

Action Canada for Sexual Health & Rights

ANNUAL REPORT 2018–2019

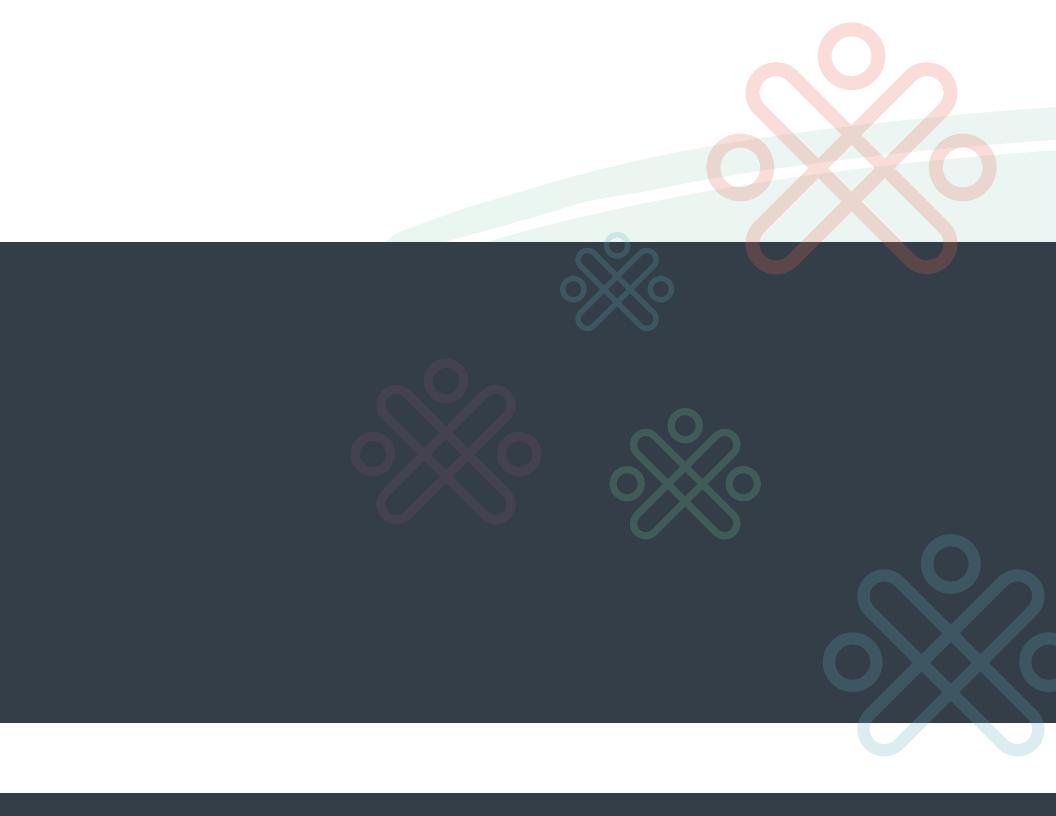


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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

When we formed Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights by bringing together three of Canada's leading sexual and reproductive health and rights organizations in 2014, we wanted to build a strong national and international voice on SRHR. For five years, I've had the honour of acting as Executive Director of that unified voice—and each year, I've seen our organization grow, create stronger partnerships, and increase momentum in our movement.

The past year had been no different. Staff, volunteers, and partners worked hard to fight the repeal of sex-ed curriculum in Ontario, provide stigma-free sexual health information to people from coast to coast to coast, push for cost coverage for contraceptive and abortion care, and advocate for more Canadian leadership on global sexual and reproductive health.

You've helped us hold governments accountable—across Canada and around the world. You've supported us to create new projects amplifying and driving forward change and helped to launch campaigns to resist regression. Together, we've connected with millions of young people in Canada to provide them with information and referrals to safeguard their sexual and reproductive health.

Our work is made possible by your support. As you read our annual report, I hope you'll join me in feeling proud of the incredible work we've done at Action Canada over this past year.

Thank you for continuing to be part of our community.

In solidarity,

Sandeep Prasad

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

DEAR FRIENDS,

It has been another exciting and eventful year for Action Canada.

The organization continues to build on the 50-year legacy of CARAL, the Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada, Canadians for Choice, Action Canada for Population and Development, and the Canadian Federation for Sexual Health.

With that strong foundation and through sustained efforts of the management team, Action Canada has grown to become a national leader on sexual and reproductive health and rights. With governments failing to respect, protect, and fulfill the rights of people in Canada and around the world, the collective efforts of those working toward this end are essential.

Through the year, Action Canada connected frontline services to upstream social change, partnered with grassroots

movements and international bodies, and worked to facilitate change locally and globally.

The Board of Directors continues to bring unique perspectives, thoughtful insight, time and energy to the work of Action Canada. I appreciate the opportunity to share this role with them.

Respectfully,



Cathy Steven

ABOUT US

Action Canada for Sexual Health & Rights is a progressive, human rights based charitable organization committed to advancing and upholding sexual and reproductive health and rights in Canada and globally.

We are an organization that works in Canada and around the world to promote health, wellbeing, and rights related to sexuality and reproduction. Building on the 50-year legacy of the organizations that formed Action Canada, we provide direct support, referrals, and information to the people who need it most, partner with groups and organizations to advocate for rights using a collaborative, movement-building approach, and work with decision-makers to advance progressive policies on access to abortion, stigma-free healthcare, gender equality, LGBTQ rights, and inclusive sex-ed.

OUR VISION

People everywhere have control over and are able to decide freely upon all matters related to their sexuality, reproduction, and gender, including their sexual and reproductive health.



OUR MISSION

To advance and uphold sexual and reproductive health and rights in Canada and globally.

OUR VALUES

- 1. All individuals have the right to have control over and decide freely upon all matters relating to their sexuality, reproduction, gender, and health, including abortion.
- 2. Choice, autonomy, and consent are central to all matters relating to sexuality, reproduction, and gender.
- 3. We believe that gender norms are harmful.
- 4. We address and challenge oppression, including racism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, and classism.
- 5. We aspire to work with communities and movements that are marginalized or have been historically disadvantaged.
- 6. Our organization and our work are rooted in feminism and human rights.
- 7. We are a sex-positive organization and we believe that sexuality should be a positive element in life.
- 8. We believe in helping people acquire the tools and knowledge necessary to advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights for themselves and their communities.
- 9. We are justice-seeking movement-builders that participate in political, health, education, and human rights spaces, both at the grassroots and policy level.
- 10. We aspire to be a good partner to other organizations, individuals, and activists.
- 11. We value information and knowledge-sharing rooted in evidence and science.

OUR HISTORY

WE ARE ACTION CANADA FOR SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS.

CARAL, Canadians for Choice, Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada, Canadian Federation for Sexual Health, and Action Canada for Population and Development.

Following decades of activism, in 2014, three of Canada's leading sexual and reproductive health and rights organizations came together to form a unified voice. Our shared history of being leaders in the movement to decriminalize abortion, coordinate sexual health clinics and education, and realize sexual and reproductive rights through international law sets the foundation for our work today.

From partnerships with health care providers and activists on the ground to engaging decision-makers in Canada and around the world, progressive change and movement building is at the core of everything we do.



WHAT WE DO

. . . .

Over the course of the year, Action Canada continued our work to protect the sexual and reproductive rights of people in Canada and around the world, push for better policies, provide stigma-free, evidence-based resources, and help people in Canada lead healthier lives.



EXPANDING KNOWLEDGE ON SEXUAL HEALTH

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ACCESS LINE

Action Canada's Access line is a confidential 24-hour countrywide toll-free number providing referrals and stigma-free information related to sexual and reproductive health to people across the country. This year, we answered over 2,500 calls, had volunteers on-call for 6,656 hours, and provided support to people from coast to coast to coast needing referrals to their nearest abortion providers, information on where to get tested for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), or a judgment-free conversation to weigh their different pregnancy options. Every call is unique—and each conversation is made possible thanks to generous support from our donors. The Access Line is a critical resource in our work to make sure everyone in Canada has equal access to accurate sexual health information and the comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services that they need.



Percentage of total access line callers from each province/territory

NORMA SCARBOROUGH EMERGENCY FUND

Over 70% of Access Line callers seeking abortion care tell us that travel and location are major barriers. Many need the support of the Norma Scarborough Emergency Fund, a fund which pays for travel, medication, and other related expenses. Callers face a range of barriers from lack of coverage under their provincial health care, tenuous immigration status, or poverty. The Emergency Fund is the only one of its kind in Canada and is made possible thanks to our donors.



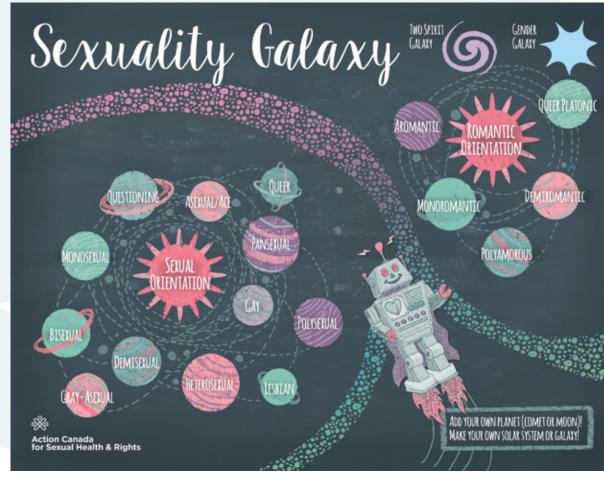
700 educators across Canada now have access to *Beyond the Basics*, including workplans and activities to guide their work

This year, we were able to provide help with travel and accommodation to 55 people who would otherwise not be able to afford or access this essential medical service. Every year, the donor-supported Emergency Fund is drawn down to \$0—and last year, the need was so great that an additional \$10,000 was required.

Abortion is health care—and ensuring that people have access to that care is the responsibility of our governments, but in the meantime, we will continue to help people access the care they need through the Emergency Fund.

BEYOND THE BASICS AND COMPREHENSIVE SEX ED

Action Canada continues to guide conversations ranging from anatomy to consent to healthy relationships with *Beyond the Basics. Beyond the Basics* approaches sex ed from a human rights perspective across all gender identities and sexual orientations and engages students to think critically and feel empowered about their sexual health. The book can be purchased at a cost-recovery rate online and includes access to an online community of teachers and the up-to-date information and classroom activities, including Action Canada's gender and sexuality galaxy.



CAMPAIGN: #SEXEDSAVESLIVES

No matter where you live in Canada, sex ed is missing the mark. Over the year, young people have shared their experiences with us. Some have told us they never once had a sex ed class, while others say they only received abstinence-based sex ed. Comprehensive sexuality education has been neglected, ignored, or actively attacked by various levels of government across the country. In response, Action Canada launched a multi-year campaign to drive federal leadership on sex ed.

It's early days, but we're already seeing progress. In June, we celebrated the revised Canadian Guidelines for Sexual Health Education, which Action Canada proudly contributed to. Through the year, we developed and shared resources on the importance of sex-ed and the need for it to be a national priority and created a set of sexual health indicators to track trends at a national level.

We engaged the Prime Minister and his cabinet to push them to champion sex ed. We continued to support provincial partners towards improved delivery of sex ed, including pushing back against **ONTARIO'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW THE 2015 CURRICULUM, AND HOSTED A SERIES OF ROUNDTABLE CONSULTATIONS WITH YOUNG PEOPLE.**

SNAPSHOT: SEX ED IN ONTARIO



When the Government of Ontario announced its plan to cancel the 2015 health curriculum and revert back to curriculum from 20 years ago that excludes the experiences of many young people, Action Canada rallied with The 519 and SHORE Centre to submit an urgent appeal to the UN's Special Procedures, drawing attention to the human rights violations occurring. In December, Canada received an official communication endorsed by UN human rights experts demanding Canada take immediate steps to ensure compliance with human rights.

The message to Canada from the UN was clear: failure to ensure access to sex ed is a violation of human rights. Federal and provincial governments must make sure all young people are provided with adequate sex ed.

SRH WEEK

In 2019, our annual Sexual and Reproductive Health Awareness Week focused on **Sexual Health at All Ages**. From February 11 to 15, we explored sexual health at different stages of life, offering resources on topics from sex-positive parenting to aging and sexuality.

We sent over 4,500 resources to clinics, public health agencies, schools, and non-profits in every province and territory to promote sex positive health services and participate in the campaign. As part of the campaign, we shared podcasts, blogs, and social media resources on healthy sexuality to reach communities across the country. SRH Week highlights the important and personal relationships between health care providers and individuals, bringing awareness to the need for inclusive and affirming care for all!



SEXUAL HEALTH INFORMATION HUB

Action Canada's Sexual Health Information Hub is a unique bilingual, sex positive, youth friendly online sexual health hub that shares information on anatomy, sexual health, and the social aspects of sexuality. This year, 34,269 people accessed the evidence-based, judgment-free information they need to provide and receive quality care. The Hub also helps medical professionals, patients, and clients destigmatize sexual and reproductive health care.

Built in consultation with advocates, partner organizations, and medical professionals, the Hub is updated annually. Through accurate, plain language information, the Hub supports everyone in making important decisions about their health and lives. Over the past year, we worked to update the Hub's technology, making it more accessible to users—we welcome all users to give the new Hub a try!

CAMPAIGN: GET TESTED AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR

What are STIs? What is STI testing like? Where can young people go to get it done, and will they be treated badly there?

This year, with support from the Public Health Agency of Canada, Action Canada launched a national campaign to raise young people's awareness of the importance of regular STI testing. Based on insight from our National Youth Advisory Board, after their second in-person leadership retreat, and diverse youth focus groups, we created *Get Tested At Least Once a Year*. The campaign destigmatized STI testing by focusing on healthy relationships, reducing guilt and shame, and framing testing as an essential part of annual health. Based on the wide-reaching impact of the campaign, we are now developing regional campaigns, with a first launch set for Toronto.

Campaign videos ran on Facebook, Snapchat, and Instagram, reaching over 3.5 million young people.

All content around STIs, frequency of testing, and other key information is available year-round at **www.onceayear.ca**

We create a directory of youth friendly STI testing facilities.

SEXUAL HEALTH SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Sexual Health Service Directory is a one-stop shop combining multiple service resources to create a for people to find the sexual and reproductive health services they need. With new searchable functionality, this tool provides information on the closest surgical and medical abortion, STI testing, and IUD services in communities across the country. The directory now includes an Action Canada Youth Friendly certification so that young people can find the clinics and providers that are right for them. The directory continues to be one of the most popular resources on our website. Through the year, we worked with partners across Canada, including CART/GRAC (Contraception and Abortion Research Team) and the National Abortion Federation, to grow our directory of abortion providers as medical abortion availability increased. Action Canada continues to work with and support new providers to ensure we can connect people with essential health services.

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Action Canada's associate organizations provide a range of clinical, subsidized, and free sexual health services, including education and resources related to pregnancy options, birth control, STI prevention, and counseling. The collaborative work of the network includes joint advocacy, bulk purchasing of condoms, and addressing service gaps in policy and legislation. From Vancouver Island to the Atlantic, this network informs our shared goal to bring the individual experiences of people in Canada to the global movement for sexual and reproductive rights for all.

Our strong network of advocates and providers continued to make waves over the year. Together, we fought to advance human rights, ensure cost coverage for Mifegymiso in all provinces, and call for better health services.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

BENTLEY AWARDS

As part of their legacy, Helen and Fred Bentley generously support sexual health innovation and leadership through the Helen and Fred Bentley Awards of Excellence. Coordinated by Action Canada, the award includes a monetary prize to support ongoing efforts in the field. The committee received a strong number of applications and was proud to award this year's prize to Sexual Health Nova Scotia and Saskatoon Sexual Health.

BENTLEYawards



Sexual Health Nova Scotia's Doing It Better program trains service providers on sexual violence prevention and sexuality education to better support people living with intellectual disabilities. Sexuality education is important, but often unavailable for people with intellectual disabilities. Through the program, Sexual Health Nova Scotia produced a 360-page manual of research, lessons, and activities for facilitators to fill these gaps.

Saskatoon Sexual Health's Wrap It Up! SK is a youth-led campaign tackling high rates of STIs and unplanned pregnancies in Saskatchewan. Wrap It Up! SK seeks to increase condom usage and acceptability among youth by increasing condom distribution. In the first two years, over 300,000 condoms were distributed—a 60% increase in distribution in the community.



HARRIS SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Walter Harris established the Phyllis P. Harris Scholarship to recognize Phyllis P. Harris' commitment to the ideals and work of Planned Parenthood in Canada (now Action Canada). The Scholarship provides financial support to individuals showing leadership in sexual and reproductive health and rights and supports research that will contribute to the effectiveness of our movement's work. This year, Action Canada gave out two Harris scholarships.

Emily Osborne is a Master of Arts in Social Justice Education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. Her thesis research focused on the methods of delivery of Ontario's 2015-revised Health and Physical Education Curriculum's (9–12) Human Development & Sexual Health component in public high school classrooms.

Natalya Mason is a registered social worker and graduate student in Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. She is also completing a Post-Graduate Certificate in Sexual Health at the University of Alberta. Natalya's thesis work focused on adolescent girls and social/emotional barriers to condom use such as gender stereotypes, social risk, and emotional intelligence.

STRENGTHENING CANADA'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ON SRHR

FUTURE PLANNING INITIATIVE

Action Canada continues to coordinate and lead a coalition of six organizations working to sustain and grow Canada's global leadership on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Canada continues to play a unique role in support of SRHR on the global stage—but we can do more. Through Global Affairs Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, identifying SRHR as a central priority, it has the capacity to fill the devastating gap created through the re-enactment of the U.S. Global Gag Rule, while taking steps to address historically neglected areas within the SRHR agenda—including safe abortion care, contraceptive care, adolescent SRHR, and legal and policy advocacy for SRHR.

Right now, people around the world lack access to care, governments are adopting retrogressive laws and policies, and there is a rising momentum in anti-choice activism. In this landscape, our leadership to push Canada to realize sexual and reproductive rights at home and around the world is more critical than ever.

SECURING AND INCREASING CANADA'S INVESTMENT IN GLOBAL SRHR

Over a decade working to push for increased financial and political leadership on global sexual and reproductive health and rights in Canada, we reached a milestone in June 2019. Canada announced an annual investment of \$1.4 billion in development assistance, with \$700 million per year allocated to the most neglected areas of SRHR through 2030. This commitment is the result of years of Action Canada's sustained, dedicated advocacy with the Government of Canada—holding the line in the face of Harper-era restrictions and moving policy forward when the political opportunity presented itself.



Throughout the year, Action Canada employed diverse advocacy strategies to affect change. We hosted a multi-stakeholder discussion on innovating financing for SRHR work, facilitated numerous technical briefings with Global Affairs Canada staff, engaged Parliamentarians on key issues including SRHR in humanitarian settings, organized a series of learning webinars for Canadian civil society organizations with global SRHR experts, and co-led the Thrive coalition to advocate for increased Official Development Aid (ODA) investment from Canada after the expiration in 2020, with \$500 million successfully allocated for neglected SRHR areas in the current ODA budget.



UNFPA STATE OF WORLD POPULATION REPORT

Action Canada is the implementing partner of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Canada. This year, we partnered with UNFPA and Global Affairs Canada to launch both the 2018 and 2019 State of World Population Reports for the 16th year in a row. For the fourth time, Action Canada officially partnered with Global Affairs Canada to launch the report. For the third time, the Minister of International Development joined Action Canada to deliver formal remarks. Hundreds of global and domestic SRHR experts convened to mark the release.



MEDIA SNAPSHOT

Canada's support for SRHR globally and the work of UNFPA featured in **the Globe and Mail** and Rabble

BUILDING A HEALTHIER, SAFER FUTURE IN CANADA

CAPPD

With the anti-choice film Unplanned premiering on Parliament Hill, there is an even more critical role for Parliamentarians to counter increasing rhetoric which seeks to limit and violate the rights of people who can get pregnant.

The Canadian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (CAPPD) is a forum for sitting Senators and Members of Parliament to build knowledge and exchange ideas on sexual and reproductive health, gender equality, human rights, and development issues. As secretariat of the CAPPD, we have direct access to federal decision-makers across all party lines through which we continue to push the sexual and reproductive health and rights agenda forward in Parliament.

This year, Action Canada worked in collaboration with CAPPD as well as UNFPA, the European Parliamentary Forum, and the Government of Canada, to host the 7th International Parliamentarians Conference on the Implementation of ICPD (IPCI/ICPD) bringing together over Parliamentarians from around the world to take action on SRHR. The conference brought together more than 100 Parliamentarians from around the world to take stock of progress towards furthering sexual and reproductive health and rights and committing to an action agenda on SRHR for the years to come.

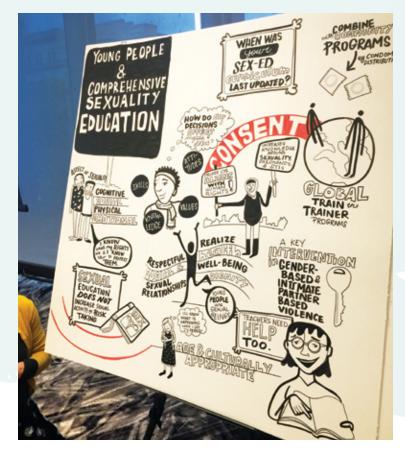




The IPCI/ICPD Ottawa Statement of Commitment is the boldest, most forward looking IPCI/ICPD Statement of Commitment ever adopted.

Taking place the year before the 25th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Statement of Commitment sets a high ambition for the first five years of implementation of SRHR within the Sustainable Development Goals.

Action Canada led CAPPD conversations, convened Executive Committee Meetings, supported participation of CAPPD members at Women Deliver 2019 and a parliamentary delegation on Universal Health Coverage and ICPD to Zambia, and shared regular news through the CAPPD newsletter.



REDUCING BARRIERS TO ABORTION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE

Action Canada led the charge to ensure people from coast to coast to coast have access to safe abortion care. Over the past year, we successfully advocated for the removal of mandatory ultrasound requirements by Health Canada and coordinated a visit to Canada by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to health.

ACTION CANADA SECURED A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR DIRECTING CANADA TO "ENSURE THAT ALL GIRLS AND WOMEN IN CANADA, INCLUDING MIGRANTS AND INDIGENOUS WOMEN, HAVE ACCESS TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INFORMATION AND SERVICES, INCLUDING SAFE ABORTION, ACROSS PROVINCES AND TERRITORIES, REGARDLESS OF CON-SCIENTIOUS OBJECTIONS."

Building on our work to increase availability to the abortion pill combination, branded as Mifegymiso in Canada, we pushed provincial governments to make the pill available and secure cost coverage. As New Brunswick remains a province where people face serious barriers to accessing abortion, Action Canada worked with local leaders, including Clinic 554, to identify strategies to eliminate barriers.

Following the increased attention on the forced and coerced sterilization of Indigenous women in Canada, we secured a recommendation from UN Committee Against Torture (CAT) on the issue, and built awareness across the country through media.

CAMPAIGN: COMMIT TO RESIST

With rising roll-backs on abortion in the United States and around the world, and the screenings in Canada of the anti-choice film *Unplanned*, Action Canada mobilized a response. Our community joined together to demonstrate solidarity with advocates in the US and highlight access to abortion in Canada remains a serious challenge.

Through the *Commit to Resist* campaign, we published a solidarity statement and immediately engaged hundreds of individuals and dozens of organizations from across communities. The petition laid the groundwork for strategic advocacy to defend abortion rights in the lead up to the federal election, helped people in Canada take direct actions to protect abortion care, and created space for our communities to focus on the real issues of abortion access in Canada. Partnering with experts like Dr. Wendy Norman, we also began the create a strategy to secure national sexual health indicators.

Fifty years ago, Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights (formerly Planned Parenthood Canada), alongside feminist activists and allies, forced the laws of this country to change. With the support of hundreds of organizations and our supporters across Canada, we will keep fighting.

Anti-choice and regressive populist movements everywhere are putting us all at risk and we must unite to fight. Abortion is one frontline in attacks against women, LGBTQ folks, migrants, youth, poor folks, people living with disabilities, people of colour. Restricting or denying abortion access has always disproportionately impacted the most marginalized. We will leave no one behind. We pledge to continue to fight to make access to abortion more equal.

#CommitToResist @actioncanadashr 🏼 🎇

SNAPSHOT-STATE OF THE WORLD POPULATION REPORT LAUNCH IN 2019



ADVANCING THE SEXUAL RIGHTS INITIATIVE

The Sexual Rights Initiative (SRI) is a vibrant Global South-Global North coalition of feminist organizations from each UN region that come together to advocate for sexual rights within the international human rights system. The SRI was formed in 2006 out of an identified need to enhance Global South presence and perspectives within international debates on sexual rights. The coalition employs an advocacy approach grounded in rigorous feminist analysis, a sophisticated understanding of international human rights law and processes, in-depth knowledge of diverse national and regional contexts, and close collaboration with a wide range of actors and social justice movements.

Current SRI partners include Action Canada, Akahatá, the Coalition of African Lesbians, CREA (Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action), and the Federation for Women and Family Planning, with Action Canada acting as the administrative secretariat and coordinating partner.

The SRI works across the whole international human rights system to advance global norms and standards related to sexual rights and to support the engagement of national and regional organizations in these processes. The SRI strengthens the link between national and international advocacy efforts through trainings, capacity building, production, and sharing innovative resources, knowledge translation, reports, statements, and submissions. Through the SRI, we leverage our long-standing global presence to create political and policy space for national organizations to advocate for their own priorities.





SCALING UP OUR PRESENCE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

After years of work at the UN, this past year was the first full year with a dedicated office for SRI coordination in Geneva, Switzerland, allowing the SRI team to have a more active presence at the United Nations. In September 2019, the Ambassador of the Netherlands was present to open the new office.

The SRI Geneva office is now operating with a full complement of staff to support the scaling up of coalition work, including engagement with Special Procedures and Treaty Monitoring Bodies.

TRACKING DATA AND HOLDING GOVERNMENTS TO ACCOUNT

Holding governments accountable to human rights is the path to sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. That's why the SRI developed and continues to run two databases used by advocates, human rights organizations, and policymakers around the world.

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a global process for reviewing the human rights records of each member country. The SRI's UPR Database provides access to all country specific sexual rights related recommendations and information on their implementation to help track human rights progress. The database is continuously updated, containing over 35,000 records kept on an open-access website that is user-friendly and accessible to all people, from beginners to experts.

The National Sexual Rights Law and Policy Database helps document and compare laws and policies related to sexual rights issues in countries around the world. With this information accessible in a central place, a range of stakeholders can use this data to track the status of sexual rights across the world and to inform advocacy strategies.

COLLABORATING FOR CHANGE AT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Resolutions on Human Rights

At the 39th, 40th, and 41st Sessions of the Human Rights Council (HRC), the SRI worked closely States, UN Agencies, civil society organizations, and activists from around the world to secure greater recognition and accountability for SRHR. Key advances were made in resolutions focusing on:

> Preventable maternal mortality and morbidity Discrimination against women and girls in sport Violence against women and girls Child early and forced marriage Discrimination against women and girls Access to water and sanitation

Collaborative Events

During the sessions, the SRI also hosted three events focusing on regional developments in abortion law reform, feminist activism on SRHR within regional human rights systems, and intersectionality as policy and practice. The events featured speakers from partners in Argentina, Poland, and South Africa, about the relationship between geopolitics and global SRHR advocacy.

Joint Statement on Abortion

On International Safe Abortion Day 2018, the SRI organized more than 200 civil society organizations from around the world to deliver a mass joint statement to the HRC calling for state accountability in guaranteeing the right to access safe abortion.

SRI BY THE NUMBERS

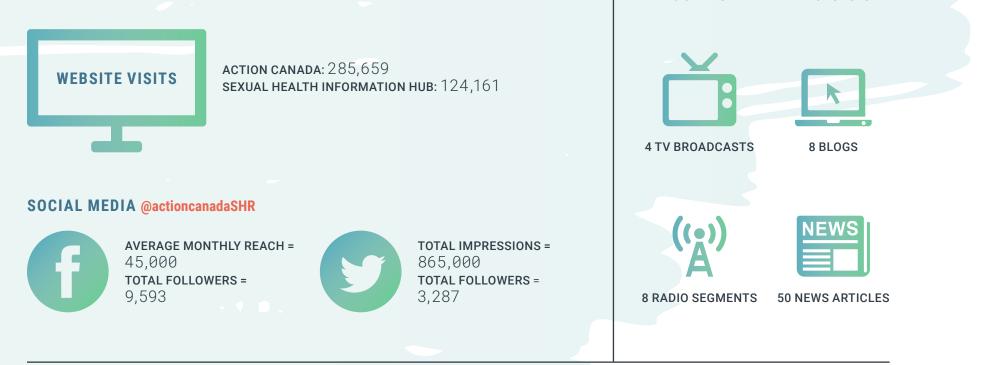
seminars and trainings with States, NGOs, and activists on advancing SRHR within the UN Human Rights system

14 joint stakeholder reports for the UN Universal Periodic Reviews in collaboration with local organization in New Zealand, Chile, Macedonia, Uruguay, the Gambia, Kazakhstan, El Salvador, Bosnia & Herzegovina (2), Bolivia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Albania, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Portugal

8 written submissions to Special Rapporteurs on Violence against Women, Cultural Rights, Human Rights Defenders, and Torture, treaty bodies including CEDAW and the Human Rights Committee, and the Special Procedures for an urgent communication to the Government of Canada regarding the roll back of sexuality education in Ontario

ONLINE AND IN THE NEWS

You can find us on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, as well as across news platforms, from print to radio to television. Action Canada is growing as a national voice on sexual and reproductive health and rights in media outlets like the CBC, Radio-Canada, the Globe and Mail, and CTV.



MEDIA

6 OP-EDS

FEATURED IN:

 THE GLOBE AND MAIL*
 NATIONAL*POST

 CBC OTV CPCC
 HILLTIMES ¿POLITICS (TEE)

1 PODCASTS

OUR COMMUNITY OF SUPPORT

INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Working in partnerships with institutions across Canada and the world, we are able to make enormous strides. Through our Onceayear.ca campaign funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, which launched last year, we reached over 3 million young people with stigma-busting evidence-based information, a directory of trusted clinics, and a fresh approach to normalizing STI testing based on feedback from youth themselves.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

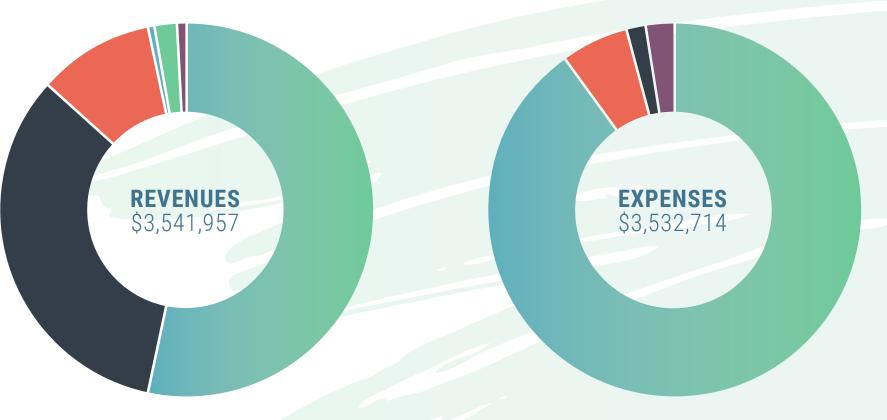
The enduring generosity of individuals from coast to coast to coast and around the world makes all the difference! Every donor helps to fund the services and advocacy that are most urgently needed and aren't covered by project funding. Everyday, our donors help us provide stigma-free sexual health information through our 24/7 Access Line, increase access to critical health services including abortion, advance sexual and reproductive rights, and strengthen our movement here in Canada and globally.

MAJOR AND LEGACY DONORS

Legacy and major donors support our most needed areas of work, like the Norma Scarborough Emergency Fund and 24/7 tollfree Access Line. Action Canada's legacy and major gifts help individuals live their philanthropic goals, sometimes after they are no longer with us, by powering our shared vision of a world where every person controls their sexuality, reproduction, gender, and health, where every choice is based on consent, and where all people can lead healthier, happier lives.







Global Program Grants **\$1,891,806** Domestic Program Grants **\$1,178,785** Donations to Domestic Health & Policy Programs **\$362,858** Beyond the Basics **\$11,689** Other Income **\$73,619** Scholarships and Awards **\$23,200** Charitable Activities \$3,180,207 Management \$210,532 Fundraising \$55,866 Political Activity \$86,109

OUR PEOPLE

. . . .

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cathy Steven Chair

Dr. Pierre M. LaRamée Vice-Chair

VOLUNTEERS

Much of our work would not be possible without the commitment of our volunteers—including our 24-hour, 7-days a week Access Line, which provides confidential, judgment-free support to people across the country.

Krysta Williams Den Temin Hersha Goldberg Simone Parniak Lyne Jrade Laura Salamanca Mélissa Boizot-Roche Shelley Taylor Robyn Schwarz Julie Vautour Coral Maloney Jessica Danforth Liz Mochrie Heather Jones Kinneret Sheetreet Julie Vautour Sarah Burke Dimitrova

Katherine McDonald

Prof. Jennie Abell

Meena Peruvemba

Secretary

Treasurer

Member

STAFF

The team is made up of passionate individuals with a diversity of experience working on sexual health and rights across issues, movements, and networks at the local, national, and international levels. It is their hard work and dedication that drive each and every one of Action Canada's many accomplishments.

Sandeep Prasad Executive Director

Tara Henderson Director of Fundraising and Operations

Rosario Castro Office Coordinator and Fundraising Assistant **Merry Sun** Finance Officer

> Kathryn Carruthers Web and IT Coordinator

Ani Colekessian Director of Communications **Lorna Mungur** Communications and Social Marketing Officer

Frédérique Chabot Director of Health Promotion

Brittany Neron Health Promotion Officer Makeda Zook Health Promotion and Education Officer

Sarah Kennell Director of Government Relations

Sarah Hedges-Chou Development Policy Officer

Darrah Teitel Campaigns Officer

Meghan Doherty Director of Global Policy and Advocacy

SEXUAL RIGHTS INITIATIVE

Action Canada acts at the administrative secretariat and coordinating partner, working alongside SRI partners Akahatá, the Coalition of African Lesbians, CREA (Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action), and the Federation for Women and Family Planning. The following staff work out of the SRI office in Geneva, Switzerland.

Stuart Halford Director of the Geneva Office Carrie Shelver SRI Advocacy Advisor UPR Danielle Rosset

SRI Advocacy Advisor HRC WHA and UN agencies

Pooja Badarinath

SRI Advocacy Advisor Special Procedures and Knowledge Translation

Juan S. Jaime P. SRI Advocacy Advisor Treaty *Monitoring Bodies*

Emeline Dupuis SRI Program Assistant

actioncanadashr.org

2018-2019