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- Unceded Algonquin Territory -

**WWW.OPIRGCARLETON.ORG**

**OPIRG Carleton** is your campus portal to critical university engagement, radical community involvement, and active participation in movements for social, economic, and environmental justice. *Through research and education we manifest action, every day.*

University Centre - RM 326  
(up the stairs from Ziggy's Hair Studio)

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Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) Carleton

**Annual Report & Financial Statements**

September 2011 to August 2012

Presented at Annual General Meeting  
April 2013

- Unceded Algonquin Territory -

**WWW.OPIRGCARLETON.ORG**

Anti-Oppression	Consensus-Based Decision Making	Inclusive Space to Build Community on Campus
Indigenous Solidarity & Decolonization	Colloquium Speaker Series	Diversity
Skills Development & Training	Working Groups	Tools for Change Workshops
Accountability & Transparency	Practicum Student Placements	Sustainability

- Panel discussion on "Legalized Apartheid and Women's Resistance in Palestine: Principled Solidarity and the Global Struggle for Liberation" featuring Rabab Ibrahim Abdulhadi (College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University) and Frank Barat (human rights activist and coordinator of Russell Tribunal on Palestine)
- Film screening of Budrus co-organized with Cinema Politica
- Verses vs. Apartheid III

SAIA unveiled the "3 Pillars of Apartheid" in the Atrium while tabling during the week.

CUSA Referendum

"Do you support Carleton University adopting a binding socially responsible investment policy that would require it to divest from companies complicit in illegal military occupations and other violations of international law, including but not limited to: BAE Systems, Northrop Grumman, Motorola, and Tesco Supermarkets?"

After over three months of planning and weeks of delays due to CUSA politics, SAIA managed to get its referendum question passed unchanged during the February 5th Constitution & Policy committee meeting. The question however, was attacked and radically changed during the subsequent CUSA Council Meeting on March 9th, to such an extent, that SAIA members fought to pull the question off the ballot.

GSA Referendum

SAIA's referendum question was also put forward to the GSA. 72.6% of graduate students at Carleton voted overwhelming in favor. This marks the first time in the world that a referendum question on divestment has passed on a university campus.

Contact: [saia.carleton@gmail.com](mailto:saia.carleton@gmail.com)

*Students for Fair Trade*

The goals of Students for Fair Trade (SFT) are: to raise awareness about fair trade on campus and the importance of fair trade; to promote the use of fair trade products among student-run centres on campus; and to lobby the university to implement a fair trade purchasing policy wherever possible (food, sports equipment, clothing). We believe that fair trade is an important step in fighting the inequalities and injustices brought about by the current trading system. We are committed to promoting fair trade not as an end in itself, but as a step in the right direction, and as an alternative to the current system.



## Students Against Israeli Apartheid-Carleton

SAIA supports the July 2005 call from over 170 Palestinian organizations for a global campaign of boycotts, divestment and sanctions against Israel until it meets its obligation to recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and fully complies with the precepts of international law. We believe that justice will not be achieved without equal rights for everyone in the area of historic Palestine, regardless of religion, ethnicity or nationality.



SAIA's website – <http://www.carleton.saia.ca/> – contains information on, among other things, the academic boycott and the Carleton administration's attempted repression of anti-apartheid activists.

### Highlights

#### The JNF Rally

The JNF is a non-profit organization that buys and develops land in Israel and Israeli-occupied land in Palestine. It is an openly discriminatory organization that strictly prohibits the selling, renting or leasing of land to non-Jewish people and is actively engaged in dispossessing Palestinians from their land both within Israel proper and in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. On Nov. 7th, 2011 over 300 students were present at SAIA's rally to pressure Carleton president Rosann Runte to: (1) step down as the "honorary co-chair" of the annual Jewish National Fund (JNF) fund raising dinner, and (2) explicitly explain why the university administration made the decision to become "proud supporters" of the JNF. Over 800 letters and hundreds of phone calls petitioned the administration's proud sponsorship, as well as Runte's attendance of the event. Three dead trees were left outside of Runte's office. They symbolized the depopulation of three Palestinian villages – Dayr Ayyub, Yalu, and Imwas – which were cleared so that the JNF could build Canada Park. Runte still attended JNF's Negev Dinner on Nov.8 despite widespread protests.

#### Israeli Apartheid Week (IAW)

This year's IAW consisted of the panel Discussion: "Arab Spring, Apartheid Falls? The Egyptian Uprising and Possibilities for Palestinian Resistance," featuring Deena Gamil (a journalist, writer, revolutionary socialist activist and leading figure and a founding member of the Socialist Popular Alliance Party, the largest leftist party in Egypt) and Mostafa Henaway (a Canadian-born Egyptian based in Montreal organizing with the Immigrant Workers Centre). He is active with Tadamon! Montreal which works in solidarity with struggles for self-determination, equality, and justice in the Middle East and an end to Israeli Apartheid. Henaway also recently co-authored *A People's History of the Egyptian Revolution* with Rami El-Amine.

Other events included:

- Keynote speakers Albert Dumont (Algonquin leader and poet) and Rana Hamadeh (Palestinian-Canadian human rights activist)
- Panel discussion on "Violence Through Erasure: Colonization and Dispossession in Canada and Palestine"

## About Us

OPIRG-Carleton is a campus-based not-for-profit organization that works to create and sustain student and community-based engagement through research, education, and action on social justice and environmental issues.



OPIRG-Carleton uses an anti-oppression framework, consensus-based decision making processes, operates in a non-hierarchical setting, and supports multiple working groups struggling for social change.

OPIRG-Carleton was founded in 1980 after a lecture at Carleton by consumer advocate Ralph Nader. The following year the majority of students voted in a referendum in favour of placing a small levy on their student fees to support OPIRG.

In 1991, Carleton students again voted in support of OPIRG, agreeing to raise the amount of the levy to \$6.30 for full-time students and \$2.10/credit for part-time undergraduates and \$1.26 for part-time graduates.



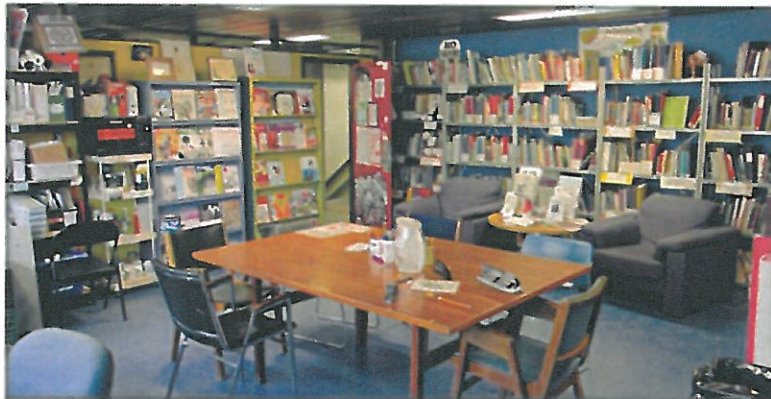
OPIRG-Carleton members participate in anti-austerity and Quebec student strike solidarity demonstrations

In 2009, students voted yet again in favour of OPIRG and other campus groups to set the levy fee according to the consumer price index.

Graduate students voted to increase their fees to OPIRG-Carleton in 2010. The 2011-2012 full-time per semester levies were \$3.32 for full-time undergrads and \$3.34 for full-time grad students.

With this levy, all students at Carleton University are members of OPIRG. While the fee is classified as non-refundable, OPIRG-Carleton continues to offer refunds to students who object to the organization. The refund period this year run from January 16th to the 20th. At the conclusion of this period, there were 32 undergraduate student refunds, and no graduate student refunds.

Over the years, OPIRG-Carleton has grown into an established organization that provides students with a dynamic place to apply their knowledge, passions and energy to address issues of public concern, while benefiting from training, support, and real opportunities that build leadership skills and empower students to become active citizens.



OPIRG-Carleton's office – 326 UniCentre

solidarity with other Filipino groups and those who have been oppressed by colonization, such as the indigenous peoples of Turtle Island.

We believe that diversity adds to culture and retaining one's cultural identity is paramount to a sense of self and a better quality of life. Cultural genocide and colonization, in addition to the physical destruction of a people and their resources, promotes an ideology of violence that endangers life and liberty for all peoples.

Contact: [mightfovog@riseup.net](mailto:mightfovog@riseup.net)

### Permaculture Project Ottawa

Liberation permaculture is a design approach for building sustainable and socially just living environments. It uses biological principles to situate human habitation harmoniously within local ecological systems and the greater biosphere as a whole. Permaculture organizes around respect, solidarity, diversity, inclusion, cooperation and shared leadership which grounds our work in three guiding principles: Earthcare, Peoplecare, and Fairshare. These principles inform decisions on how living spaces, material systems of exchange and society could be re-organized in pursuit of building sustainable and socially just communities. Liberation permaculture in particular focuses on confronting numerous intersections of systems of oppression such as: capitalism, colonialism, patriarchy, racism, ableism, etc. It situates itself within and in solidarity to the greater movement for social and ecological justice. Our organization is a not for profit, non-partisan volunteer group focused on delivering popular education, supporting community projects and advocating for sustainable and socially just living spaces in Ottawa.



### Highlights

We held monthly meetings, and grew our membership from five people in November, to 20+ people in March. We have also established a few committees to start work on a number of initiatives: The Permaculture Film Festival, Community Resource Directory, and the Community Urban Food Forest Initiative (CUFF), which we are actively in the process of working with Just Food Ottawa and the NCC to be part of a Community Food Hub in the Ottawa Greenbelt. In the spring PPO cohosted the Eastern Ontario Permaculture Convergence with the Permaculture Institute of Eastern Ontario, as well as a fruit tree propagation and grafting workshop with the PIEO.

In the past we have given workshops on guerrilla gardening, "seed bombs" and liberation permaculture in conjunction with various other groups. We aim to continue our popular education programming as well as expand into supporting persons and communities in organizing their communities around liberation permaculture principles. This will include coordinating "permablitzes", supporting persons wishing to take permaculture design courses, and providing a vehicle for communities to communicate and organize for political and economic self-reliance.

Contact: [permaculture.project.ottawa@gmail.com](mailto:permaculture.project.ottawa@gmail.com)

## The Leveller newspaper

The *Leveller* is a publication covering news, current events, and culture at Carleton University, Ottawa/Gatineau's campuses and communities, as well as the region and wider world. It is intended to provide readers with a lively portrait of local campuses and communities and of the events that give them meaning. It is also intended to be a forum for provocative editorializing and lively debate on issues of concern to students and residents.

The *Leveller* leans left, meaning it challenges power and privilege and sides with people over private property. It is also democratic, meaning that it favours open discussion over silencing and secrecy. Within these very general boundaries, the *Leveller* is primarily interested in being interesting, in saying something worth saying and worth reading about. It doesn't mind getting a few things wrong if it gets that part right.

Lev•el•ler  
noun

1. Historical: During the English Civil War (c. 1649), one who favoured the abolition of all rank and privilege. Originally an insult, later embraced by radical anti-Royalists.
2. One who tells the truth, as in "I'm going to level with you."
3. An instrument that knocks down things that are standing up or digs up things that are buried or hidden.

*Les Sans-culottes étaient les révolutionnaires radicaux pendant la Révolution française (vers 1789). Leur nom émanait des pantalons qu'ils portaient au lieu de la culotte courte et des bas, portés par les nobles et les bourgeois.*

### Highlights

The *Leveller* newspaper has successfully completed its 4th Volume through 2011-2012, printing 18,000 copies over six issues. Following the publishing of its community-focused special magazine issue last summer, the *Leveller* kicked off the school year with a 20-page edition featuring its first ever French language section, les *Sans-Culottes*. The section has now found a permanent home within the comfy confines of the *Leveller* in the paper's attempt to spread its reach to the French language community.

The *Leveller* has consistently delivered critical, analytical, and punchy articles worth reading. New and old readers alike were thrilled to see an unwavering commitment to articles that support people over profit, engaging in a written exercise aiming to augment the voice of the common student, worker, and citizen, much to the chagrin of the corporate press and the voices it represents under the ever so thin veil of neutrality.

Contact: [editors.the.leveller@gmail.com](mailto:editors.the.leveller@gmail.com)

### Kawala (Unbound)

Kawala seeks to encourage decolonization by: a) providing activities and services that help Filipinos and allies rediscover/relearn Filipino culture via the arts, language, food, literature, history, and community, and b) being in



# The Leveller

## Year in Brief – Organizational Developments

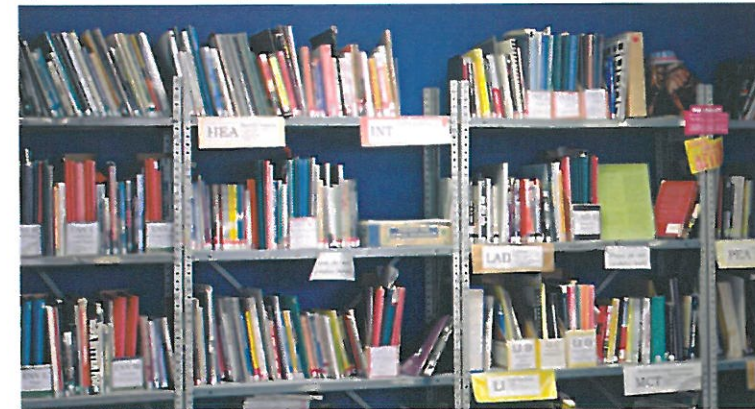
The 2011-2012 year continued to be a year of growth, change, and challenges for OPIRG-Carleton.

Long-time dedicated staffer Angela Mooney went on maternity leave in June, 2011, and OPIRG-Carleton hired Andrew Crosby on contract as the Finance and Organizational Development Coordinator and was offered a permanent position.

OPIRG's office experienced a significant makeover in the form of new computer hardware, a new photocopier and network jacks and a new projector and video camera. The old photocopier was gently pushed down the stairs of the University Centre and properly recycled, along with 707 pounds of antiquated OPIRG hardware. With the newfound space and equipment, an extra working group/volunteer workspace was opened up in the office.

Board member Alice-Rose Mick reinvigorated OPIRG's online presence in the form of a new website – [opirgcarleton.org](http://opirgcarleton.org) – and social media tools and trinkets.

Practicum student Niki Madore revolutionized OPIRG's resource centre including by creating an online catalogue – <http://www.librarything.com/profile/opirg-carleton>.



## OPIRG-Carleton Financial Statements

(For Year Ended August 31, 2012)

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2012

#### REVENUE

Student fees	161,965
Other	4,969
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>166,934</b>

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries and benefits	72,442
Rent	13,910
Programs	8,149
Office expenses	4,854
Provincial dues	4,257
Working groups	1,799
Insurance	1,647
Equipment leasing	1,500
Advertising and promotion	1,403
Donations and bursaries	1,150
Telecommunications	1,059
Professional fees	7,951
Interest, service charges and penalties	1,420
Amortization of capital assets	909
Loss on disposal of capital assets	1,894
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>124,344</b>

EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES 42,590

writing and artwork contributed by indigenous women, and helped organize fundraisers for Walk4Justice and Families of Sisters in Spirit during the "30 Days of Justice" campaign.

Contact: [ipsmo@riseup.net](mailto:ipsmo@riseup.net)

#### *InSol: Womyn of Colour Collective*

InSol: Women of Colour Collective is a united front of multi-ethnic women existing at many ends of the spectrum of colonial difference. We proudly identify as a dynamic fusion of critical, radical, anti-colonial, anti-racist, feminist women who stand in solidarity with the transnational struggle against all forms of oppression.

#### *Highlights*

This year, in collaboration with several organizations:

Agitate: Queer People of Colour, 3 Dreads and a Baldhead, and Black Caucus, we organized an event entitled: Neo-Negritude Expressions: Reclaiming Our Sexualities. Through art, music, film and community sharing, we aimed to provide a space where Black and people of colour could define, interrogate and broaden our own sexualities, sensualities and politics of being. Expressions of art and sensuality are rarely ever defined and expanded upon from the perspectives of those being defined, particularly Black and people of colour. It was therefore our goal to host a set of events that cater to critical discussions and expressions of Black art, culture and the possibilities of non-Western sexualities.



From November 18th- 20th, InSol hosted nationally respected New Orleans-born poet, performance artist, and photographer, Saddi Khali where he spoke on artistic intention & the value of Black photography, provided opportunities for private photo shoots, and exhibited his photography. On the morning of the 19th an art therapy workshop called Reclaiming Our Sexualities was led by a facilitator from the Minwaashin Lodge, the Aboriginal Women's Support Centre. In addition, a documentary produced by Toronto-based activist Kyisha Williams on Black/Queer/Femme sexuality and survival premiered later that evening with subsequent space for discussions and feedback. The events on the 20th included a Black Sexualities workshop with the screening of the documentary, *Still Black*. Directed by Kortney Ryan Ziegler, *Still Black* is a feature-length documentary that explores the lives of six black transgender men living in the United States.

Over the course of the year, we have also been involved in solidarity campaigns with SAIA including, supporting and attending SAIA rallies, events, student union meetings, as well as posting our support on our blog. We have been active within community groups, both individually and as members of InSol. In addition, we also author a blog which can be accessed at <http://wocinsol.wordpress.com/>.

Contact: [wocinsol@gmail.com](mailto:wocinsol@gmail.com)

## Ecological Justice Carleton

EJC seeks to organize, educate, and advocate for humanity's vital participation in Earth's biosphere. This includes addressing both systems destructive to ecosystems and structures exploitative to society. EJC aims to organize around goals of climate justice, food justice, water justice, and resilient co-operation; against neo-colonialism, neoliberalism, patriarchy, racism, ableism, homophobia, etc. – all systems part and parcel to the destruction of the Earth's biosphere and vital to human existence.



### Highlights

Ecojustice Carleton organized Climate Justice Week in October of 2011, including events:

- Climate Justice is Social Justice: A discussion with Judy Rebick and Brigitte Depape
- Beyond Talking Points: A Civil Society Panel on Creating Climate Justice at the Upcoming UN Climate Change in Durban, South Africa. With Tony Clarke (Polaris Institute), Graham Saul (Climate Action Network), Ben Powless (Indigenous Environment Network), Tasha Peters (Canadian Youth Climate Coalition), Louise Casselman (PSAC)
- Climate Justice Soirée at Club Saw, with the band Maribou and DJ Yalla Yalla

Contact: [ecologicaljusticecarleton@gmail.com](mailto:ecologicaljusticecarleton@gmail.com)

## Indigenous Peoples Solidarity Movement-Ottawa

The Indigenous Peoples Solidarity Movement – Ottawa (IPSMO) is a grassroots organization that directly supports indigenous peoples in diverse struggles for justice. We also work within communities to challenge the lies and half-truths about indigenous peoples and colonization that dominate Canadian society. The organization is open to both indigenous and non-indigenous people, and focuses on local and regional campaigns. As we act in solidarity with indigenous people, we build relationships where we can learn from indigenous cultures. By doing this, we can further decolonize ourselves, and so learn to better challenge the racist and colonial ideas that dominate Canadian society. We provide support to actions and campaigns for Indigenous sovereignty, self-determination, defense of the land, environmental protection, cultural revitalization, and the honouring of treaties and agreements.



### Highlights

Supporting the struggle of the Mitchikanibikok Inik (Algonquins of Barriere Lake) to protect their land and traditional governance system continued to be primary activity for IPSMO this year. In May, we supported a trip by a spokesperson from the community to the annual general meeting of Cartier Resources Inc., to express their opposition to mining exploration on their land. In July, the company suspended their operation for 2 years. We also promoted and organized fundraisers for the Barriere Lake Legal Defense Fund, to help cover the costs of a legal case challenging the federal government's imposition of an illegitimate band council on the community.

Another major focus of our work was education and advocacy about violence against indigenous women. We created a booklet called, *Honouring Indigenous Women: Hearts of Nations*, featuring

## Board of Directors

OPIRG-Carleton is governed by a volunteer, non-hierarchical Board of Directors and makes decisions by consensus. Directors are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and generally sit for two year terms.

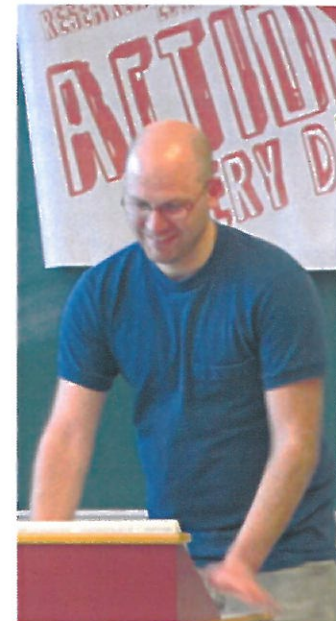
The OPIRG Board of Directors is comprised of 5-9 individuals with 2/3 of the members being Carleton University students. The role of the Board is to support OPIRG's projects and programming, as well as to govern the direction, vision, and growth of the organization.

### September 1, 2011 – April 4, 2012

Allan Buck  
Chris Bisson  
Caroline Larocque  
Cody d'Entremont  
Areej Schweel  
Alice-Rose Mick

### April 4 – August 31, 2012

Cody d'Entremont  
Areej Schweel  
Alice-Rose Mick  
Taylor Eby  
Arun Smith  
Angel Nsenga  
Dax D'Orazio – resigned



Board member Allan Buck chairs AGM

## STAFF

Angela Mooney, Coordinator

Angela took parental leave until June, 2012

Andrew Crosby, Finance and Organizational Development Coordinator

Andrew began his contract on June 8, 2011

During the Winter semester, two students from the Human Rights program completed a fourth year course – Practicum Placement in Human Rights (HUMR 4906A) – in the OPIRG office.

Victoria Miceli – Working Group Coordinator

Niki Madore – Resource Centre Coordinator

Dynamic duo Niki and Vicky worked seven hours every week for a total of 84 hours each in the OPIRG office as they gained practical experience working for a non-governmental organization engaged in human rights research or advocacy, as laid out in the course syllabus.

Niki reorganized OPIRG's library catalogue to an online format and Victoria coordinated PIRG volunteers and was engaged in regular programming. Both students provided insightful reports at the 2012 AGM.

### VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are involved at all levels of OPIRG-Carleton, from Board Members, Working Group members, practicum/intern/co-op students, researchers, general volunteers and supporters, and more!



### *Highlights*

The following is a timeline of Cinema Política's film screenings throughout the year:

- October 12, 2011 - Tony
- October 26, 2011 - DIVE! Living Off America's Waste
- November 9, 2011 - (Astro) Turf Wars
- November 23, 2011 - Cultures of Resistance
- February 1, 2012 - Blood in the Mobile
- February 15, 2012 - RIP: A Remix Manifesto
- February 29, 2012 - Weibo's War
- March 7, 2012 - Budrus
- March 21, 2012 - Better This World

Contact: [carleton@cinemapolitica.org](mailto:carleton@cinemapolitica.org)

### *Critical Social Research Collaborative*

The Critical Social Research Collaborative (CSRC) is an interdisciplinary research group made up of faculty, graduate students, organized labour and community activists based at Carleton



University. With an emphasis on social justice, grassroots organizing & labour solidarity, we encourage the sharing of collective knowledge, critical debate and interdisciplinary inquiry, which advance or challenge to theoretical and contemporary issues. The CSRC encourages non-traditional, provocative and radical analyses that may not find a forum in conventional academic or mainstream venues. We aim to provide a forum for collaborative social research through conferences and workshops, publications and podcasts, critical cinema and radical scholarship, which enhance and promote progressive political interventions.

### *Highlights*

In 2011/2012, the CSRC organized a workshop on feminist methodology, led by feminist researchers across the social science disciplines at Carleton. It was attended by a packed room of graduate students who were especially interested in the professor's emphasis on practicing reflexivity in research design rather than simply when analyzing information.

The CSRC also hosted a book launch and reception in collaboration with the department of Sociology and Anthropology for visiting scholar, Simten Coşar. Professor Coşar was visiting from Turkey, promoting the 2012 publication, *The AKP Years in Turkey: Neoliberalism with a Muslim Face*.

Finally, the CSRC hosted its fourth annual conference, entitled Faultlines of Revolution, on May 4, 2012. Building on the momentum and enthusiasm of the last three years, the conference brought together professors and graduate students across Canada, the Middle East, and South Asia to interrogate diverse faultlines of revolutionary thinking and practice, including Maoist insurrectionary politics, critical methodologies, labour, austerity, panels on indigenous politics, and more.

Contact: [csrcproject@live.ca](mailto:csrcproject@live.ca)



is detailed in a forthcoming publication in the *Punishment and Society* journal, as well as policing practices targeting marginalized populations in Ottawa.

Contact: [ati.carleton@gmail.com](mailto:ati.carleton@gmail.com)

### Books 2 Prisoners

The Books to Prisoners Project was initiated by OPIRG-Carleton members who were inspired by the prison activism of other PIRGs, especially those in Montreal. Our aim is to use Ottawa community resources - namely, books - and deliver the donations to prisoners who have requested reading materials. This project ties together research regarding prison regulations, programming, and accessibility; education of the public about these conditions; and action, in the form of getting books to the prisoners. It is a great way to get involved in Ottawa's activist community.

#### Highlights

Books 2 Prisoners Ottawa was unsuccessful -again again- at smashing down and chewing up the industrial prison complex that seems to plague us. We are like a Cold War, that is neither cold, nor a war, but more closely associated with the common cold: biting, annoying, working hard to keep those fragile bodies in the bureaucracy at CSC from performing their violent day to day functions. We held our annual book sale and a book launch for David Gilbert's *Love and Struggle*. We used the money to send books to friends, some we know and some we've never met, held captive on the inside.

REMEMBER FRIENDS: The only vehicle for prison reform...a bulldozer.

B2P has spent this past year, as every year 1) responding to mail requests for reading materials, and legal materials (from U.S. and Canadian prisoners), 2) participating in various coalitions or networks that organize around prisoner justice, opposing recent trends that emphasize punitiveness and imprisonment, particularly the federal government's tough on crime agenda, 3) working with other groups to organize and participate in Prisoner Justice Day events in August. We are currently in the middle of organizing with Justice for Levi (<http://www.justiceforlevi.org/>) to have a fundraiser/information event in Ottawa to support their campaign!"

Contact: [books2prisoners@hotmail.com](mailto:books2prisoners@hotmail.com)

### Cinema Politica

Cinema Politica aims to educate, enlighten and inspire individuals using progressive documentary films that cover a wide variety of social, political and environmental themes. We are committed to raising awareness about pressing contemporary issues, inspiring activism in relation to these issues, and promoting independent media and political arts. In addition to screening a range of films, we also invite guest speakers to complement screenings while answering questions and facilitating discussions. The Cinema Politica network now boasts over 40 chapters across Canada and is the largest grassroots documentary film series in the country.



### Books to Prisoners



## EVENTS, SPEAKERS, and PROGRAMMING

### OPIRG PROJECTS

OPIRG-Carleton has a number of ongoing campus and community-oriented resources and services (Bursaries such as Terry Cottam Research, Radical Frosh, Free Store, Equipment loans, organizing and meeting space, supplies, and support to network and organize), student-led initiatives (eg. Working Groups, OPIRG Roots radio show; historically: Oxbow Park naturalization project, recycling, Garden Spot, anti-racism, etc.), educational initiatives (Colloquium Speaker Series, Tools for Change Workshop Series, Training, Resource Centre) and organizes and supports events on campus and in the community.

### CO-SPONSORSHIPS

OPIRG-Carleton co-sponsored numerous events and campaigns throughout the year such as the Justice for Abla Campaign, the Denan Project, Neo-Negritude Expressions: Reclaiming Our Sexualities, the International Political Economy conference, the Honouring Indigenous Women Campaign, the Ottawa Student Strike Committee, and the Quebec Student Strike Ontario Tour.

### PROGRAMMING

- Climate Justice Week
- Israeli Apartheid Week
- Tools for Change Workshop Series

### DONATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS & SUPPORT

- Algonquins of Barriere Lake
- Alliance to End Homelessness
- BriarPatch Magazine
- Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
- Canadian Housing and Renewal Association
- CKCU 93.1 FM
- Families of Sisters in Spirit
- Grassy Narrows River Run
- Harmony House
- "Ipperwash Park" documentary
- KI First Nation Expedition to Protect Watershed
- Ottawa Food Bank
- Ontario Health Coalition

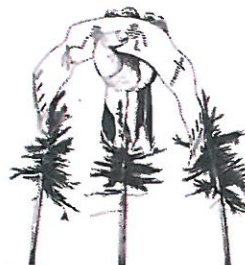
### CAMPUS UNITED

A group comprised of representatives groups that make up the university, from workers, to students, to organizations and unions. This group meets as needed to address campus wide issues such as contract negotiations, tuition fees, campus safety, and the Carleton Administration.

### OPIRG PROVINCIAL

OPIRG-Carleton is an autonomous member of Ontario PIRG. The membership of OPIRG Provincial is comprised of eleven autonomous, non-profit, university student-funded and directed organizations that conduct research, education, and action on social and environmental justice issues. <http://www.opirg.org/>

### Honouring Indigenous Women



## WORKING GROUPS

Working groups are collectives - groups of people who voluntarily agree to work together on a common issue towards a common goal while sharing responsibilities and decisions equally. Together with our volunteers, PIRG working groups are the heart of our organization. Contact the working groups directly to find out how you can get involved!

### 2011-2012

- Access to Information
- Books 2 Prisoners
- Cinema Politica
- Kawala
- The Leveller
- Students for Fair Trade
- Ecological Justice
- Critical Social Research Collaborative (CSRC)
- Indigenous Peoples Solidarity Movement Ottawa (IPSMO)
- InSol: Women of Colour Collective
- Permaculture Project Ottawa
- Students Against Israeli Apartheid (SAIA)



## Working Group Descriptions and Highlights

### *Access to Information*

The Access to Information (ATI)-Carleton Working Group puts the "R" in OPIRG! ATI-Carleton uses Access to Information and Freedom of Information legislation to research various issues of public interest. This past year, ATI-Carleton has been actively collecting data and disseminating it to the public in the form of academic papers, news articles, and conference presentations.



### *Highlights*

In 2011-2012, ATI-Carleton has focussed their attention around a number of major issues. These include policing and intelligence agencies, particularly around the G8, G20, and the 2010 Winter Olympics. Findings of this research have been published in the international journal *Policing and Society*, and were reported in the *Globe and Mail* and *CBC News*. ATI-Carleton has also been gathering data on the suppression of Indigenous movements, including the increasing surveillance and criminalization of Native communities asserting sovereign jurisdiction over their territories. Further, ATI-Carleton has looked at Canada's involvement in Israel and Palestine, focussing on the increasing ties between the Canadian military and the Israeli Defense Forces, research which has been featured in the *Dominion* magazine. Members of ATI-Carleton have also investigated surveillance practices targeting suspected terrorists in Canada, research which