

2015-16 ANNUAL  
REPORT



A large, semi-transparent orange world map is centered in the background of the page. The map shows the continents of North and South America, Europe, and Africa, with the Atlantic Ocean in the foreground.

ACIC  CACI

ATLANTIC COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION  
CONSEIL ATLANTIQUE POUR LA COOPÉRATION INTERNATIONALE

# ACIC ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation (ACIC) gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada provided through Global Affairs Canada (GAC).



Global Affairs  
Canada

Affaires mondiales  
Canada

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## ACIC MISSION STATEMENT

The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation is a coalition of individuals, organizations, and institutions working in the Atlantic region, which is committed to achieving global sustainability in a peaceful and healthy environment, with social and economic justice, human dignity, and participation for all.

ACIC supports its members in international cooperation and education through collective leadership, networking, information, training and coordination, and represents their interests when dealing with government and others.

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## ACIC VISION

Atlantic Canadians engaged as global citizens to create a just world.

## ACIC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016

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**NADYA LADOUCEUR**

Chair and Director-at-Large,  
Renaissance College, UNB



**BRIAN TOMLINSON**

Treasurer and Director-at-Large,  
AidWatch Canada



**JOHN CAMERON**

Nova Scotia Representative,  
Dalhousie University Dept. of  
International Development Studies



**SONIA HO**

Director-at-Large,  
Marine Institute International, MUN



**ERICA STANLEY**

Prince Edward Island Representative,  
University of PEI, International  
Relations Office



**DEBORAH PANTIN**

Newfoundland and Labrador  
Representative, Centre for Nursing Studies



**MARYANNE MCKINNON**

Director-at-Large, Chalice Canada



**MARC GIONET**

New Brunswick Representative,  
Falls Brook Centre

## ACIC STAFF LIST

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**Jennifer Slood**

Executive Director

**Carolyn Whiteway**

Acting Executive Director

**Janelle Frail**

Communications & Membership Officer

**Stephanie McAnany**

Program Officer

**Louise Hanavan**

Program Officer (as of February 2016)

**Jackie Dowling**

Program Officer (finished December 2015)

**Jessica Barry**

Provincial Coordinator-NL

**Selvi Roy**

Provincial Coordinator-PEI

**Emily Craft**

Communications Assistant (summer 2015)

**Cole McGinn**

Program Support Assistant (summer 2015)

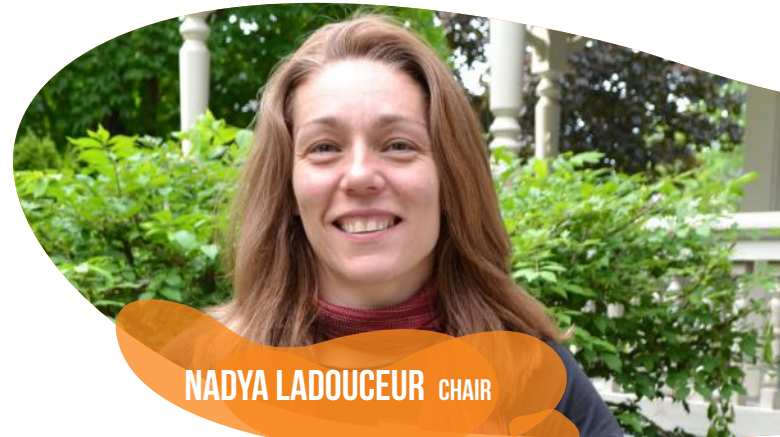
**Huan Hong Xie**

Financial Administrator (contractual)

# REPORT FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

What an exciting year this has been! At the international level, we have witnessed the adoption of significant agreements such as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. As a coalition committed to building a sustainable and just world, ACIC was actively involved in the We Can Do Better 2015 advocacy and education campaign to call for better leadership by Canada on these issues with our Inter-Council Network partners and the Canadian Council for International Cooperation.

At the national level, ACIC contributed to a study on the values and contributions of Canadian small and medium-sized organizations (SMOs) as development actors. We hope that this study will contribute to re-engaging SMOs in Canada's development efforts at home and abroad. With a new government at the federal level, there is great opportunity for stronger partnerships between the government and civil society as well as the chance to enhance Canada's leadership in international development. The recent launch of the



**NADYA LADOUCEUR** CHAIR



**JENNIFER SLOOT**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

international assistance policy review process by Global Affairs Canada, with the empowerment of women and girls and the promotion of their rights at its core, is welcome news. ACIC will be involved in the consultation process to ensure that the voice of Atlantic Canada is heard.

On the Atlantic front, ACIC has been very active. We completed the second year of our strategic plan which included providing internships to youth in collaboration with our member organizations and their Southern partners and engaging members and youth in international cooperation activities and projects. Our public engagement work has strengthened the understanding and awareness of Atlantic Canadians of global issues, and provided opportunities – in particular to youth – to learn through engagement and to become more active global citizens. We have also worked to build capacity within our membership, through workshops, dialogue and networking opportunities. Our staff team contributes greatly to the success of our collective work and we take this opportunity to acknowledge their work and to thank them.



**CAROLYN WHITEWAY**  
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At the board level, this year has been one of transition, with five new directors joining three very dedicated members. We are fortunate to have a strong and engaged board that contributed to strengthening ACIC's governance by working with the Executive Directors on various ACIC governance and operational policies. We want to recognize their contribution and thank them for their commitment.

# ENGAGING

ACIC works with our members to increase Atlantic Canadians' awareness of key global issues and engagement in international cooperation. Together, we hope to:

Increase public awareness of the work of the Council, its members, and other stakeholders on international cooperation and global issues

Increase access to resources, knowledge and opportunities to engage actively in international cooperation activities in the Atlantic Region

## SATISFACTION WITH ACIC'S WEB-BASED TOOLS

Very Satisfied

16%

Satisfied

72%

Unsure

12%

# COMMUNICATIONS

Through the Members Annual Survey, ACIC is able to hear from our members about what communication platforms work well. Members appreciate ACIC's various modes of communication, find the website user-friendly ([www.acic-caci.org](http://www.acic-caci.org) and [www.act4globalchange.ca](http://www.act4globalchange.ca)), and enjoy the diverse modes of delivery (Twitter,

Facebook, bi-weekly e-bulletins, and a print newsletter published three times a year). ACIC strives to show off our members' events, workshops, job postings, and volunteer opportunities. Creating e-connections among our members is one of the main benefits of being an ACIC member.

*"Consistent and clear email communication and updates. ACIC website is user-friendly and current. Diverse and varied forms of communication (email, website, social media)."* – **Membership survey respondent**



ACIC website users per year:

**27,382**

Twitter Followers:

**1,347**

A4GC website users per year:

**4,624**

E-bulletin subscribers:

**551**

Facebook Likes:

**1,160**

# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK

International Development Week (IDW) provides an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the work of the Council and our members on international cooperation and global issues. A concerted effort to host one event in each Atlantic province to showcase our members' work produced positive results and a high level of satisfaction from members and participants.

Throughout February we host various events during IDW and launch longer-term programs such as the ACT 4 Global Change Challenge to further amplify the work and reach of our Council and members.

During IDW, workshops were hosted in NB, PEI and NL on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how these affect members' and other CSOs' (civil society organizations) work. The workshop featured a presentation by Shannon Kindornay, a recognized Canadian expert on the SDGs and researcher at Carleton University's Norman Patterson School of International Affairs, followed by small group work. This was a key IDW event and gave members a chance to network with each other and new community groups.

ACIC hosted Nova Scotia members to set up displays and present at a local fair trade coffeehouse. Nine members presented to a crowd of 24 people for the Nova Scotia Members Showcase, *We are Making a Difference*.

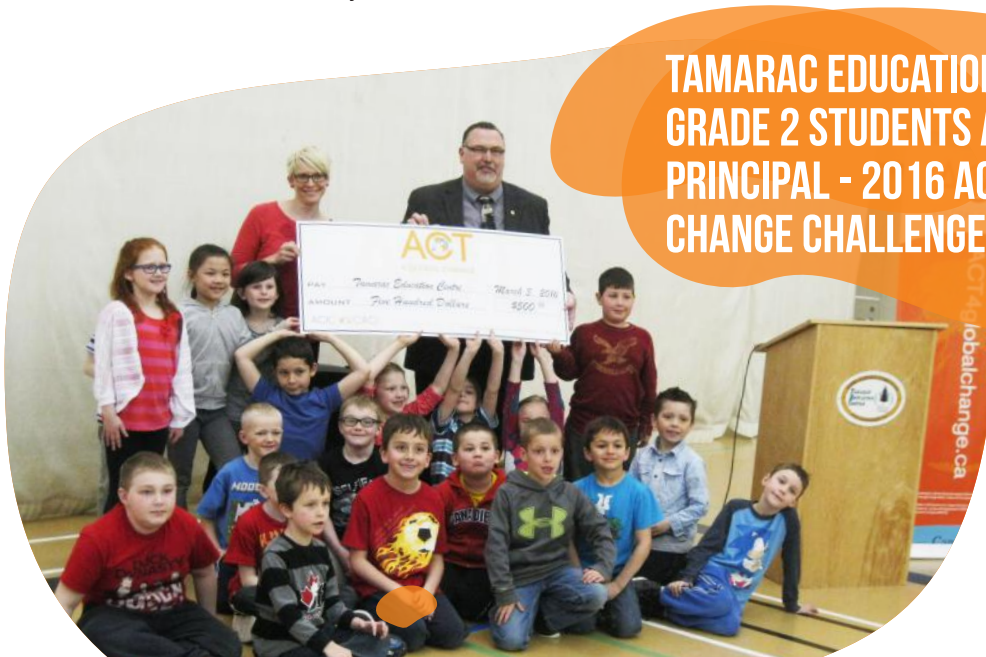
In Prince Edward Island members hosted a showcase and presentation: *How PEI NGOs are working towards the Sustainable Development Goals*. Thirty people attended from social justice and environmental NGOs, community services organizations, international CSOs, and provincial government. Approximately 5,000 people saw the showcase and member displays posted at Timothy's Café throughout February and into early March. A documentary film *Refugees of the Blue Planet* was also screened during IDW, followed by discussion hosted by WUSC and Cinema Politica, Charlottetown.

Throughout the Atlantic region, the ACT 4 Global Change Challenge encourages students to be ACTIVE global citizens, while providing teachers with activities to complement curriculum that help meet learning

outcomes. International Development Week marked the second annual ACT 4 Global Change Challenge, a competition for elementary schools across Atlantic Canada. Schools competed to log the most ACTivities for global change during the month of February. The Challenge was a success, with the participation of five schools, 1,089 students and 1,799 ACTions logged on the ACT 4 Global Change website. The winner of this year's Challenge and the \$500 prize was Tamarac Education Centre in Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia,

who donated their prize money to a local refugee settlement group. For information about future ACT 4 Global Change Challenges visit [www.act4globalchange.ca](http://www.act4globalchange.ca).

*"We were very proud of how eager students were to invest time in organizing activities. They were also thoughtful about the changes they were trying to make."* – Educator participating in the **ACT 4 Global Change Challenge**



**TAMARAC EDUCATION CENTRE  
GRADE 2 STUDENTS AND  
PRINCIPAL - 2016 ACT 4 GLOBAL  
CHANGE CHALLENGE WINNER**

# MEMBERS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT FUND

This year was the second call for our Members Public Engagement Fund. The purpose of the ACIC Member Public Engagement Fund is to support good practice and innovative methods of engaging Atlantic Canadians in global development issues. Although the results of a 2012 public opinion poll revealed that one third of all Canadians polled ranked global poverty as a top concern, 43% felt unaffected personally by global poverty. This disconnect indicates a need for the international development cooperation sector to develop a stronger, more effective narrative to engage Canadians on the interconnectedness of the issues surrounding global poverty. ACIC members play an important role in transforming the ways in which the public understands and engages in these issues within Atlantic Canada.

Seven applications were received and a selection committee, comprised of board and staff members of ACIC, selected four projects for funding. The projects are:

- *Pemba Adapts: the grassroots fight against climate change*
- *Pitas, Roti, and Naan—Communities Breaking Bread and Building Bridges*
- *Using social media to increase awareness of impact of Farmers Helping Farmers work in Kenya and to encourage active participation in Farmers Helping Farmers work in Prince Edward Island and abroad*
- *Peace Education in a Post-Conflict Society: From Nova Scotia to Northern Ireland*

All of these projects were successful in mobilizing assets and diversifying opportunities, while sensitizing over 7,835 Atlantic Canadians to a range of global issues. Another call for proposals for this fund will be issued in 2016.



**PHOTO FROM CFI'S PHOTO EXHIBIT: SOLAR POWER - KOKOTA ISLET, PEMBA, TANZANIA. DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPH. ZACH MELANSON 2015**

# ACT 4 GLOBAL CHANGE



ACIC's ACT 4 Global Change Ambassador Program invites four Atlantic Canadian youth leaders to make a year-long commitment to connect their schools, communities and provinces to the larger global community.

In addition to supporting the ACT 4 Global Change Challenge and the delivery of workshops focused on promoting active global citizenship for elementary and high school students, the youth ambassadors connected with members in their home provinces. They were able to add to their knowledge, and in turn share with others about member organizations doing important work in the Atlantic around global cooperation. The current youth ambassadors will remain in their roles until October, 2016. Recruitment for new ACT 4 Global Change youth ambassadors will begin in September, 2016. Take a look at our website for more information: [www.act4globalchange.ca](http://www.act4globalchange.ca).





**LEFT TO RIGHT: JOEY CHEN,  
FRANSISCA ANNAN, MIRA KALABA,  
AND SUMITRA SUBEDI THE ACT 4  
GLOBAL CHANGE AMBASSADORS**

*"The best thing about being an Ambassador has been hosting workshops and researching topics of social justice, and networking within my community and talked to amazing activists who shared common visions."*

**– ACT 4 Global Change Youth Ambassador**

# ACT 4 GLOBAL CHANGE TOUR



**LEFT TO RIGHT: EGAN JOHN,  
CAROLINE NOCHASAK, DREW  
DALZIEL, AND JOCELYN LEBLANC  
THE GLOBAL YOUTH LEADERS**



In partnership with ACIC member, the Falls Brook Centre, the Global Youth Leaders Tour took four Atlantic Canadian youth to Honduras. In a cultural exchange, they partnered with Honduran youth to lead a challenging canoe expedition. By working and communicating with their Honduran counterparts, all eight youth took turns setting up camp, doing dishes, packing supplies, planning for meals, navigating the rivers using a map and compass, and much more. They were pushed out of their comfort zones and began to learn more about the important environmental work

that the Falls Brook Centre has been doing in Honduras for many years. They also learned about the many Honduran organizations that continue to work every day to protect the natural environment and precious ecosystems in their country.

The four youth brought back a wealth of knowledge and experience to their communities, which they shared through a series of public presentations. ACIC will partner with another member organization to host the next tour in summer of 2017.

*“Going to Honduras has been more than an eye opener. It has impacted my life so much! After my adventure, I did a 360 overlook of my future goals. I’ve switched career plans and understand better my responsibilities as a new global citizen. So many friends, moments and stories that I will remember!”*

**–2015 Tour participant**

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## INTERNATIONAL YOUTH INTERNSHIPS

ACIC was successful in its proposal to DFATD (Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development – now Global Affairs Canada) of 20 internship

placements in early Spring 2015. Working with six Canadian member organizations in each of the four Atlantic Provinces, with ten Southern Partner hosts, we



## 2015-16 INTERNS AT TATAMAGOUCHE CENTRE

moved forward to implement our eleventh internship program.

ACIC's internship program offers a unique model of collaboration where interns have an in-Canada

component in addition to the overseas work. Canadian organizations are matched with Southern organizations to create important North/South linkages that promote solidarity and sharing amongst like-minded organizations.

Interns gain valuable hands-on learning experience, develop an understanding of what “development work” looks like on the ground in Atlantic Canada and the global South, connect global issues to local realities and develop their professional capacity in the field of international cooperation while offering benefits to hosting organizations in return.

After spending an orientation preparation period in Atlantic Canada, interns traveled to India, Bolivia, Jamaica, Haiti, The Gambia, South Africa, Uganda, and Kenya, where they completed their six-month placements. They contributed in the areas of environmental sustainability, youth engagement, health,

and community-based research. Upon their return to Canada in April and May, interns conducted awareness activities, applied newly gained skills towards future employment and completed project work with their Canadian hosting organizations.

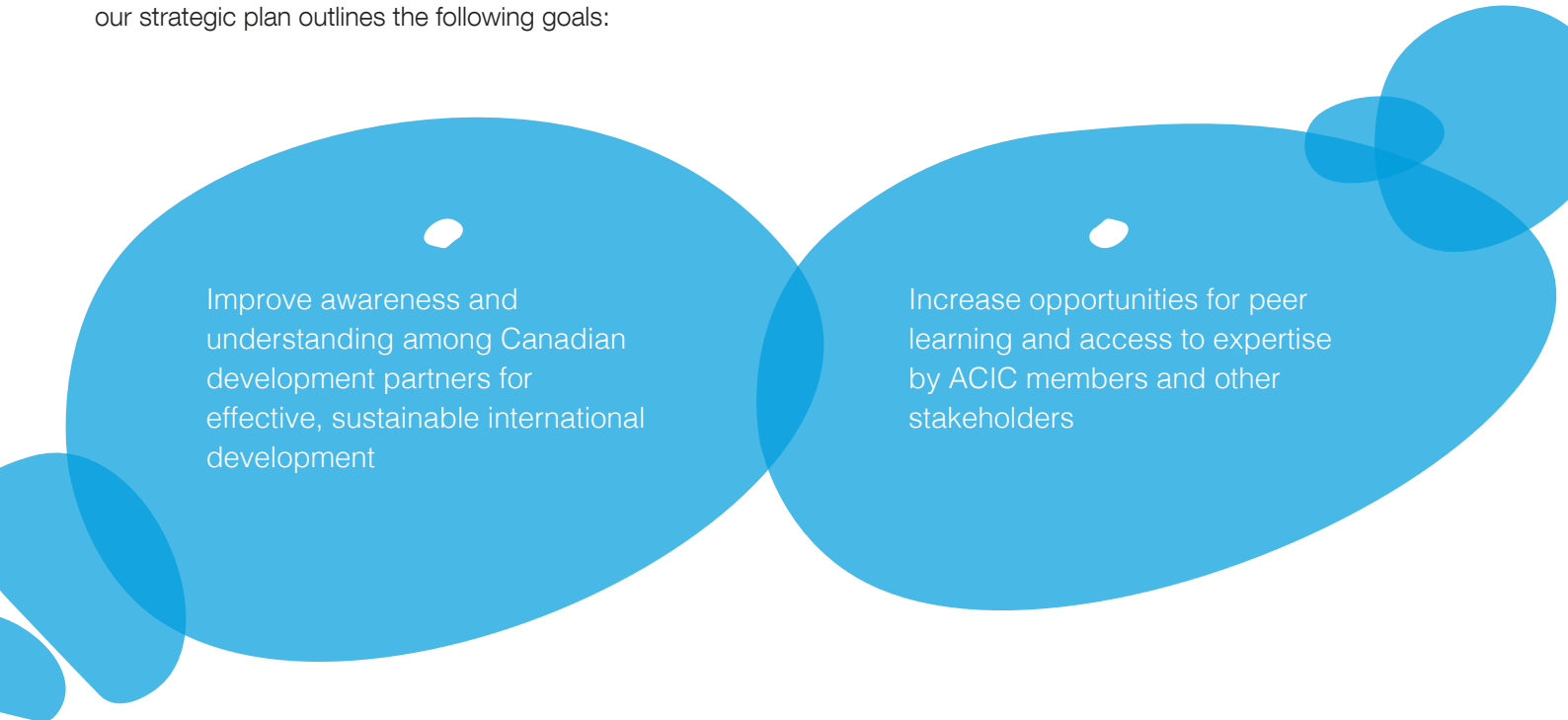
ACIC is now looking ahead to the second cohort of internships, which will begin in summer, 2016. Interns will be recruited and selected in June, start their in-Canada portion of the internship in August, and make the journey to their Southern Partners in September. This internship will wrap up in March 2017. ACIC is hopeful that this valuable program will continue to be funded for years to come.

*“This internship provided me with a chance to look at myself in the mirror and critically assess who I am as a person, a professional and a global citizen. I am grateful for all of the support that I had throughout this process and highly encourage other young professionals to take advantage of this opportunity.” - 2015-16 intern*

*“Working with the Nova Scotia Gambia Association has only reinforced my belief in community-led development and innovation. I am both proud and privileged to have been able to work with and learn from colleagues who are experts not only in terms of their skills, but also in their nuanced understanding of their audience and the broader context in which they work.” - 2015-16 intern*

# STRENGTHENING

Whereas ACIC strives to strengthen and build capacity for increased effectiveness within our membership, our strategic plan outlines the following goals:



Improve awareness and understanding among Canadian development partners for effective, sustainable international development

Increase opportunities for peer learning and access to expertise by ACIC members and other stakeholders

# SECTOR LEADERSHIP

ACIC collaborates with sector leaders across the country to increase effectiveness and to promote peer learning. Through the Inter-council Network (ICN), we collaborate with the eight provincial and regional councils for international cooperation and collectively represent more than 350 international development organizations in Canada.

The collective work of the ICN included three major projects this year:

- Canada 2030 Fund proposal
- Research paper: Small and Medium Sized Canadian Civil Society Organizations as Development Actors: A Review of Evidence
- ICN National Training Program

The Canada 2030 proposal outlines a funding mechanism which supports international cooperation



## MEETING OF THE PROVINCIAL AND REGIONAL COUNCILS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 2015

projects. It also incorporates capacity development for small and medium-sized CSOs. The proposal is for a pilot project that would include funds for governance, staffing and training resources. It would fund an anticipated 65 overseas development projects. The total funding requested is over \$19 million.

The Small and Medium Sized (SMO) Civil Society Organization (CSO) Research Paper was prepared by ACIC Board Director Brian Tomlinson on behalf of the ICN. The paper considers the value and contributions of small and medium-sized CSOs in their role as development actors and features examples of good practices from across Canada, including ACIC members Farmers Helping Farmers and the Nova Scotia Gambia Association. The paper also surveys the impact of changing funding structures and political climate on the ability of SMOs to conduct their work. The ICN hopes this paper will spark readiness on the part of Global Affairs Canada to re-engage with SMOs and provide the evidence to support the need for a specific funding mechanism, as outlined in the Canada 2030 proposal.

The ICN has also been working on a national training program. The training program will include three online self-study learning modules on Public Engagement, based on content from the Global Hive ([www.globalhive.ca](http://www.globalhive.ca)). The modules will all include a section as an Introduction to Public Engagement, and the three modules will include Youth Engagement, Education, and Partnerships & Collaboration. It is anticipated the pilot online course will be launched in the fall of 2016.

In February, ACIC was invited to attend a dinner for Ban Ki-Moon (UN Secretary General) hosted by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. The dinner gathered high-level officials and civil society leaders from the international sector, environmental sector and youth-serving organizations. This dinner was an important milestone between government and CSOs. It was the first time CSOs were invited to a dinner of this type and was an important indication that the new government is interested in working in a new way.

The ICN has also taken a role in ensuring that youth from across the country are able to participate in international events. Seven of the provincial and regional councils sent a staff member as part of an ICN youth delegation to the UN Summit on the Sustainable Development Goals in New York City in September 2015. ACIC's Stephanie McAnany attended as one of the delegates and had the opportunity to attend meetings and participate in this process. As well, the ICN played a key role in assisting Global Affairs Canada to send a team of four youth to the Junior 7 Summit in Japan.

*"Networking and a regional voice -collaboration and sharing..."* – **Membership survey participant when asked about ACIC's strengths**

# MEMBER TRAINING

In the past year, three capacity-building workshops were provided to ACIC members in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and in New Brunswick. At the 2015 AGM & Symposium, nine training opportunities were provided in the form of workshops and panel discussion in Newfoundland and Labrador. This year our focus was on promoting learning through cross-sectoral exposure.

The training in Nova Scotia focused on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how these affect various parts of members' and other CSOs' work. It was a full day workshop facilitated by Shannon Kindornay, a recognized Canadian expert on the SDGs, and was co-hosted with the Department of International Development Studies at Dalhousie University, the Ecology Action Centre and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Prince Edward Island hosted Bob Thomson, a global leader in community-based, co-operative development and social justice, to introduce the Degrowth Movement to Islanders. This workshop was also a cross-sector endeavour co-hosted with the Council of Canadians,

CUPE PEI, CUPE Global Justice Committee, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and UPEI Faculty of Arts.

The SDGs were also the feature of the New Brunswick training. This full-day cross-sectoral event included participants from a variety of sectors from across the province. The training occurred during International Development Week and was a great addition to the other IDW events that transpired.

In addition to ACIC capacity-building events, the Inter-Council Network provided free online webinars featuring a variety of topics. This year the webinars focused on:

- Violence Against Women and the Role of Men and Masculinity
- Achieving the SDGs: How animals and people affect each other in development and disasters
- The We Can #DoBetter2015 Campaign: Taking action for change in 2015



# 2015 SYMPOSIUM PARTICIPANTS







# ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

ACIC hosted an engaging symposium at the Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's in June, 2015. The theme was *Sacred Waters: The Future of Human Cultures and Livelihoods in a Sea of Change* and featured a wide variety of workshops. Abdou Kanteh from The Gambia, joined us as the recipient of the Symposium Southern Speaker Fund. The panel discussion and workshops were great opportunities for capacity building for the 40 participants who attended.

The panel discussion focused on *Water Justice: Impacts on Human Cultures, Livelihoods and Community Development* with panelists Abdou Kanteh, Chief Mi'sel Joe and Sharmane Allen. The keynote address was provided by Dr. Barbara Neis: *Rebuilding Fisheries and Threatened Communities in the North and South*.

As always people had a great time dancing to traditional Newfoundland music, celebrating the Shirley Case Leadership Award winner, enjoying a delicious local dinner, generously bidding on the silent auction items, and appreciating each other's company at the Friday evening Gala Dinner.

Workshop topics included:

- Abdou Kanteh from NS Gambia Association  
*Healthy Water, Healthy People*
- ACT 4 Global Change Youth Ambassadors  
*The Youth Piece (x peace)*
- Liam Swiss from Memorial University  
*Canadian Aid by the Numbers*
- Marine Institute International  
*Sustainable Livelihoods in a Sea of Change*
- Paula Graham  
*NL Fracking Panel-Public Input*
- Sheila Cole from NS Environmental Network  
*Turning the Toxic Tide*
- Fraser Reilly King from  
*CCIC We Can Do Better Campaign*

*"Diverse backgrounds: experiences, female/indigenous representation. Having a speaker from out of Canada important. They are the most vulnerable, important that they are heard."* - **2015 symposium participant commenting on the panel discussion**

*"Meeting the presenters, networking, generally the enthusiasm of people is inspiring."*  
- **2015 symposium participant**



**ABDOU A. KANTER,**  
NATIONAL PROGRAM MANAGER, NSGA

# SOUTHERN SPEAKERS SYMPOSIUM FUND

The purpose of the Southern Speakers Symposium Fund is to provide opportunities for Southern partners to dialogue with Atlantic Canadians on issues and demonstrate impact of efforts in international cooperation.

Thanks to the inaugural ACIC Member Southern Speakers Symposium Fund, Mr. Abdou A. Kante, National Program Manager of the Nova Scotia Gambia Association (NSGA) in The Gambia, attended ACIC's 2015 symposium *Sacred Water: The Future of Human Cultures and Livelihoods in a Sea of Change* in St. John's, Newfoundland. Abdou contributed as a panelist to address the broader issues related to the implications of climate change, water pollution and the degradation of oceans and waterways on human cultures, livelihoods and community development. He also facilitated an interactive workshop relating to the work of NSGA and the *Healthy Water, Healthy People* project, with an emphasis on NSGA's unique approach for peer health education through peer educators and their use of drama troupes.


During his time in Nova Scotia, Abdou also engaged with a variety of people:

- Attended 16 meetings and functions, reaching approximately 573 individuals
- Delivered the keynote speech addressing about 200 people at NSGA's 30th Anniversary African Dinner
- Interviewed on CBC Information Morning
- Met with Mayor Mike Savage, Mayor of Halifax
- Met with NSGA's Board of Directors and Advisor in Halifax to discuss strategic directions

Mbarouk Mussa Omar, founder of Community Forests Pemba, has been selected for the second year of the Southern Speakers Symposium Fund and will attend the 2016 Symposium in Halifax in June.

# CONNECTING

ACIC provides opportunities for member engagement through networking, collaboration, information sharing, representation and outreach. By facilitating better knowledge sharing among ACIC members and other stakeholders, we hope to:



Increase understanding and analysis of international development issues and related Canadian public opinion

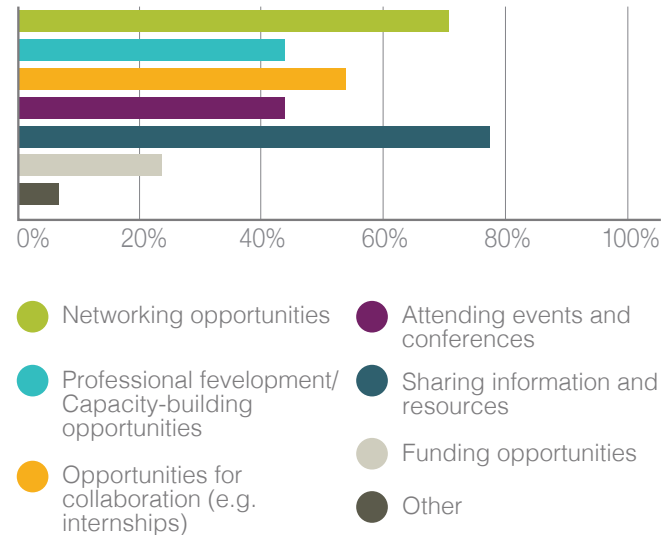
Increase consultation and information exchange between ACIC, DFATD and key stakeholders

Strengthen our network of members and strategic partners in the Atlantic Region

# NETWORKING

From PEI Breakfast Networking Meetings to Halifax Development Drinks to various locations hosting Lunch and Learns, ACIC members gathered to connect. Members indicated that networking activities, sharing information and resources, and knowledge of what other organizations are doing, are the most useful parts of being a member of ACIC. The addition of provincial coordinators in PEI and NL has infused renewed interest in these events, drawing new and potential members into the mix and engaging long-standing members. Over 90 individuals from member organizations and individual members attended the ten provincial networking events held last year with 94% of those attending indicating they were satisfied with the activities.

## REASONS FOR JOINING ACIC



*“Communication, connecting members, bridging gap between us and Global Affairs Canada, monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of services, assessing and addressing the needs of member organizations”*

**– Membership survey participant when asked about ACIC’s strengths**



# OUTREACH & EVENTS

ACIC membership spans the four Atlantic Provinces with close to 70 members engaged in various ways. Members indicated in the annual member survey that lack of time and distances to travel are barriers to participation in ACIC activities. ACIC works to address these challenges by providing online trainings in the form of webinars and by providing capacity building workshops in Atlantic Provinces.

For the fourth time, ACIC was approached by the NS Provincial Government to partner on celebrating the UN International Volunteer Day. Rick Gunn, volunteer with the Nova Scotia Gambia Association, spoke at the NS Legislation in December, 2015. He represented both the organization and the value of international volunteers in exemplary fashion. To quote from his speech: “For me, volunteering with the NSGA is not primarily about helping people in Africa. The most able and appropriate people to help Africa are Africans. My lessons in the Gambia make me a stronger, more skilled, more appreciative, more engaged Canadian citizen. In my opinion this in

one of the great gifts of international partnerships and friendships.”

Having ACIC staff located in all four Atlantic Provinces has increased attendance at member events and brought members together even more. ACIC thanks the University of New Brunswick Fredericton Campus and the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture Campus for continuing to host ACIC staff.

**88% of members reported strengthened relationships with ACIC and its members.**



**PEI PARTICIPANTS  
DEGROWTH TRAINING**

# CONSULTATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

A number of consultations were held throughout the country by DFATD/ Global Affairs in partnership with provincial and regional councils. Though ACIC did not have the opportunity to host a consultation with diaspora/cultural communities, our council did take a lead role in the recruitment and selection of the Junior 7 Summit youth delegates. The Junior 7 Summit is held in advance of the G7 Summit and is an opportunity for young people to make their voices heard in an important international forum. The country delegations come together to examine the key global issues from a youth perspective, exchange ideas and perspectives, and develop common positions to be presented to the G7 leaders. The theme this year is *The planet for the next generation: environment and sustainable society*. The Junior 7 Summit team, comprised of two youth from the Atlantic region and two from Quebec, headed to Japan in April.

ACIC continues to build relationships with staff and government officials in the international cooperation sector. We will work closely with staff at Global Affairs

Canada to host an International Assistance Review Consultation in Halifax, and have contributed names to a youth consultation process in Ottawa. We also disseminated news releases, webinar notices and call for funding proposals from Global Affairs Canada through our communication channels. This past year, ACIC has also met with staff at the Partnerships for Development Innovation branch at Global Affairs Canada. ACIC has also met with a number of government officials within the federal government including new parliamentary secretary, Karina Gould. ACIC continues its relationship with the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC) through representation on CCIC's working groups. ACIC was active on the Public Engagement working group and has contributed to CCIC Public Engagement Discussion Paper.



# THE SHIRLEY CASE LEADERSHIP AWARD IN GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

This award was created in the spring of 2009 by the Board of Directors of ACIC to honour the life of Shirley Case, who was killed in Afghanistan on August 13, 2008 while working with the International Rescue Committee.

Shirley worked as an intern with ACIC in 2004-05. She spent four months in Halifax, and five months working with our partner organization the NGO Coalition for the Environment (NGOCE) in Calabar, Nigeria.

The Shirley Case Leadership Award for Global Citizenship has four objectives:

- To officially recognize leaders in Atlantic Canada that are actively involved as global citizens
- To draw public attention to the full scope of global citizenship and engagement activities
- To inspire individuals to continue their involvement in the international cooperation movement
- To honour the memory of Shirley Case

The Award is presented annually to an individual or group in Atlantic Canada who has demonstrated this spirit of global citizenship in a local, national or international capacity and who has helped create a more just and sustainable world through engaging in meaningful global citizenship activities.

The 2015 winner of the Shirley Case Leadership Award for Global Citizenship was Rosamund Mosse. Rosamund was nominated for her extraordinary leadership skills, commitment to collaboration and dedication to volunteerism. Rosamund is deeply dedicated to sustainable community development

through collaboration with partner organizations. She also shows this through knowledge sharing and strengthening links of solidarity between Atlantic Canada and the global South.

This year's winner has garnered her sense of global citizenship through living and working throughout the UK, Canada, Bolivia, Cuba, and Honduras. It's through these experiences that Rosamund has developed her compassionate leadership style that has allowed her to build her capacity for resilience, communication, empathy, and presence. Her dedication to improving the lives of others has been displayed while she has been a student, volunteer, intern and professional. Her work in engaging at-risk communities, women and youth has been paramount.

Rosamund has contributed to the success of community organizations throughout her short and impactful career. She has acted as a volunteer at the women's shelter Adsum House, the Halifax Refugee Clinic, ACIC's Move Your World youth conference, Tatamagouche Centre's Social Justice Youth Camp,

Aga Khan Foundation of Canada's Bridges to Unite, and the Wiltshire Education Society which supports education for Afghan girls in Canada.

She completed her work with the Falls Brook Centre last summer as the Thriving Communities Coordinator where she led initiatives focusing on community adhesion, collective problem solving, education, and celebration.



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ACIC is a coalition, and because of this it is imperative that we continue to strengthen our governance processes to ensure that decisions are being made that reflect the priorities and needs of our membership. ACIC's Board of Directors is comprised of volunteers that represent a diversity of our membership, including geographic regions, types of membership and diversity of age, gender and language.

To prepare board members for this work, ACIC hosted its board orientation as part of an overall board/staff retreat in Cap-Pelé, NB in October, 2015. The orientation included information about ACIC programs, its history, roles of board members, and role of the executive committee. A major focus of this year's retreat was exploring the challenges and opportunities in programming for change and reflecting on how

ACIC can share information and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

To ensure decisions of the organization, including all financial and policy decisions, were made according to ACIC's by-laws and policies, ACIC's Board met seven times throughout the year.

ACIC also hosts a number of committees, contributing to member engagement, while at the same time sharing responsibility for decision making around key activities. Committee are chaired by one board member and include other individuals solicited from the membership. Thanks to the leadership of committee chairs and the participation of ACIC staff and member volunteers, this past year has been both focused and productive. Committee reports can be found in the following sections.



**BOARD & STAFF RETREAT, OCTOBER 2016, CAP-PELÉ, NB. BACK ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: MARYANNE MCKINNON, MARC GIONET, BRIAN TOMLINSON, NADYA LAHOUSEUR, JOHN CAMERON, DEBBIE PANTIN, CAROLYN WHITEWAY, JANELLE FRAIL. FRONT: JENNIFER SLOOT, ERICA STANLEY, SONIA HO, JACKIE DOWLING, STEPHANIE MCANANY**

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

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## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Nadya Ladouceur (Chair, NB), Marc Gionet (NB), MaryAnne MacKinnon (NS), Jennifer Sloat (Executive Director), and Carolyn Whiteway (Acting Executive Director)

The Governance Committee completed the following tasks this year:

- Created and recommended a conflict of interest policy, which was approved by the Board
- Recruited two replacement board members who were appointed to the Board
- Formally assessed ACIC's compliance to the Canadian Council for International Cooperation's Code of Ethics and Operational Standards
- Initiated a complete review of ACIC's governance and operational policies with support from an external consultant
- Reviewed the nomination process for the Executive Committee
- Conducted the annual Board performance review

The Committee is looking forward to completing the review of ACIC's governance and operational policies and developing a structured approach to board recruitment.

# PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Brian Tomlinson (Chair-NS), Nora Didkowsky (NS), Nadya Ladouceur (NB)

The main focus of the work of the Personnel Committee over this past year has been our continued work on creating a transition plan for the Executive Director position. In January, staff, board and members of ACIC warmly welcomed Jennifer back from medical leave to her position as Executive Director. Jennifer and Carolyn have been sharing responsibilities of the Executive Director's position during this period.

There were a number of staff changes at ACIC. Jackie Dowling left for another job opportunity in December. In February, Louise Hanavan started working with ACIC as a Program Officer focusing on our youth programming. Stephanie McAnany started working as Program Officer with the International Youth Internship Program for ACIC. Janelle Frail continues her role in communications and has taken on the role of membership coordination. We offer our congratulations to the new staff team at ACIC and commend them on their work.

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# MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Nouhad Mourad (Chair, PEI), Louise Webb (NL), Bill Chislett (NL), Anne Wheatley (PEI), Stephanie McAnany (Membership and Program Officer), and Jennifer Slood (Executive Director)

The Membership Committee has focused on three primary sets of activities in 2015-16:

- 1) Creation of new membership policies for a) for-profit organizations, b) large institutions with multiple sub-units that participate in ACIC activities, and c) national organizations without offices in Atlantic Canada. Draft policies were presented to the Board meeting in March 2016 and then further revised and re-presented for the May 2016 meeting
- 2) Recruitment of new member organizations and encouragement to apply for membership
- 3) Review and approval of new applications for membership. In total, six new applications were approved and recommended to be ratified at the 2016 Annual General Meeting (five organizations, one individual)

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## ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS:

- > ***Amnesty International Maritimes***
- > ***East and Central African Association for Indigenous Rights (ECAAIR)***
- > ***International Development Education and Awareness Society (IDEAS)***
- > ***Passages Canada***
- > ***Oikocredit Canada Atlantic Cooperative***

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## INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATES:

- > ***Dolores Furlong***

# 40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Sonia Ho (NL), Brian Tomlinson (NS), Joan Campbell (NS), Janelle Frail (Communications & Membership Officer), Jennifer Sloat (Executive Director), and Carolyn Whiteway (Acting Executive Director)

Succeeding the discussions from last year's committee, the 40th Anniversary Committee continued to plan various activities in celebrating and commemorating this important year for ACIC. The focus is a series of interviews featuring individuals involved in international development work, either through ACIC or other NGOs/CSOs, in the Atlantic region over the past 40 years. Some examples of the interviewees are Bill Hynd, Brian O'Neill and Joan Campbell, who have long been involved in the field. In addition, committee members interviewed youth, including Jocelyn LeBlanc from the Global Youth Leadership Tour and Fran Annan from the ACT 4 Global Change Youth Ambassador program.

The final products will be uploaded to the ACIC website as podcasts for public access. These efforts will be highlighted in the upcoming AGM/Symposium in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the celebration will culminate at the Symposium Gala Dinner. Through the podcasts and various presentations at the symposium, the committee hopes to impart the Symposium theme Looking Back, Moving Forward by engaging our members and the public to reflect on past efforts in international development in our unique region as we advance toward the future. Have a look at all the interviews here: [www.acic-caci.org/blog/category/acic-40th-anniversary](http://www.acic-caci.org/blog/category/acic-40th-anniversary).



# SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE



**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Kendra Mellish (NS), Brian Tomlinson (NS), Alisha Lebouthillier (NS), Janelle Frail (Communications & Membership Officer), Jennifer Sloat (Executive Director), and Carolyn Whiteway (Acting Executive Director)

The ACIC Symposium Committee has been busy guiding the planning of the Symposium since November. The Symposium & AGM will take place from June 9-11 at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Flowing from the 40th anniversary work and celebrations, this year's theme *Looking Back, Moving Forward* will focus on reviewing how the past 40 years have influenced the way we do our work today. Referencing key projects, moments and events that have shaped the past 40 years of our work, our symposium will be organized around three key streams

of volunteerism, partnerships and engaging Canadians. We will kick off the event with a keynote address by Shelagh Savage with Coady International Institute. The following days will feature a panel discussion featuring Mbarouk M. Omar from Community Forests International, Adam McKim with CHAT to the Future, Rebecca Rathbone with Development and Peace, and Alhassan Mohammed Awal with NORSAAC; workshops, evening gala and ample time to network and celebrate 40 years of international cooperation in Atlantic Canada!

# RISK COMMITTEE

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Erica Stanley (Chair, PEI), Joanne Albrecht (NS), Veronica McGinn (NB), Stephanie McAnany (Program Officer), and Carolyn Whiteway (Acting Executive Director)

The Risk Management Committee was reinvigorated in 2015 at the Staff/Board Strategic planning retreat and has begun and continues to make progress in the development of a risk policy:

- > Educating ourselves as a committee and drawing on available resources internally and externally
- > Identification and assessment of ACIC's institutional risks, and international activity risks based on likelihood and impact
- > Development of a risk mitigation and management strategy

When complete, the risk policy will provide direction for ACIC's overall approach to risk management, as well as providing consistent tools that can be tailored to the particular needs of each program, project, and

partnership within ACIC. Once the risk committee has completed its draft, it will be shared with the board for review and recommendations.

# THANK YOU!

**ACIC WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL ITS  
MEMBERS, PARTICIPANTS, VOLUNTEERS,  
AND STAFF FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO A SUCCESSFUL  
2016-17!**

# AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

## ATLANTIC COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 254,662	\$ 135,486
Harmonized sales tax receivable	5,956	4,881
	<b>\$ 260,618</b>	<b>\$ 140,367</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 31,048	\$ 9,987
Employee deductions payable	5,194	4,862
Deferred revenue	87,067	16,888
	<b>123,309</b>	<b>31,737</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	65,943	38,630
Internally restricted net assets	71,366	70,000
	<b>137,309</b>	<b>108,630</b>
	<b>\$ 260,618</b>	<b>\$ 140,367</b>

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**

For the Year Ended March 31, 2016

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2016</b>	2015
<b>Project revenue</b>		
Connecting with Canadians initiative	<b>\$ 314,623</b>	\$ 274,738
Connecting with Canadians overhead	<b>36,539</b>	34,995
ACIC contributions to Connecting with Canadians	<b>4,012</b>	-
International youth internship program	<b>254,340</b>	-
International youth internship program overhead	<b>30,521</b>	-
<b>Other revenue</b>		
Federal summer student grants	<b>2,968</b>	3,161
Provincial summer student grants	<b>4,214</b>	4,165
Heritage Canada grant	<b>1,770</b>	-
Other	<b>18,087</b>	18,098
	<b>667,074</b>	335,157
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
<b>Project expenditures</b>		
Connecting with Canadians initiative	<b>318,635</b>	274,738
Connecting with Canadians overhead	<b>24,439</b>	34,995
International youth internship program	<b>254,340</b>	-
International youth internship program overhead	<b>30,521</b>	-
Public engagement	<b>-</b>	10,969
<b>Other expenditures</b>		
Federal summer students	<b>2,968</b>	3,161
Provincial summer students	<b>4,214</b>	4,165
Heritage Canada grant	<b>1,770</b>	-
Other	<b>1,508</b>	20,452
	<b>638,395</b>	348,480
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 28,679</b>	\$ (13,323)

# ACIC ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS MARCH 2016

- AidWatch Canada
- Amnesty International
- Atlantic Chapter of Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan
- Breaking the Silence Maritimes-Guatemala Solidarity Network
- Campbell Webster Foundation
- Canadian Red Cross
- Centre for Nursing Studies, International Office
- Chalice Canada
- CHAT to the Future Inc.
- Children/Youth as Peacebuilders
- Coady International Institute
- Community Forests International
- Conservation Council of New Brunswick
- Cooper Institute
- Dalhousie University, Faculty of Agriculture International
- Dalhousie University, Global Health Office
- Dalhousie University, International Development Studies Department
- Dalhousie University, International Research & Development
- Development and Peace
- East and Central African Association for Indigenous Rights
- Falls Brook Centre
- Farmers Helping Farmers
- GPI Atlantic
- International Development Education and Awareness Society (IDEAS)
- International Sustainable Community Assistance
- JustUs! Development & Education Society
- Memorial University, International Centre
- Mennonite Central Committee
- Marine Institute International
- Mikinduri Children of Hope
- Mount Saint Vincent University, International Projects Office
- New Brunswick Community College
- Nova Scotia Community College, Centre for International Activities
- Nova Scotia Environmental Network
- Nova Scotia Gambia Association
- Oxfam Canada
- Passages Canada
- Saint Mary's University, International Activities Office
- Tatamagouche Centre
- The United Church of Canada, Maritime Conference
- University of New Brunswick, Fredericton Campus
- University of PEI, International Relations Office
- World University Service of Canada
- YMCA Global Initiatives Committee Fredericton

# ACIC INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATES MARCH 2016

Bobby Thomas Cameron  
Carolyn Brown  
Catherine Baillie Abidi  
Catherine Ronahan  
Cristian Suteanu  
Della Webster

Dennis Stuebing  
Dolores Furlong  
Dolores Levangie  
Donica Larade  
Donovan Taplin  
Jean Fraser

Jesse Lalonde  
Joan Campbell  
Joy Hecht  
Kimberley Douglass  
Louise Webb  
Lucas Panizzi Bregles

Mary Jane Harkins  
Mary Rigby  
Sajidul Haque  
Sarah Mills  
Sean Kelly  
Taylor Quinn