

The Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia Public Interest Research Group

at Dalhousie (nspirg-dal) for the upcoming year
will be elected on April 6 and 7.

Ballot boxes will be located at the SUB lobby and Killam Library Atrium from 10 - 3pm on both days.

All full-time Dalhousie students are eligible to vote.

This organization is student funded (i.e. You pay for it, so vote) and (mostly) student directed and works on social justice and environmental issues. Currently there are

working groups at nspirg: Eco-Action, Economic Justice, Humans against Homophobia (HAH), Animal Liberation Collective (formerly People for Animal Welfare), Women's Health collective, Burma Support Network, Organic Community Garden, Food Co-operative and the latest addition Cinema PIRGatory.

The Board of Directors work on a consensus basis to carry out the administrative work of the organization. They set the budget, make decisions on project proposals, initiate research projects, give support to working groups when needed, perform outreach activities and do whatever else necessary to keep the wheels of social justice humming along.

There are eleven board positions available: two community members and nine Dalhousie students.

If you want to find out more about nspirg just call @ 494-6662 or email us nspirg@is2.dal.ca or drop by our office - room 314 of the SUB (go up the stairs and take a radical left - we're at the end of the hall).

STUDENT BOARD NOMINEES

Hakem Al-Rustom

Believing that every individual is created to hold and fulfil a duty toward one's Self, community, and ecology, has been the driving force of my interest in public concerns. Creating a better society can be achieved by public education and awareness about the reality and depth of problems facing the human community.

My academic training is focused on human nature, development, and the environment, through concentrating on social anthropology, religion, and economics. Being on PIRG's board, I will put together my educational experience into practical projects, which will help create a better vision for projects that will benefit the community. I will also work to support and encourage groups to have a more active role in public interest.

At last, we can always succeed if we are committed to "the advancement of Knowledge, the well-being of Humanity, and the manifestation of Love."

Janet Burt-Gerrans:

I'm Janet Burt-Gerrans. Nspirg's goal of bringing issues to the fore of public debate while recognizing a variety of perspectives is one that I would like to help further. If elected to the Board of Directors I am committed to enriching our public sphere by supporting, seeking out and encouraging the free flow of diverse ideas. I have been involved with Public Interest Research Groups for four years. This experience will be useful in helping to direct the essential role that nspirg plays in the public forum of our democratic society.

Nancy Chiasson:

Hi, my name is Nancy Chiasson and I am a third year student at Dalhousie University. I want to pursue a career in Marine Biology and Environmental Studies. I am a hard worker and devoted to everything I do! I am very excited to have the opportunity to get involved in nspirg and contribute to the welfare of our environment.

Gareth Duncan:

Eire. london.vancouver.states.quebec. france. nepal. india. south africa. mountains. oceans. old growth. species matrix. permaculture. urban sustainability. community development. social justice. music/arts/dance festivals. chaos mechanics. aboriginal association. bikeridin'. culture jammin'. APEC fightin'. MAI exposin'. synergetic organics pusher. low student. Connect the dots and find me in Halifax - I'm Gareth Duncan.

Jennifer Eddy:

Hi, my name is Jennifer Eddy. I am very interested in becoming a nspirg Board Member because I understand that certain issues such as environmental and social justice are well represented through this organization and I would love the opportunity to express these issues further to the students of Dalhousie University.

Naomi Fleschhut:

Hey all! I am a third year biology student in my first year here at Dalhousie. Last year I studied at the University of Guelph where I got my first taste of the world of student activism! The people I met and the groups I became involved with inspired me in their devotion to working together to bring about change. Since then, taking action for what I care about has been an integral part of my life. This year my association with the Animal Liberation Collective, a working group under NSPIRG, has been very fulfilling, and I look forward to our continuing evolution next year! I believe the position of NSPIRG board member will allow me the opportunity to take part in and support the objectives of other working groups, while promoting an activist community here in Halifax.

Rebecca Grant:

Eeek! Not room to say much- guess I'll launch right into an abridged version of my resume err...experience. Throughout high school and university I've been involved with various human/animal rights, ecological, economic, social justice, anti-racism groups. I have also been a volunteer with the food bank, senior citizen's home and traveled to Latin America where I did volunteer work with orphans. Next year I'll be starting a combined honours in Contemporary Studies and International Development with an emphasis on ecology and economic development. My name's Rebecca Grant by the way - give me a shout (not literally) if you have any questions/comments/concerns.

Colin Lake:

They say 3 times the charm...well, let's hope so. If elected this will be my third term on the nspirg board and perhaps this time I will succeed to rid the world of corporate domination, environmental and social problems and will make the world free for giant organically grown turnips.

Maya Mukhida:

Hi, I'm Maya Mukhida. I first heard about nspirg as a People for Animal Welfare member. I would now like to become a nspirg Board Member and to help promote awareness of social justice and environmental issues.

Yue Megan Zhang:

"No one is an island, entire of itself; Every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less; as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind and therefore never sent to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee." - John Donne

I'm Yue Megan Zhang. Nspirg takes on good causes and I'd like to participate in this endeavour. I'm particularly interested in poverty and homelessness issues and promoting organic farming.

COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBER NOMINEES

Dave Caulfield:

Apart from being named to People Magazine's 50 Most Beautiful People in the World last year, I spent five rewarding months as a community member on the nspirg board. Most recently, my "chiselled physique" and "boy-next-door-good-looks" have been seen organizing Cinema PIRGatory, nspirg's film society. Since last summer, my "muscular hands, which some say could palm a watermelon," have baked organic vegetarian dog biscuits for sale at the Halifax Brewery Market. "This sexy culture-jammer" hopes to keep fighting the good fight against GE foods, corporations on campus, media concentration and anything else that unnecessarily furls my brow and/or stresses the shine out my "gorgeous, barbarian locks."

Betty Peterson:

My name is Betty Peterson. Nspirg has a very solid reputation in Halifax and environs as an innovative, dedicated and responsible change-agent on the Dalhousie campus and in the wider community. Over the years it has cooperated with social justice and environmental sectors in the city and the exchange between us has been stimulating and productive. As a peace and social justice activist I have often collaborated with nspirg: in recent years during the Gulf War protests, the People's Summit campaign and on numerous occasions, working with students who have now moved on.

This past year I have been delighted and energized to have served on the Board. I consider it a prime learning experience to be a part of fresh, current initiatives and long-range projects of social significance with a team of dedicated students. By serving for another year in this capacity as community representative, perhaps I may contribute as a bridge and as an experienced change-agent in many fields.

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