Alberta. The Spring and Fall editions of ACGC Teach followed the format of a published newsletter, providing in-depth stories, information, and resources to readers. Beginning in January 2016, ACGC Teach was reformatted as an electronic bulletin with an increased frequency, resulting in an immediate increase in active readership and engagement with the content. Further, the new format allows ACGC to share more member information and opportunities with this target audience. In the 2014-2015 year, ACGC Teach had 596 subscribers.

Social Media

ACGC remains actively engaged on social media through the @ACGCNow Facebook and Twitter accounts. Year over year, the number of followers on these two channels increase, making social media a primary focus of the Councils communication efforts. In 2015-2016, our followers on Twitter increased from 779 to 945, an increase of 21%, while the number of likes on ACGCs Facebook page increased by 31%, from 827 to 1081. In total, these two channels received a total of 423,416 impressions over the year, with the highest engagement occurring during International Development Week, and the launch of the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine.

Not only does social media allow ACGC engage a younger, broader audience, it also allows ACGC to have a significant national reach, which has been effective for cross-sectoral collaboration, advocacy, and national programming with our partner councils. ACGC will continue to prioritize its presence and engagement on social media, and stay on top of current trends by opening accounts with newer, increasingly popular channels.



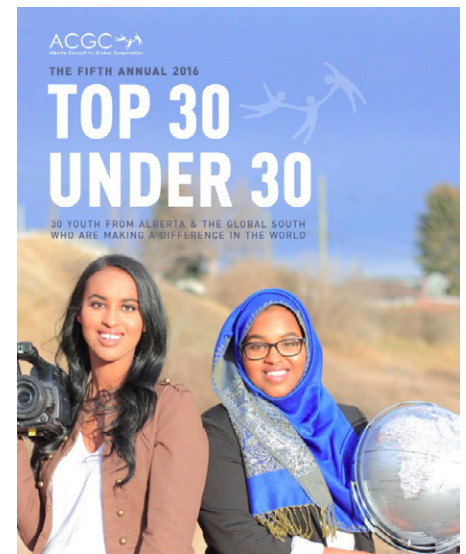
ACGC Website

ACGCs website is vital to ACGCs communication with members and the public, and an important platform to share sector news, information and documents. ACGC added new sections to the website this year to reflect the post-2015 agenda and to provide resources to educators and youth on the Sustainable Development Goals. Through the year, 12,831 unique users visited the ACGC website, an increase of 11% over the previous year. Notably, 26% of visits to our website were from mobile devices, compared to 20% of visits the previous year. Recognizing this shift, ACGC began the process of updating the website to be compatible and user-friendly on mobile devices, changes which will roll out during the next fiscal year. Visitors to the website are most

interested in our opportunities page, as well as program opportunities for youth including the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine and the Change Your World tour.

ACGC in the Media

ACGC was featured in the media 12 times throughout the year, including receiving media coverage in Edmonton, Calgary, St. Alberta, Wainwright, Peace River, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, and Weyburn (Saskatchewan). Significant media attention was given to youth featured in the Top 30 Under 30 Magazine, the youth who participated in the Change Your World tour, and the youth delegation that attended the UN Summit in New York. While newspaper articles dominated the coverage, one radio interview and three television interviews were conducted.



2016 Top 30 Under 30 Magazine Cover

Sector Leadership



LEFT:
2015 Directors of the Inter-Council Network of Provincial and Regional Councils for International Cooperation

RIGHT:
The Inter-Council Network and Engineers without Borders report "Canadian Perspectives on International Development"

The Inter-Council Network (ICN) is a coalition of eight provincial and regional Councils for International Cooperation. The councils which make up the ICN include:

British Columbia Council for International Cooperation (BCCIC)

Northern Council for Global Cooperation (NCGC)

Alberta Council for Global Cooperation (ACGC)

Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation (SCIC)

Manitoba Council for International Cooperation (MCIC)

Ontario Council for International Cooperation (OCIC)

L'Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI)

Atlantic Council for International Cooperation (ACIC)

The ICN is currently managed by the British Columbia Council for International Cooperation as part of the Connecting with Canadians Global Citizenship Program.





LEFT:
2015 Youth Delegation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in New York

RIGHT:
Goal 4 page of the Sustainable Development Goals Calendar

Youth Delegation to the Sustainable Development Goals Summit

From September 25-27th 2015, world leaders gathered in New York City for the formal adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the request of the UN, the Inter-Council Network formed the official Canadian Youth Delegation to attend this historical event. As part of the delegation, ACGC's Government Relations and Community Outreach Coordinator, Noelle Jaipaul, travelled to New York to attend the summit and meet with Canada's Minister of International Development, the Honourable Christian Paradis, and other members of the official Canadian Delegation. The youth actively shared their experience with ICN member organizations, both during the Summit on social media, and following the summit through webinars and training events.

Sustainable Development Goals Calendar

With ACGC at the lead, the Inter-Council Network (ICN) created an 18-month calendar highlighting each of the 17 new Sustainable Development Goals as well as the overarching theme of Universality. The calendar featured illustrations by British Columbia artist Adrian McKerracher, and helped raise awareness within the sector about the new SDGs. The ICN distributed this calendar to organizations across Canada, including staff and ministry officials at Global Affairs Canada and to numerous provincial and municipal government representatives.

J7 Conference

This year, Global Affairs Canada asked the Inter-Council Network to assist in selecting a youth delegation to

represent Canada at the Junior 7 (J7) Summit in Kuwana City, Japan, joining teams of youth from the other G7 countries in advance of the 42nd G7 Summit. ACGC and ACIC coordinated the project on behalf of the ICN, working closely with other ICN members to develop the criteria and process for selection, solicit nominations, and present a list of finalists to Global Affairs Canada for final selection. With just over two weeks to conduct the outreach, close to 800 youth submitted applications. ACGC provided further support by conducting a pre-departure webinar with the team. All youth who applied and were not successful were provided follow up information to link them with other program opportunities in their regions.

Auditor's Report and Financial Statement

Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Alberta Council for Global Cooperation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2016, the statement of operations and changes in net assets and statement of cash flows 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, 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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' judgement, 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 auditors consider 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 Alberta Council for Global Cooperation as at March 31, 2016, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for Private Sector Not-for-Profit Organizations.

SVS Group LLP Chartered Accountants

Edmonton, Alberta
September 15th, 2016

Statement of Financial Position

as at March 31, 2016

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Accounts receivable | \$ 49,018 | \$ 19,744 |
| Prepaid expenses and deposits | 326 | 3,611 |
| | <u>\$ 49,344</u> | <u>\$ 23,355</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| CURRENT | | |
| Bank indebtedness | \$ 13,307 | \$ 14,086 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 12,684 | 4,064 |
| | 25,991 | 18,150 |
| NET ASSETS | | |
| NET ASSETS | <u>23,353</u> | <u>5,205</u> |
| | <u>\$ 49,344</u> | <u>\$ 23,355</u> |

Statement of Operations in Net Assets

for the year ended March 31, 2016

| | 2016 | % | 2015 | % |
|---|------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| REVENUE | | | | |
| GAC grants | \$ 393,560 | 91.4 | \$ 320,356 | 75.2 |
| Aga Khan Foundation Canada | - | 0.1 | 82,649 | 19.4 |
| Membership and registration fees | 10,965 | 2.4 | 5,815 | 1.4 |
| Interest income | - | - | 152 | - |
| Annual General Meeting fees | 3,308 | 0.8 | 3,706 | 0.9 |
| Canada summer jobs | - | - | 4,286 | 1.0 |
| Other income | 9,480 | 2.2 | 5,481 | 1.3 |
| Workshop | 8,950 | 2.1 | 2,795 | 0.8 |
| EQWIP | 4,097 | 1.0 | - | - |
| | <u>430,360</u> | <u>100.0</u> | <u>425,240</u> | <u>100.0</u> |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| ACGC capacitybuilding | 26,464 | 6.1 | 25,640 | 6.0 |
| Administration | 45,433 | 10.6 | 47,092 | 11.1 |
| Communications and publications | 3,667 | 0.9 | 10,321 | 2.4 |
| ICN public engagement and capacitybuilding | 11,337 | 2.6 | 7,646 | 1.8 |
| International Development Week | 27,874 | 6.5 | 27,027 | 6.4 |
| Public engagement project | 23,711 | 5.5 | 3,220 | 0.8 |
| Salaries and benefits | 270,175 | 62.8 | 227,760 | 53.6 |
| Global Citizenship Summer Institute | 505 | 0.1 | 86,052 | 20.2 |
| Sector collaboration and gala event | 3,046 | 0.7 | 6,138 | 1.4 |
| | <u>412,212</u> | <u>95.8</u> | <u>440,896</u> | <u>103.7</u> |
| EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES | 18,148 | 4.2 | (15,656) | (3.7) |
| NET ASSETS, beginning of year | 5,205 | | 20,861 | |
| NET ASSETS, end of year | <u>\$ 23,353</u> | | <u>\$ 5,205</u> | |

ACGC Members 2015-16



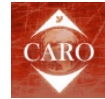
Ainembabazi Children's Project (ACP)
www.ainembabazi.org



Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan (CW4WAfghan)
www.cw4wafghan.ca



Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA)
www.teachers.ab.ca



Canadians Reaching Out to the World's Children Foundation (CARO)
www.carocanada.ca



Altamas for Peace and Development Association
www.altamas.ca



CAUSE Canada
www.cause.ca



Bow Valley College International Education
http://international.bowvalleycollege.ca



CEIBA Association
www.ceibaassociation.com



Bridges of Hope International Network of Development Agencies
www.bridgesofhope.ca



Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST)
www.cawst.org



Calgary Board of Education Global Learning Program (CBE International)
www.cbeinternational.ca



Centre for Global Citizenship Education and Research (CGCER)
www.cgcer.ualberta.ca



Canada World Youth (CWY)
www.canadaworldyouth.org



Change for Children Association
www.changeforchildren.org



Canadian Association for Participatory Development (CAPD)
www.capdcalgary.org

D. KEITH MACDONALD FOUNDATION

D. Keith MacDonald Foundation
www.dkmfoundation.org



Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace
www.dev.org



energy4everyone
www.energy4everyone.com



Canadian Humanitarian
www.canadianhumanitarian.com



Edmonton Public School Board
www.epsb.ca



Canadian Moravian Mission Society
www.moravian.ca



Engineers Without Borders
www.ewb.ca



Canadian Peacemakers International (CPI)
www.cpi-cpf.ca



Four Worlds Centre for Development Learning
www.fourworlds.ca



Ghost River Rediscovery Society
www.ghostriverrediscovery.com



Global Education Program, University of Alberta International (UAI)
www.international.ualberta.ca/globaled



Human Development Foundation (HDF Canada)
www.hdfcanada.org



John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights (JHC)
www.jhcentre.org



Keiskamma Canada Foundation
www.keiskamacanada.com



Light Up the World Foundation (LUTW)
www.lutw.org



Maharashtra Seva Samiti Organization (MSSO)
www.mssoonline.org



Mahatma Gandhi Canadian Foundation for World Peace
www.gandhifoundation.ca



Marda Loop Justice Film Festival (MLJFF)
www.justicefilmfestival.ca



Mennonite Central Committee Alberta (MCC)
alberta.mcc.org



Micah Centre, The King's University
www.micahcentre.ca



Mission of Mercy (MoM Canada)
www.missionofmercy.ca



Nafasi Opportunity Society
www.nafasi-opportunity.org



One Child's Village (OCV)
www.onechildsvillage.org



One! International Poverty Relief
www.one-international.com



Operation Eyesight Universal
www.operationeyesight.com



Optometry Giving Sight
www.givingsight.org



Oxfam Canada
www.oxfam.ca



Rainbow for the Future (RFTF)
www.rainbowftf.org



Rainbow of Hope for Children
www.rainbowofhopeforchildren.ca



ReadAfrica
www.readafrica.ca



Rotary Club of Edmonton (Downtown)
www.edmontonrotary.ca



Sahakarini Inter-World Education & Development Association
www.sahakarini.org



Samaritan's Purse Canada
www.samaritanspurse.ca



Sinkunia Community Development Organization
www.sinkuniacommunity.org



Somali-Canadian Education & Rural Development Organization (SCERDO)
www.scerdo.org



Sombrilla International Development Society
www.sombrilla.ca



Tebi Kuma Ollenu Foundation for Community Development (TKOFCD)
www.tkofcd.org



True Vision Ghana (TVG)
www.truevisionghana.org



United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC)
cal.unac.org or edmonton.unac.org



Women's Empowerment International Foundation (WEIF)
www.weif.org



Thank you!

ACGC would like to thank all of our members, volunteers, Top 30s, participants, staff and board for your valuable contributions to the coalition. Without your help, we couldn't successfully engage thousands of Albertans in international development and global citizenship work. We are looking forward to an outstanding 2016-2017!



This project was funded with the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Global Affairs Canada



Global Affairs
Canada

Affaires mondiales
Canada