Welcome to the

OPIRG BROCK 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING













2023 AGM Schedule

Introduction

- Accessibility & Safer Space Policy
- 2. AGM Decision Making Process
- 3. Motion to Open the AGM
- 4. Acknowledgements
- 5. Election Process

Board Elections

- CRO Explanation of voting processes
- 7. Candidate presentations

~~ Testimonial 1 ~~

AGM Business

- 8. AGM Motions
- Constitutional Amendments

BREAK / VOTING TIME

Portfolio Reports

- 9. OPIRG Brock Team
- 10. Volunteers & Partnerships
- 11. Membership
- 12. Provincial
- 13. Finance
- 14. Fundraising
- 15. Communications
- 16. Human Resources

~~ Testimonial 2 ~~

Project & Partnership Highlights

- 17. Niagara Free Store
- 18. Anti-Racism Action Plan
- 19. Harm Reduction

~~ Testimonial 3 ~~

What's Next

Election Results

Close AGM

Accessibility Notes

Recording & Minutes

This meeting, including minutes, will be recorded. If you do not want your name or presence recorded, please indicate so by directly messaging Kostyn in the chat.

Trigger Warnings

In talking about activism in Niagara, we may cover topics that can be triggering. We encourage people for both their mental and physical needs to take breaks, stand up, and move around as needed. In doing this, we ask that you keep in mind this can be distracting and come in-conflict with other people's needs, please turn your camera off as needed.

Tech Issues

If you are having tech issues, please message Marg directly in the chat.

Safer Space Policy

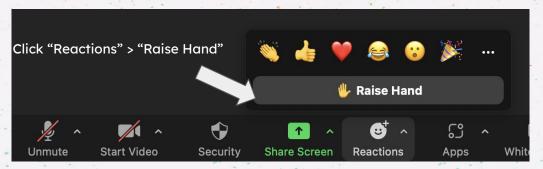
OPIRG Brock recognizes that it is unrealistic that our spaces will be a truly safe space for all individuals, but believes it is the right of all individuals participating to be free of these forms of oppression and that our best efforts must be put into combating them.

The intention of the Safer Space Policy is to combat homophobia, sexism, transphobia, gender policing, racism, classism, ableism, and other manifestations of oppression that threaten the physical or psychological well-being of individuals attending the meetings or events of OPIRG Brock, as well as people participating in OPIRG Brock Action Groups or as volunteers, staff, or board members.



Decision Making Processes

- Please use the raise hand function or type in the chat to indicate you want to speak. Please lower your hand once you're done speaking or if you change your mind.
- Please mute yourself while not speaking.
- The Board of Directors election voting will be done through the link you received via email. The link will be available from 5:00pm - 7:00pm.
- There will be motions throughout the AGM that requires a mover and seconder, discussion (if needed), and vote of the members.



Questions & Feedback



Motion to open the 2023 AGM

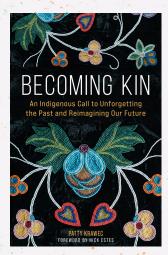
- The OPIRG Brock membership opens the 2023 OPIRG Brock Annual General Meeting on Tuesday September 26, 2023 at 6:23pm.
 - Motion
 - Mover
 - Second
 - Discussion
 - Decision

Land Acknowledgements

To review the standing OPIRG land acknowledgement, please visit https://www.opirgbrock.com/land-acknowledgement

However, through team discussions, trainings, and self-education, our team is moving away from a standard land acknowledgement and towards a rotating model.





- The Three Fire Confederacy
- Two Row Wampum
- Dish with One Spoon
- 1764 Treaty of Niagara



Labour Acknowledgements





MIGRANT RIGHTS NETWORK













Justice for Workers Niagara

CUPE 4207

Niagara District CUPE Council

Migrant Rights Network

Migrant Workers Alliance for Change

Niagara Regional Labour Council

ATU Local 846

Niagara Migrant Workers Interest Group

Settler Support for Migrant Farmworkers

Board Elections

Candidate Presentations & Elections



Election Process

- Each of the 4 candidates will present
- Voting link has been sent to members' email.
- Each candidate has the option of "Yes", "No", & "Spoil Ballot"
- Voting opens at 5pm and closes at 7pm. Any votes that come in after 7pm will not be counted
- The CRO will review the votes and announce the election results in the second half of the AGM.

CANDIDATES:

Margret Kostyn Morgan Daniel





"I would like to rerun for the Board of Directors because I have found community in OPIRG, and I am grateful to be able to make such an impact in Niagara alongside such amazing activists"

MARGRET

RE-RUNNING FOR BOARD

Current OPIRG Brock Board Member

- BACHELORS DEGREE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
- ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FOR NIAGARA REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE & JUSTICE FOR WORKERS, REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORK
- EXPERIENCE IN ORGANIZING, CAMPAIGNS, VOLUNTEER
 MANAGEMENT, & MORE.

Margret Taylor (she/her)





"I have been an active community organizer since around 2019, and have been involved in events and organisations from climate strikes, to mutual aid."

KOSTYN

RE-RUNNING FOR BOARD

Current OPIRG Brock Board Member

- BROCK ALUMNI
- COMMUNITY
 ORGANIZER, LIBRARY
 WORKER, AND WRITER
- PASSIONATE ABOUT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, ANTI-COLONAL PERPECTIVES & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Kostyn (he/they)





"I would like to be on the OPIRG Board of Directors because I am very passionate about social justice and activism. OPIRG is doing amazing work in the community and I would love to be a bigger part of it!"

MORGAN

 BACHELORS IN HUMAN RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

- CURRENT SJES GRAD STUDENT AT BROCK
- 3 YEARS EXPERIENCE AS ORGANIZER AROUND VARIOUS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE ISSUES.

FIRST TIME NOMINEE



Morgan (she/her)



"I am passionate about improvement and have lived experience of working towards inclusion as a queer person. I am excited to bring my range of experience."

- BROCK MASTERS OF ARTS STUDENT IN SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY STUDIES, WITH ANTI-COLONIAL PERPECTIVES
- EXPERIENCE IN
 VOLUNTEERING WITH LGBT
 YOUTHLINE PROGRAM
- ACTIVE IN VARIOUS
 MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT
 EFFORTS IN NIAGARA

DANIEL. K

FIRST TIME NOMINEE

Daniel (he/they)

Membership Questions & Feedback



Impacts of OPIRG in Niagara

OPIRG dedicates countless hours to training, mentoring and supervising our students in placements that focus on educating students in harm reduction including naloxone training ... We need to ensure OPIRG has sustainable funding and support from the university to ensure this work, as well as their many other social justice initiatives, continue.

Pauli Gardner, PhD (they/them)
 Associate Brock Professor, Public Health & Gerontology



Zestimonial 1 Zestimonial 2 Zestimonial 2

- Brock Grad Student SJES
- CUPE 4207 member
- Niagara Free Store & Marshalling Volunteer
- 2023 Streetworks
 Niagara Staff (PLN) International Overdose
 Awareness Day

AGM Business Motions & Constitutional Amendments



AGM Motions

- 1. I move that we accept the AGM minutes from last year The OPIRG Brock 2023 membership accepts the 2022 AGM minutes.
 - Review Motion
 - Mover
 - Second
 - Discussion
 - Decision

2. Annual Report - we are presenting these slides as our annual report and will be voting on a motion for the members to accept the annual report.

Constitutional Amendments

1. I move that we add the following sub-section to the OPIRG Brock Constitution - M.3.1.3. Ex-officio members

- Mover
- Second
- Review Motion
- Discussion
- Decision



- 1. All 2023 OPIRG Brock members should have email in your inbox with the voting link.
- 2. Each candidate has the option of "Yes", "No", & "Spoil Ballot"
- 3. You will have until 7pm to vote. Any votes that come in after 7pm will not be counted.

Black, Indigenous, People of the Global Majority (BIPGM) Leadership, Resources, **Activists & Artists in Niagara to support:**

- Abbey House
- BIPOC Caucus
- Black Female **Empowerment Society**
- Black Owned 905
- Black Student Success
- BME Church, Salem Chapel
- Brock Student Justice Centre
- Celebration of Nations
- De dwa da dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre

- Dr. Robyn Bourgeois
- Fallon Farrinacci
- Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre
- Future Black Female
- Hadiya²dagénhahs First Nations, Métis and Inuit Student Centre
- Justice For Workers Niagara
- Kakekalanicks Inc.
- Kerry Sutra

Black, Indigenous, People of the Global Majority (BIPGM) Leadership, Resources, **Activists & Artists in Niagara to support:**

- Matter of Black
- Medicine for the Resistance Podcast
- @mfwsupp0rt (Instagram)
- Migrant Workers Alliance for Chance
- Niagara African Caribbean One Dish, One Mic Culture Organization (NACCO)
- Niagara Chapter of Native Women
- Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre

- Niagara Region Anti Racism Association
- Niagara Regional Native Centre
- Niagara Workers Welcome
- Patty Krawec
- PayYourRent.ca
- REDress Project
- Shawnee Kish
- Strong Water Singers (Zhooge Nibii Kwe)





OPIRG Brock Board Portfolio Reports



Our OPIRG Brock Team!

Board Members

- 7 Board members at last AGM, currently have 6
- 1 resignation mid year
- Monthly public board meetings

Staff

- Kerry Duncan Volunteer, Planning, & Training Coordinator
- Vanessa Fyfe Bookkeeper
- Asma Afrooz CRO 2023
- Professional Services
 - Brokerlink Insurance
 - Durward Jones Barkwell Company LLP Auditor
 - Sullivan & Mahoney Legal Services



Volunteers & Partnerships

STATS!

- Marshalling +
 organizing support
 for 6 different
 events & rallies
- 10 Titillating Talks hosted with 7 partners/sponsors
- 11 Free Stores
- 30+
 Partner/Sponsor
 organizations
 working together
 on May Day 2023
- MEMBERSHIP TRIPLED!!

FUCK YEAHS!

- 23 incredible Niagara Free Store Volunteers
- Expanded marshalling opportunities to the Corners Running Crew & Glowriders
- Increased resources and training for Niagara Free Store volunteers & supporters



FUTURE!

- 9 placement students across 5 Brock departments
- Strengthening our ongoing partnerships!
- Mobilization team + support to Action Groups
- OPIRG Brock Activist Archive!
- Tabling at Brock + reopening Brock office



Our Community Partners









Niagara Transgender

Action

Coalition













cozy X bones

















Faculty of Applied **Health Sciences**















Action Groups



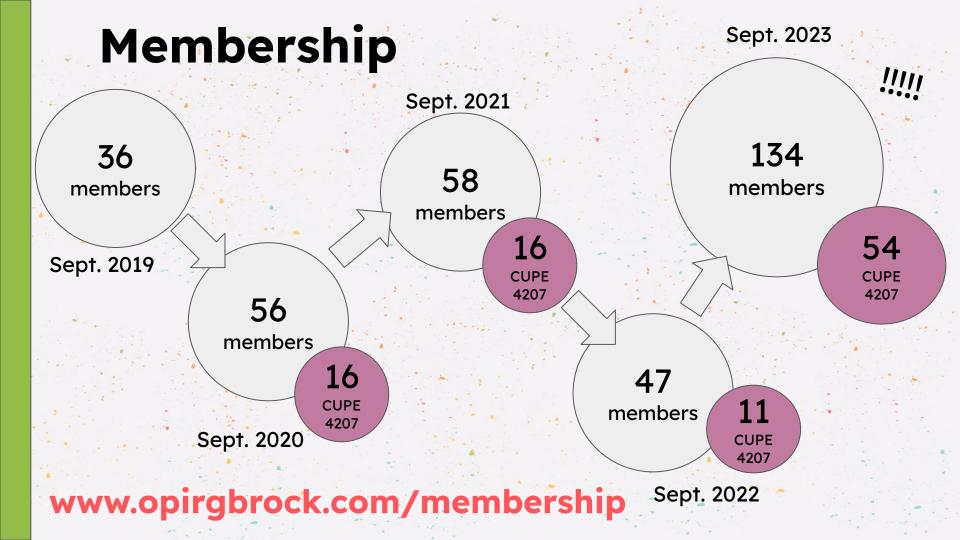


FOR W



What is offered to Action Groups by OPIRG Brock

- Access to an OPIRG Brock Organizational Membership
- 50 free buttons
- A bank account line to store funds raised and processes a group's financing
- Monthly online fundraising platform through the OPIRG Brock's Patreon
- A Community Partner's page on the OPIRG Brock website
- Accessing OPIRG's non-profit/charity status for grant applications and access to Charitable Tax receipts through OPIRG Provincial
- Access to OPIRG Brock's Canva Pro account
- Access to booking the OPIRG Brock-NRJ Zoom Pro Account
- Access to resources available on the OPIRG Brock-J4W-N CALM Solidarity Membership
- Use of OPIRG Brock's policies and meeting minutes/ agenda templates
- Strategic planning session Includes goal setting, spectrum of allies chart, etc.
- OPIRG's year-long schedule shown and discussed with key partners
- Promotion of events, campaigns, and resources to the OPIRG Brock newsletter, membership, and social media
- Circulation of hard copy promotion materials, including putting up posters, tabling opportunities, and distribution of flyers
- Support for your organizing teams where possible, from the OPIRG Brock staff, Board, volunteers, and on occasion, placement students
- Connections across Ontario doing similar kinds of activism through the Ontario Provincial Network
- Dissemination of publications and materials



CUPE 4207 & OPIRG Brock

Since June 2020 - All CUPE 4207 members are OPIRG Brock members

- OPIRG Assessment Structure (individual members) vs.
 Sponsorships & Donations
- 51 CUPE 4207 members registered their OPIRG Brock memberships
- Difference from sponsorships & donations from the union
- \$35,465.49 2022-2023 OPIRG-4207 Assessment
- \$6000 Sponsorship received from the union for the Free Store & activisting programs like *Titillating Talks*

Year ahead

- Ad-Hoc Committee on OPIRG-Brock / CUPE Relationship
- Potential vote on the OPIRG-4207 Assessment
- OPIRG Presentation at Nov GMM and April AGM
- Monthly 4207 membership reports
- Increasing the number of members registered
- Continuing to work with the Member Outreach Officer & Media Relations Staff on cross-promotions
- Niagara Free Store Bin at the new CUPE 4207 office



Fuckyeah-Wins

- Highest 4207 members registration and engagement level to date
- Structure is seen throughout the Province as an essential means of solidarity in fighting back against Conservative campus attacks on workers & students
- CUPE 4207 website page

OPIRG Provincial

What is OPIRG Provincial & what does it do for us?

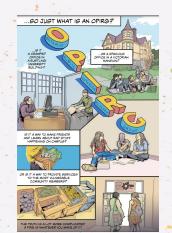
- Activist network across the province (11 chapters)
- Charitable Status
- CUPE 1281 Collective Agreement and Health Benefits
- Network run by a Board, and Collectives structure
- Staff rep: Kerry (also Provincial Secretary + CSC co-chair) and Board Rep: Margret
- AGM October | PBM February

Financial Support

- \$3,296.49 Equalization Payment
- \$13,842.63 OPIRG Provincial Chapter Support Fund

Year ahead

- Online Provincial Resource Hub (aka the Wiki)
- Board Training School Summer 2024
- Connecting with the Provincial Network





Fuckyeah-Win of the year!

OPIRG Provincial Chapter
Support Fund

After 2 years of consultation, we led the implementation of a network-wide policy and protocol that increases funding to chapters with smallest budgets.

Finance

we hate capitalism, but also, money...

- OPIRG Brock Fiscal Year: September 1-August 31
- Finance Committee: Vanessa (Bookkeeper), Kerry (Coordinator), Fiona (Board), Kaho (Board)
- 2022-2023 Audit Update + future Special Members Meeting
- Resources we were able to add this year:
 - Increased Volunteer Appreciation, funding for Childcare,
 Accessibility, Transit & Transportation budget for volunteers
 - Increased operations costs
 - Shared subscriptions with Action Groups
 - Zoom pro with NRJ
 - CALM Solidarity Membership with J4W-N
 - Removal of Action Group fees & additional of Action Group Fundraising platform option
- (Estimated) 2023-2024 OPIRG Brock Budget: \$64,856.68

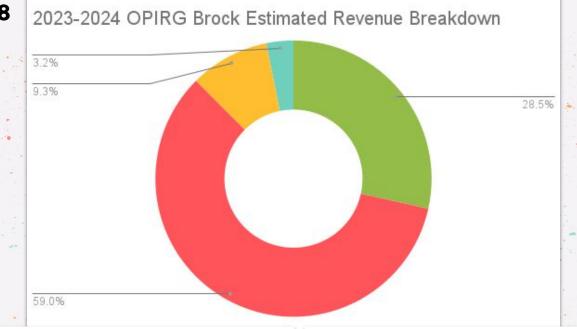
Finance Committee goals for year ahead

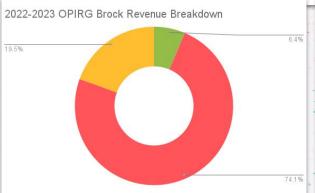
- Increased FinancialSecurity
- Spending Confidence& LongevityAbundance Planning
- Increasing staff hours
- Budget planning opportunities for Action Groups
- Expansion of annual revenue sources
- Continual updating
 Financial Policies

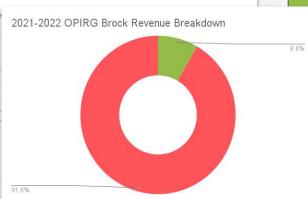
Estimated budget: \$64,856.68

Revenue Sources

- OPIRG Provincial (secured)
 - a. Equalization Payment
 - b. Chapter Support Fund (secured via application)
- 2. Memberships
 - a. CUPE 4207 Assessment (secured)
 - b. Non-4207 Members (non-secured)
- 3. Fundraising (non-secured)
 - a. Contracts
 - b. Grants
 - c. Corporate Contributions
 - d. Sponsorships
 - e. Donations
 - f. Web Sustainers
 - **Programs**
 - g. Fundraising Items & Events







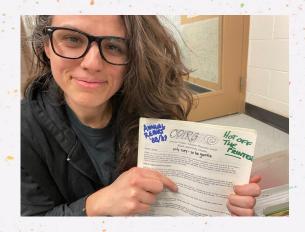
What are we paying for? 2023-2024 Expenses

Staff Expenses - \$40,539.66

- Part time/Casual Staff Wages
- Staffing costs: Vacation, EI,
 CPP, WSIB, Savings Plan
 Benefit, Greenshield Benefits
- Union Dues

Staff expenses cover - 2 staff:

- Coordinator
 - o 12.5 hours per week
 - Part Time/permanent
 - Unionized with CUPE 1281
- Bookkeeper
 - Part Time/Casual





Vanessa is our badass bookkeeper and does enjoy being in photos which we respect.

Endless thanks you Vaness for all of her work!

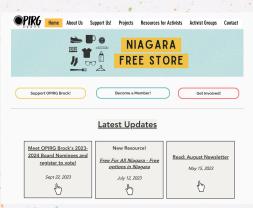
What are we paying for? 2023-2024 Expenses

Operation Expense - \$18,439.00

- Storage
- Supplies
- Postage
- Printing & Photocopying
- Phone & Web
- Bank Fees
- Insurance
- Legal Fees
- Audit
- Volunteer Appreciation
- Honoraria & Professional Fees
- Provincial Network
- *Fees & Subscriptions
- *Accessibility & Accommodations
- *Childcare
- *Transportation & Travel









What are we paying for? 2023-2024 Expenses

Projects & Events Expenses - \$4,500.00

- 1. Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund
- 2. Coalition Events
- 3. Fundraiser Events
- 4. Non-fundraising events
- 5. External sponsorships

Fuckyeah-Win of the year!

Gave out total amount in the Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund

Updated financial processes and revenue sources have allowed for an increase multi-year financial planning.







EVERYTHING YOU WERE TOLD WAS NOT POLITE TO TALK ABOUT



Fundraising

NEW TIERS FOR 2023			Previous Tiers
\$2	Fans of OPIRG Brock	NEW TIER OPTION!	\$5
\$5	Niagara Free Store	Contribute \$5/month to the Niagara Free Store.	Strength in Numbers
\$5	Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund	Contribute \$5/month to the Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund.	General Members
\$10	Niagara Free Store + Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund	both the Free Store and the	\$10 Action Groups
\$15	Niagara Free Store + Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund + OPIRG Brock	Store, \$5 goes to the Anti-Racism	\$15 Makers & Vendors
\$20	Support Action Groups	With this tier, \$10 goes to OPIRG's long-term goals, \$10 goes to an action group of your choice.	\$20 Community Support
\$30		With this tier, \$5 goes to the Niagara Free Store, \$5 goes to the Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund, \$10 goes to OPIRG's long-term goals and. 10 to an action group of your choice.	\$30 People Power

Paid Contracts

- Willow Arts Community Zine
- Suitcase In Point / In the Soil
- OUTniagara
- Harm Reduction Forum
- and more!

Sponsorships & Donations

- o Cash: \$260.65
- OPIRG Sponsorships: \$
- Project Sponsorships:

<u>Highlights</u>

OPIRG Brock Patreon overhaul

- 15 \rightarrow 28 active members!
- \$122.86 increase in monthly revenue

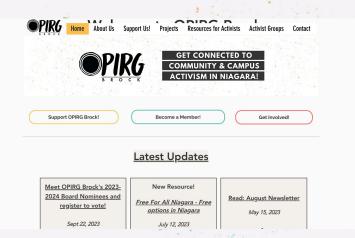
Communications

Highlights

- Activism in Niagara, monthly community events series
- Website revamp
- New & improved resources and materials

www.opirgbrock.com









Human Resources

Highlights

- Vanessa's new laptop
- Kerry's new work phone 365-855-2768

Current Improvements

- Formalizing staff's employment contract
- CUPE 1281 OPIRG Collective Agreement bargaining is still ongoing

Points of Focus

- Transition meetings
- Board meetings

Next Steps

- Increasing staff hours
- Formalizing exit survey
- Capacity toolkit system avoid burnout within our members and staff
- Updating the Conflict of Interest Policy and review of Safer Spaces Policy



Impacts of OPIRG in Niagara

OPIRG Brock's Niagara Free
Store plays a vital role in the
Niagara community by
addressing the issue of clothing
affordability and alleviating this
burden by providing free
clothing options, promoting
sustainable practices, inclusivity
and social justice.

Olayinka Animashaun,
 Niagara African Caribbean
 Culture Organization



~~ Testimonial 2 ~~

Liv Reyno

- Niagara Reproductive
 Justice
 - MonitoringAnti-Choicers
 - Abortion & Reproductive Support Network
- Justice for Workers Niagara
- Niagara Free Store & Marshalling Volunteer

Questions & Feedback





Projects & Partnerships Highlights



Niagara Free Store

- Expanded to 2 storage lockers
- Hosted 11 Free Stores
- Supported many migrant workers, newcomers, refugees, low-income families & children
- 23 Volunteers and published & translated resources
- Year ahead: improved inventory system, more donation drop off locations, item specific donation drives





Marilyn I. Walker

School of Fine &

Performing Arts

















LOCAL : NEWS

cozy X bones

Pressing need for donations to help thousands of new asylum seekers get settled

Newly arrived refugees need items ranging from diapers and toothbrushes to warm coats and shoes say organizers of new drive

Anti-Racism Action Plan

- Launched the Anti-Racism Sponsorship Fund
- \$1500 sponsorship distributed to 6 groups
- Relationship building with BIPOC communities and activists through project partnerships (e.g. Free Stores with NACCO & MWAC, Willow Arts Zine V.7, etc.)
- Behind the scene supports available to groups marshalling supports, showing up for events, cross-promoting
- Internal team self-education guidelines for staff, board, volunteer and placements students/interns

"OPIRG Brock's Anti-Racism
Sponsorship Fund has been a
unique and precious resource...
The support of OPIRG Brock has
been a welcome light in a
landscape with very few
supportive resources which allows
us to be in turn a stronger resource
for others, especially BIPOC
people in Niagara."
-Saleh W. NRARA







Harm Reduction & Naloxone at Brock

- Project Team: Starting in 2018 Partnership with the 4th year HLSC
 Public Health Capstone Course,
 Positive Living Niagara, the Brock
 Public Health Curriculum Committee,
 and HLSC 1F90 with Dr. Kelly Pilato
- Year ahead: 4th year HLSC capstone course project will focused on the development of a multi-topic training suite for all Public Health students (and hopefully all Brock students one day)
- Harm Reduction resources (campus & community) www.opirgbrock.com/harm-reduction

FuckYeah-Wins

Secured permanent harm reduction and Naloxone training to all Public Health students and it will be starting in January 2024

100+ people attended the second annual International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD)



Thanks yous: Claire Laurie, Talia Storm, Kaitlyn Labatte, Hannah Zettler-Graca, Dr. Kelli-an Conway, Dt. Pauli Gardner, Abas Alsaidi, Dr. Kelly Pilato, Dr. Sam Hajna, Janet Westbury

Impacts of OPIRG in Niagara

To me, OPIRG Brock represents joyful community-building, mutual aid, and hard-working folks with a lot of heart ... OPIRG is probably the most underrated support in our community!

 Irene, Lifelong Niagara resident & healthcare worker



~~ Testimonial 3 ~~

Mo Constantine

- Co-founder Niagara
 Reproductive Justice
- Past CUPE 4207 member
- Brock International Grad
 Student Alumni MACS
- Niagara Free Store & Marshalling Volunteer
- Member of Niagara Trans
 Action Coalition
- Previous member of the Titillating Talks team

What's Next?



Upcoming Events!

Sept 27, 12PM

Land Alliance March - No Mining on Anishinaabe Territory | Free Grassy Grange Park, Toronto

Sept 27, 5PM

Cowspiracy Screening | CUPE 4207 GLB 120, East Campus, International Centre, Brock University

Sept 29, 12:45PM

National Day of Truth and Reconciliation Walk | Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre @ Market Square, Downtown Welland

Sept 29, 10AM

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation 3rd Annual Unity Walk | Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre @ 11 Niagara Parkway, Niagara Falls

Oct 4, 6PM

Sisters in Spirit | Hadiya'dagenhahs
Alphies Trough Brock University, St. Catharines



Oct 7, 12PM

Niagara Regional Native Centre Annual Powwow @ Meridian Centre, Downtown St. Catharines

Oct 15, 2-4PM

Community Fridge Niagara 1st Birthday Party 16 Keefer Rd., St. Catharines

October 14, time TBD

Niagara Free Store @ Corner of Queenston & Frank St., St. Catharines

Thank-You's

We'd like to acknowledge all of you. OPIRG Brock would be nothing without the community around it.

While OPIRG Brock is a work in progress, we always strive to support more perspectives and create more space for social and environmental justice activism.

Thank you!



Questions & Feedback





OPIRG Brock 2023 Election Results



Successful Candidates









Thank You For Running
Thank You For Re-running



OPIRG Brock Welcomes You



From your 2023 CRO with love, thank you for the opportunity



Thank you, Kaho, for your contributions to the board of directors; you will be missed.
Good luck on your future endeavours and we are excited to see what the future holds for you!

AGM Motions

- 1. I move that the OPIRG Brock 2023 membership accepts the slides presented at the 2023 AGM as the 2022-2023 OPIRG Brock Annual Report.
 - Review Motion
 - Mover
 - Second
 - Discussion
 - Decision

Motion to close the 2023 AGM

The OPIRG Brock membership closes the 2023 OPIRG Brock Annual General Meeting on Tuesday September 26, 2023 at 8:21 pm EST

- Motion.
- Mover
- Second
- Discussion
- Decision