Pacific Peoples' Partnership

2015-2016 Annual Review



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About Pacific Peoples' Partnership

Since 1975, Pacific Peoples' Partnership has established a reputation for effective relationships with Indigenous and civil society partners across the Small Island Developing States of the South Pacific and Indigenous communities in Canada. A registered charity, Pacific Peoples' Partnership strengthens rights based sustainable development initiatives that empower communities to harness their own creativity in addressing poverty, climate change and loss of culture. Pacific Peoples' Partnership is the only Canadian NGO firmly devoted to the Pacific. Moreover, no other Canadian NGO has North-South Indigenous linking so central to its mission. We are situated (guests) within the unceded Lekwungen Coast Salish traditional territories.

Mission

To support the aspirations of Pacific Islanders for peace, justice, environmental sustainability and development.

Objectives

- Promoting increased understanding among the Canadian public and decision makers of issues of importance to Pacific Islanders;
- Recommending policy change at a national, regional and international level;
- Fostering sustainable communities in the Pacific Islands, and facilitating links between North and South Pacific Indigenous communities.

Team



April Ingham, Executive Director Siobhan Powlowski, Deputy Director Pawa Haiyupis, Program Director Alan Thomas, Financial Officer Bob Broughton, Bookkeeper Andy Nystrom, Archivist & Research Assistant

2015-2016 Board of Directors

Muavae Va'a, President Andrea Clarke, Treasurer Eli Enns Dr. Carol Mayer Dr. John Moore

Kat Zimmer, Vice President Elaine Monds, Signing Officer Kirk Schwartz Eugene Lee Allison Gardner Paul Vandermade

A special thank you to Alcheringa Gallery for hosting our 2016 AGM.

Talofa Lava, Dear Friends,

Wow - what a year of accomplishment! Pacific Peoples' Partnership (PPP) celebrated our 40th Anniversary this past fiscal. We did so in signature style -- by showcasing our most innovative and celebratory programming. The anniversary was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the ongoing importance and resiliency of our organization, and of all Pacific peoples.

In this report you will find an overview of our efforts to build North-South Pacific solidarity in the 2015-2016 fiscal. Key programming included our 22nd Pacific Networking Conference (hosted in part by local Coast Salish peoples), Pacific Voices X-Change, our spectacular One Wave Festival and our Papua New Guinea master artist exchanges. We even hosted world renowned South Pacific fusion band Te Vaka, who are featured musicians within the animated Disney hit Moana.

We believe that it is important to make these expressions of Pacific culture and solidarity accessible to a broader Pacific audience. As such, we worked hard to improve our communications this past fiscal to share the outcomes of these marvelous programs. This investment in our virtual presence and media offering has shown great promise to expand our international reach.

Leveraging off of these programming successes, and bolstered by our continued belief in the importance of PPP, this fiscal our organization emerged from some tough financial years into a healthier position. Our capacity is now growing to meet the demand of the resulting workload. This growth is due in part to the success, diligence and strength of our combined efforts. We are now excited to begin a new phase of our organization with the launch of our 2016-2019 Strategic Plan. We have already started to build towards its implementation through the hiring of two new permanent staff members, Siobhan Powlowski and Pawa Haiyupis.

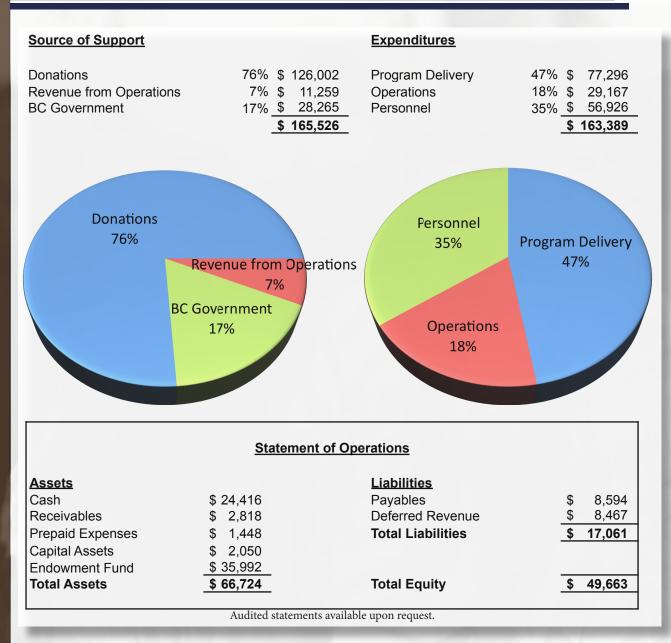
This year, we received a glowing endorsement from the Honorable Stéphane Dion, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, for our initiatives connecting Indigenous communities across the Pacific ocean. The time is now for an organization focused on the Pacific. We can see that Canada is beginning to reorient itself towards the South Pacific, and so it is important that our organization is ready to facilitate this renewed focus.

We are very proud of our 40th Anniversary and all of our accomplishments across the organization's history. We are thankful to have had your support, and look forward to continuing to walk beside you in our shared commitment to our Pacific communities.

Fa'afetai,

Muavae Va'a, President, April Ingham, Executive Director

Financial Report



2016 - 2019 Strategic Plan

In 2016 Pacific Peoples' Partnership was pleased to announce the adoption of a 2016-2019 Strategic Plan. The following strategic goals were identified to be our areas of focus over the next three years.

- Promoting Pacific resilience to climate change;
- Fostering gender equity in Pacific communities;
- Facilitating knowledge exchange between Pacific communities.
- Organizational financial viability

For more information on our strategic plan, please visit our website.

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Organizational Update

Fundraising: A pressing priority this year has been to secure sustainable funding for our organization itself. Our fundraising committee has developed a Basic Funding Proposal and identified several granting agencies that may be willing to provide core funding for our organization. In December 2016 we engaged an audit to prepare applications to these granting agencies. Moreover, Pacific Peoples' Partnership's application for membership in the US based GrantCraft was accepted this fall. Along with efforts to secure American non-proft status, this will allow United States and internationally based granting agencies to support our work.

Finance: Following the retirement of our long time Financial Officer Susan Albion, we hired Financial Officer Alan Thomas (MBA, CPA Accounting Designation), and Bookkeeper Bob Broughton, who has significant experience with non-profit organizations. Working with PPP Treasurer Andrea Clark and our Executive Director, the Finance Team is set on continuing to enhance financial systems, controls and processes. In addition we were pleased to engage independent Auditor Dustin Pewarchuk, CPA, CA for this fiscal's audit.

Communications: In the past fiscal we formed a new communications committee. This committee transitioned our website to a more more robust, accessible and affordable website. We launched a bi-monthly e-newsletter, "Pasifik Currents", to glowing reviews. The committee has created substantial multimedia content, including an interview with Dr. Moutou (PNG National Museum Director), an interview with Members of the Fiji National Women's Olympic Rugby Team, a film about Songhees Elder Joan Morris, blogs about Tribal Parks Gatherings, a special anniversary edition of Tok Blong Pasifik and much more.

Personnel: With the support of the Government of Canada and Volunteer Comox, we were able to access talented young interns as follows: Alexandra Dawley, Chesa Abma, Kevin Ziegler, Chantelle Halvorson, and Katie George-Jim.

Policy and Consultations: Over the last year, we participated in Global Affairs Consultations and Round Table participation, the Canadian Council for International Cooperation Ethics Review, Post Climate Deal and Global Goals, and a Global Affairs Country of Focus brief. We also prepared policy briefs for Federal Minister Bibeau and Minister Dion.

Special Guests - With help from our supporters, Pacific Peoples' Partnership coordinated and supported educational trips for the following individuals: Edward Dumoi, Nancy Wani and Claytus Yambon (Papua New Guinea), Betty Gigisi (Solomon Islands), Bao Waiko (Papua New Guinea), Shelley Muneoka (Hawai'i), Jewel Castro (Washington), Kim Halliday (Cook Islands), Mark Gauti (Vancouver),

Renae Morriseau (Vancouver), Ora Barlow-Tukaki (Maori – New Zealand), Meghann O'Brien (Vancouver), Robert Mills (Paj Paj) and Robert Mills Jr. (Australia), and Ta'Kaiya Blaney (Vancouver).

Our work would not be possible without supporters like you. Please consider making a charitable donation. http://pacificpeoplespartnership.org/donate-now/



The South Pacific is composed of 13 independent countries in three regions: Melanesia, Polynesia and Micronesia. These three regions are categorized based on geographical and cultural similarities.

Approximately 16 more countries are under ongoing colonial rule. Some, including New Caledonia, will be seeking independence in 2018.

Pacific Peoples' Partnership is Canada's only non-profit organization devoted exclusively to the people of the Pacific.



New Zealand



South Pacific Islands

Where do we work?

Pacific Networking Conference

In 2015 the Pacific Peoples' Partnership was pleased to host our 22nd Annual Pacific Networking Conference, titled Rising Tides: Our Lands, Our Waters, Our Peoples. The conference was an experiential program exploring Indigenous approaches to environmental sustainability, human rights, and cultural resilience. We were proud to unite communities of Indigenous leaders, multidisciplinary academics, activists, and creative thinkers in our efforts to build solidarity across the Pacific.

The 2015 Pacific Networking Conference deepened and strengthened North-South Indigenous connections while providing valuable public educational opportunities. We are thankful for the support of the Songhees, T'Sou-ke, Tsawout, Tsartlip, and Esquimalt nations in graciously hosting our conference.

Event Highlights



- **Experiential Learning at Tsartlip Nation:** A community conversation on language, health and water. Maori delegate Ora Barlow-Tukaki presented *Music and Arts as an Activator of Reclamation and of Kaitiaki-tanga (Guardian of Environment).*
- Art Speaks With the Land and Water: Discussion between Pacific artists Charles Elliott, Jewel Castro, Meghann O'Brien and Ake Lianga, facilitated by Cathi Charles Wherry .
- Experiential learning at the T'Sou-ke Nation: Guided tours of T'Sou-ke Solar Projects, garden projects and wasabi greenhouses.
 The session concluded with a discussion focussed on green economic development strategies.
- Healing the Land to Heal the People: A discussion panel focused on knowledge sharing between Indigenous communities.
- Sharing the Harvest: A Pacific Honouring Feast and Showcase (public): An event showcasing North and South Pacific artists, and works created by Indigenous youth artists of our Pacific Voices X-Change. Songhees elder Joan Morris introduced a documentary focused on the reclamation of Songhees territories.
- **Outtrip to PKOLS (Mt. Doug):** A site visit to explore the unjust history of the sacred space, including a discussion of land reclamation facilitated by Tsawout Hereditary Chief Eric Pelkey.

A full report, including media, is available on our website.



FrancOcean Pacifique

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26 SEPTEMBRE 2016

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Pacific Peoples' Partnership is pleased to be working in partnership with Fish Eye Project and Rivages Pacifique to present FrancOcéan Pacifique – Exploring the Water Continent that Connects Us.

This international educational program is directed towards Francophone students between grades 6 and 9 in British Columbia and New Caledonia. In this program, diving expeditions in both New Caledonia coral reefs and British Columbia salmon runs are broadcasted live into classrooms. Students are given the opportunity to directly engage with Indigenous and scientific experts on the cultural and environmental significance of these natural phenomena.

The project also provides an international component in which BC Francophone youth will have an opportunity to connect and share with Francophone youth from New Caledonia in the South Pacific. Once the educational program is complete, all content will also be available to the interested public, and (funding permitted) translated into English.

www.francoceanpacifique.com

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Papua New Guinea Master Artists Exchange

In June, 2016, Pacific Peoples' Partnership was pleased to host three distinguished artists from the Sepik Region of Papua New Guinea: Claytus Yambon (master carver), Nancy Wani (master weaver), and Edward Dumoi (master carver). Nancy is one of only a few women from the Sepik region to have ever travelled internationally.

Our guests were formally welcomed onto Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ territories as part of National Aboriginal Day on June 21st, 2015. Over the following three weeks Nancy, Claytus and Edward were hosted by several Indigenous communities across Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland, using art and story to create dialogue around issues shared by each community. Moreover, we were pleased to have the support of Alcheringa Gallery and the Museum of Anthropology in hosting numerous carving and weaving demonstrations for the public.

The exchange was a significant opportunity for the artists to participate in high level dialogue around significant mining developments threatening Sepik communities. Our guests participated in a roundtable at the Peter Wall Institute focused specifically on these operations, which included the Canadian International Resources & Development Institute CEO and leading voices from the academic and scientific communities. We appreciate the support of the UBC Museum of Anthropology in organizing this extraordinary opportunity.

This exchange was made possible through the outstanding support of host nations, community members and local organizations. The trip, in Edward Wani's words, was 'truly a golden opportunity'. Additional media, including a full report, is available on our website.



"Through discussion and sharing of songs it was apparent that as Indigenous people we are all fighting to protect our ancestral lands, and for this reason we must share our stories, learn from one another, and stand together in solidarity. The moments shared with our guests and the powerful people we encountered along the way broadened my perspective of the reality of injustice that so many of our Indigenous brothers and sisters, around the world, are facing each day."

-Chesa Abma, Xwsepsum (Esquimalt) Nation

<image>

Pacific Voices X-Change (1.0)

In 2015 we hosted Pacific Voices X-Change, an emerging artist residency for Indigenous youth. We worked closely with Mohawk/Tuscarora writer Janet Marie Rogers to assemble an impressive array of mentors, cultural leaders and partners to provide an empowering experience for ten Indigenous participants from across the Pacific.

Over the course of two weeks youth had opportunities to develop skills in radio, film, photography, music, poetry, and performance, all the while strengthening cultural knowledge and connections with local Indigenous communities. All youth were given an opportunity to showcase art at our One Wave Festival later that year.

One Wave Festival 2015

Since 2008, One Wave has been a constant feature of Victoria's vibrant festival scene. Linking artists from across the North and South in celebration of diverse expressions of culture, One Wave celebrates Pacific arts and culture and engages the public on concerns shared by Pacific communities.

In 2015 One Wave Festival featured a multi-cultural showcase of Indigenous and environmentally engaged artists and groups from across the Pacific. The festival nurtured future changemakers, engaged youth, and connected diverse communities through shared concerns. By bringing the public together through arts and cultural exploration, One Wave spurred creative dialogue and inspired action on threats to our shared lands and waters.
 The impact of Cyclone Winston on Loreto School in Levuka, Fiji.

About the Pacific Resilience Fund

In 2015 Pacific Peoples' Partnership created the Pacific Resilience Fund to accommodate a growing desire in the Global North to support Pacific Islanders' long term efforts to mitigate the worst effects of climate change.

The Pacific Resilience Fund allows our organization to provide programs that build communities' long term resilience to climate change. This responsive and community directed fund fills gaps at the grassroots level following major disasters in the South Pacific. It is not a disaster relief program. The Pacific Resilience Fund is supported by PPP's ongoing work in longer term climate resilience programming and advocacy.

Why Resilience?

The Pacific Islands are disproportionately impacted by climate change through increased storm surges, flooding, coral bleaching and more. Popular media has identified Pacific Islanders as vulnerable and passive recipients of the worst impacts of climate change. Symbolized by the Islander on the sinking atoll, Pacific Peoples' Partnership rejects the 'vulnerable Islander' narrative as paternalistic and colonial. This approach disregards the significant resilience of this region, including the area's Indigenous knowledge of extreme weather systems, significant sustainable initiatives, and leadership in environmental advocacy.

Resilience is the persistence of a community, or its ability to absorb shock. Resilience projects may include strengthening traditional knowledge, designing stronger buildings or empowering climate advocacy. It is a strengths based approach aligned with how Pacific Islanders see themselves.

2015-2016 Program Highlights

The Pacific Resilience Fund has been administered through partnership with reputable grassroots organizations. The following are highlights of projects administed through Pacific Resilience Funds.



Empowering Youth, Port Vila Vanuatu

The unprecedented strength of Cyclone Pam highlighted the need for community refuge spaces during extreme weather events. A portion of Pacific Resilience Funds from our Vanuatu, We are With You campaign was administed by Wan Smolbag to retrofit an existing dance studio to act as an evacuation space for surrounding communities. Pacific Peoples' Partnership also provided funds for the development of a new youth dance studio (pictured center).

Kastom Food Security, Erromango Vanuatu

A significant focus of the Pacific Resilience Fund is to promote Indigenous responses to climate change. In the aftermath of Cyclone Pam, Pacific Peoples' Partnership worked with the Erromango Cultural Association to strengthen community food security. The resulting project empowers Erromango communities to use traditional food preservation methods to offset food insecurity after disasters. Additional funds are being administed by the Erromango Cultural Association to replace kindergarten supplies ruined by Cyclone Pam, and to increase economic security for women by providing training in business management.

Rebuilding Loreto School, Levuka, Fiji

Pacific Peoples' Partnership is working with Fijian elders, our local South Pacific community and technical experts to design and build a more resilient Loreto School. Loreto School was destroyed by Cylone Winston in 2016 by powerful winds and storm surges (bottom left). We look forward to implementing this project in early 2017.



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ABELLE



Hy'chka-Siem to our retiring board members

Elaine Monds 1989 – 2016 (27 years) - Elaine has provided over thirty years of service to the organization as a Vice President, board member and volunteer. Elaine has worked tirelessly to support a large number of arts and cultural exchanges, including Killer Whale and Crocodile, Hailans to Ailans, and most recently the Papua New Guinea Artist and Cultural exchange profiled in this report. She was also responsible for our involvement with a primary health care project in Papua New Guinea (1987). Elaine is the director of Alcheringa Gallery, specializing in Indigenous art from across the Pacific, and a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for her lifetime of achievements (pictured left).

Dr. John Moore 2009 - 2016 (8 years) - A retired geology professor, John brought years of experience as a post-secondary education development advisor in Ethiopia, Mongolia and in Western (Indonesian) New Guinea. He provided PPP with critical insight into Pacific affairs, including his active support of the Sepik River peoples in dealing with a mining project that will soon be operating upstream from their village. John holds an active interest in Indigenous arts, language and culture. He calls Salt Spring Island his home, where he partakes in the Island's choral and Jazz music communities. (Pictured left with Elaine Monds).

Kirk Schwartz 2014 - 2016 (2 years) - Kirk has provided invaluable technical and volunteer support to our organization for over six years. Kirk continues to play an important role in directing our communications, and as a mentor within several of our arts based programs. He is a digital media instructor, innovator, community activist and artist who has helped us establish an international media presence. Kirk intends to stay fully engaged as a regular volunteer and contributor to PPP - and we couldn't be more thrilled to have him on in this capacity. (Pictured center).

Please consider making a secure online donation, or becoming a monthly sustaining donor, member or volunteer today. Our work would not be possible without continued financial support from generous community members like you.

Major Donors: Government of Canada, Province of British Columbia, Equitex Realty Ltd., First Peoples' Cultural Council, LUSH Fresh Handmade Cosmetics, Telus Community Investment Grant, The Christensen Fund, Victoria Foundation, Volunteer Comox Valley

Partners, Business Donors & Contributors: Ake Lianga, Alcheringa Gallery, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, ArtsVictoria.ca. Best Western Plus, Centre for Asia Pacific Initatives (UVIC), City of Victoria, CRD (Capital Regional District), Creatively United for the Planet, Community Action Bus, Dan Lepsoe Chisel Fund, Disaster Aid Canada, Elders & Youth Tribal Governance Fund, Famoso Pizzeria, Fish Eye Project, First Peoples' House (UVic), Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, Gumboot Productions, Human's of Vanuatu, Indigenous Governance (UVic), MediaNet, Metropol Industries, Museum of Anthropology (UBC), Pearson College UWC, Puppets for Peace, Raptim Humanitarian Travel, Rika Design, Rivage Pacifique, Robert Bateman Centre, Royal BC Museum, Savage 11 Canoe Club, Social Coast, Songhees Wellness Centre, Sunset Labs, Te Vaka, Tradewinds musical group, Tsartlip Health Centre, Vancity, Victoria Aboriginal Cultural Festival (Aboriginal Tourism BC), Victoria Event Centre, Vistaprint, Wasabi Greenhouses, WJOLELP Community Gardens, World Fisheries Trust

Host Nations & Parnters: Songhees Nation, Esquimalt Nation, Tsawout Nation, Tsartlip Nation, Tseycum Nation, T'Sou-ke Nation, Pauquachin Nation, Squamish Nation, Musqueam Nation, Tla-o-qui-aht Nation

Media Partners: 100.3 the Q, 101.3 the Zone, CBC 'On the Island' with Peter Hutchinson, CFUV 101.9 FM, CHEK News, Martlett (UVIC), Saanich News, Shaw Cable 10, The New Agora, Times-Colonist - Mike Devlin, Victoria News

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Volunteers and Committee Members: Aayushi Dubey, Alexandra Dawley, Alison Gardner, Amanda Lunny, Amy Mawdsley, Andrea Clark, Andy Nystrom, Anneda Char, April Ingham, Ashley Currie, Carol Mayer, Cat Sturk, Chantelle Halvorson, Charlene Birkbeck, Cheryl Mason, Chesa Abma, Concerta Anne McIntyre, Darlene Sanderson, Elaine Monds, Elizabeth Cox (Papua New Guinea), Emma King, Emmy Marshall-Hill, Emori Tuinawaikoro, Erich Nadler, Eugene Lee, Galen Armstrong, Genna Brunet, Helen Lansdowne, Helena Mota, HELP Resources PNG, Ingrid Abma, Janet & Noa Molia, Jeff Corntassel, Joan Morris, Joe Fuailefau, John Moore, Julie Hedderson, Kat Zimmer, Kevin Ziegler, Kirk Schwartz, Laura Hebert, Linda Chan, Mandy Pui, Marc Demontigny, Mark Salter, Marie Va'a, Maureen Campbell, Max Murillo, Miranda Clement, Morgan Slavkin, Mua Va'a, Paul Vandermade, Peni Tavultonivalu, Peter & Alison Gardner, PPP Board Members, Randall Garrison, Sally Zwiers, Sarah Mossman, Siobhan Powlowski, Sipili Molia, Sue Lolo (Australia), Tina Savea

Artists & Cultural Contributors: Ake Lianga, Angus Ta Orkon, Anneda Loup, Audie Murray, August Thomas, Bao Waiko, Bradley Tejano-Smith, Carla Funk, Cathi Charles Wherry, Charles Elliott, Cheryl Bryce, Claytus Yambon, Dan McGarry, Darcy Matthews, Darlene Sanderson, Douglas Preston, Edward Dumoi, Elaine Monds, Eli Enns, Eric Pelkey, Esquimalt Singers & Dancers, Francis Dick, Heather Tufts, Humans of Vanuatu, J. Lingwood, Janet Marie Rogers, Jessica Joseph, Jewel Castro, Joan Morris, Kim Halliday, Kirk Schwartz, Lekwungen Dancers, Lilia's Polynesian Dancers, Linda Bristol, Mark Gauti, Meghann O'Brien, Muave (Mua) Va'a, Nancy Wani, No Rey, Opetaia Foa'i, Ora Barlow-Tutaki, Pearls of the South Pacific, Phoenix Clark, Puppets for Peace, Renae Morriseau, Rick Heywood (RIKA), Rik Leaf, Robert Mills, Robert Mills (Paj Paj), Sampaguita Dancers, Shelley Muneoka, Silvey Sampson, Steven Davies, Susan Point, Ta'Kaiya Blaney, Taylor Danielle William, Te Vaka, Tiffany Joseph, Tim Hunt, Tradewinds, Warless, Whistling Kettle Improv

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KANAKY

GOUVERNEMENT

FRONT INDÉPENDANTISTE reconnaissez le peuple Kanak pour qu'à son tour il vous reconnaisse

Thank You Tumas.

Review Credits

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Background images on pages 1, 2, 8, 10, 12 and 14 were taken in the South Pacific by Elaine Briere and used with permission by Pacific Peoples' Partnership. An award-winning documentary filmmaker and photographer, Elaine has completed significant projects in both of her chosen genres. Her first film, Bitter Paradise, won Best Political Documentary at Hot Docs. Her second film, Betrayed, was released in 2006. Elaine is currently working on a documentary about the democracy movement in Haiti. She holds a masters in Liberal Studies and has guest lectured at Emily Carr, the University of Toronto, and the Harvard Film School.

This Annual Review was designed by Siobhan Powlowski.

Contact us for more details at (25) 381-4131 or info@pacificpeoplespartnership.org. Our office is located at #407, 620 View Street, Victoria BC V8W 1J6. www.pacificpeoplespartnership.org