

ANNUAL REPORT

2016



RAVENTRUST.COM



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

RAVEN has grown again this year! Alas, demand for legal defence funds is increasing and the financial pressure on Indigenous Peoples in Canada increases with it. The Board tasked staff to meet a very ambitious budget target of \$1 million and they rose to the challenge. This budget enabled the ED to hire a new Campaigns Manager which dramatically increased RAVEN's capacity to raise funds.

It has also allowed RAVEN, at the request of First Nations, to consider several new projects. The Board chose to support these project requests because they meet our criteria and because of the Board's confidence in our gifted, dedicated staff and contractors to meet the targets.

Our board directors actively demonstrated their support in 2016; several Board members volunteered to speak on behalf of RAVEN at public events. The Board attended education sessions on the court system and laws as they pertain to RAVEN's work, and participated in a cultural awareness and sensitivity training session. This led to a discourse about the intersection of Indigenous law and Canadian law.

Being a RAVEN board member is an act of reconciliation and often challenges assumptions, behaviours and comfort levels for those who seek to understand a different vision of Canada's history and society. Our role as a 'bridging' organization situates us in the liminal spaces between legal systems and cultures. As often happens liminality brings with it creative thinking and working within the context of the unknown and unfinished.

RAVEN's mandate is to raise legal defence funds and the Board takes its financial oversight role very seriously. We are aided by our highly qualified and knowledgeable Treasurer, Karl Mech, who patiently and in great detail works with the accountants, the ED and then the Board to make sure we all clearly understand the budget and expenditures.

The Board is looking at taking on a new Strategic Planning Process in the coming year as the staff has completed most of the targets set in the previous 2015-2018 Strategic Planning process.

As President, I am pleased to see a steady increase in Board engagement and participation in RAVEN activities. Every Board member has contributed thoughtfully and substantively to RAVEN in the past year. Many thanks to all and especially to JP Laplante who is stepping away from the Board after six years to attend to his family and work with the Tsilhqot'in Nation. He is a strategic, thoughtful and fair-minded contributor to our work and his perspective will be missed.

Thank you to all our donors, community supporters, Board members, volunteers and to our tireless staff and loyal contractors. Each new legal case request is an opportunity to learn. Hop onto our website and explore the marvellous and interesting work that RAVEN does. It's an amazing time in Canada's history and we are in the thick of it!

Respectfully,

Jessica Van der Veen, President
Board of Directors, RAVEN





MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

For RAVEN, growth, transition and legal success stand out as highlights from 2016. RAVEN expanded both its staff and its programs. We moved on from some programs after successful delivery of the fundraising goal, and made plans to move out of our 300-square foot space in the Central Building to a 750-square foot office two floors above. And the litigation launched by seven Nations to stop the Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline and tankers project – supported by RAVEN to the tune of \$600K – worked to put an end to the project.

In addition, 2016 was a banner year for core development, with a massive increase in monthly donors, and large foundation grants to support us through this tremendous growth period. In looking at our 2015 Strategic Plan, we have accomplished much of what we set out to do by 2018, including:

- Increasing monthly donors to more than 100 and are well on the way to 300,
- Increased partnerships with organizations such as Sierra Club BC, Force of Nature, Friends of San Juans, Skeena Wild, and many others,
- Increased relationships with local First Nations, including Lekwungen, Tsartlip and Sliammon Nations,
- Hiring a Campaigns Manager and reconfiguring work loads, and
- Establishing a legal advisory panel.

Specifically, thanks to our great development team, we have more than 207 monthly donors that contribute almost \$6000 per month. Of those, 167 give monthly to our core costs, adding \$4978 each month to help cover the costs associated with running RAVEN.

From a fundraising perspective, RAVEN took on four new programs after hiring Ana Simeon as our Campaigns Manager: Wild for Salmon – Stop Petronas; Pull Together against Kinder Morgan; Protect the Peel; and Heiltsuk – Step Up For Coast Heroes. Her skills allow us to assist more Nations than ever. We are currently raising funds for 14 Nations across BC, Alberta and in Yukon. We did wrap up one fundraising campaign in 2016, after raising more than \$300,000 (the goal was \$250K) for West Moberly and Prophet River First Nations to stop the Site C dam, and saw the Nations all the way to the Federal Court of Appeal in Montreal.

Our support team keeps us flourishing with almost 10,000 followers on Facebook thanks to Andrea Palframan's dynamic graphics and well-crafted communications. Our website continues to host more than 5000 unique visits per month.

Going forward, RAVEN is in a strong financial position for 2017. We need to be aware that fundraising may be affected by the new U.S. administration, and by changing priorities for foundations and donors. We are working to stay ahead of the shifts, and to anticipate funding needs. Research for new sources of funding is under way, and we continue to develop new funding partnerships.

RAVEN is being asked more often to participate in conferences, publications and exhibitions – an acknowledgment of the growing influence we have in the conversation around protecting Nation's rights and the environment. RAVEN will continue to push the transition from the colonial period to the reconciliation era – assisting First Nations that choose to bring forward court actions to substantiate their constitutional interests held in section 35 and rein in the intrusive use of Crown sovereignty.

This is hard work; it can require extraordinary energy. Our team is strong and committed, and after nine years, we continue to find joy in this effort. I am excited for the year ahead and what we will accomplish together.

RAVEN's vision is a country that honours the ancestral laws, rights and stewardship values of Indigenous Peoples and their equitable access to the justice system within a thriving natural environment.

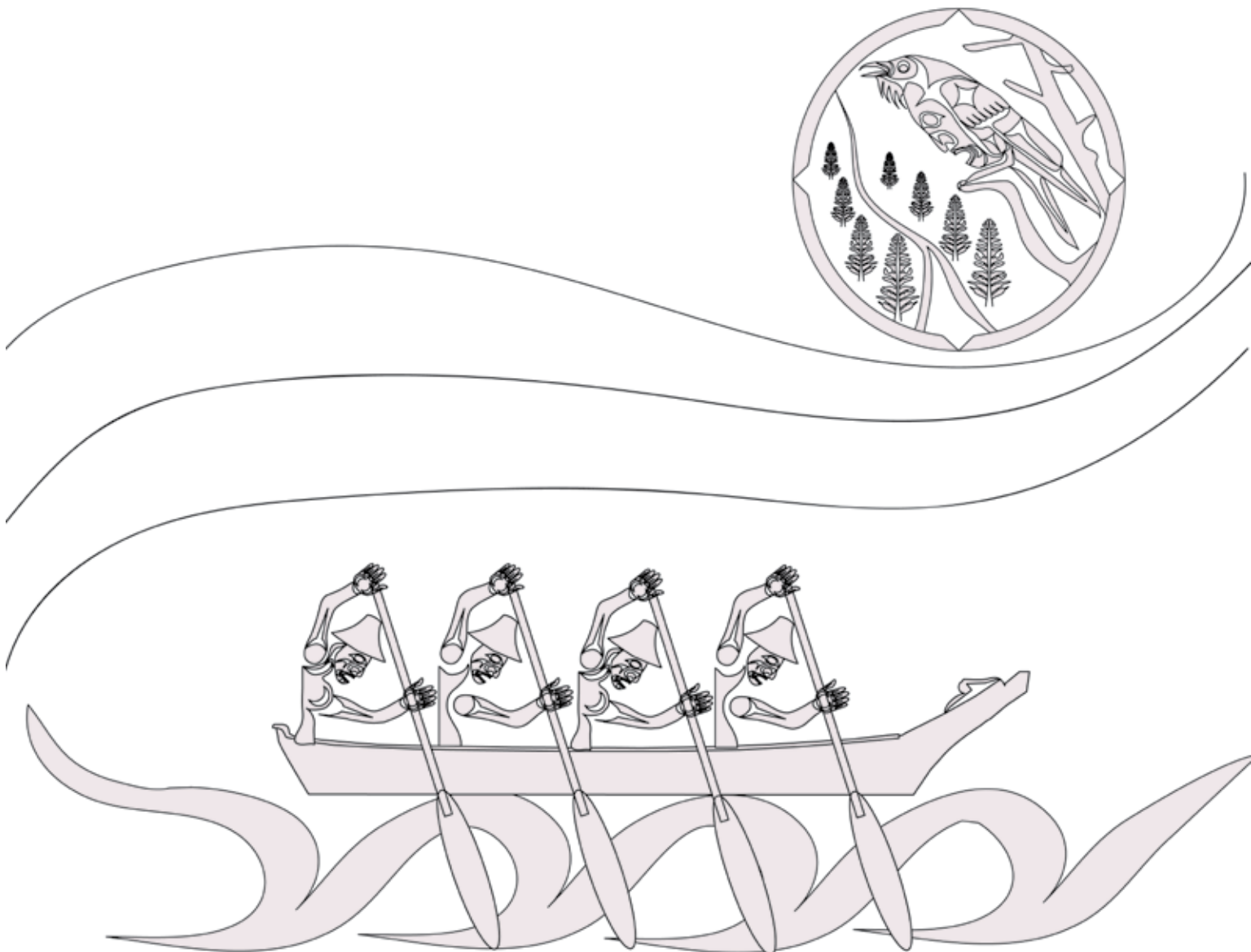
WHY NOW? Because the future depends on it.

Our mission is to raise legal defence funds to assist Indigenous Peoples who enforce their rights and title to protect their traditional territories.

Through our public education programs, RAVEN collaborates with Indigenous Peoples to eliminate environmental racism and foster a greater understanding of indigenous rights and governance.

"It's not every-day that we come across an organization such as yours that would assist First Nations with such a cause as ours. Mahsi cho for all your efforts and Ravens Trust for providing fund raising and support to the Peel Land Use Planning court session. It has been an honor to work with you on this initiative and with this, I would like to express our great gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for all of the staff who assisted with this fundraising. I wish you all well as you continue your great work on supporting Indigenous causes throughout Canada. Mahsi cho."

— Chief Roberta Joseph, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation



RAVEN PROGRAMS



Pull Together — Seven First Nations vs Enbridge pipeline & tankers

Pull Together victory! RAVEN raised \$613,800 for seven First Nations fighting the proposed (and now dead!) Enbridge pipeline. Gitxaala, Kitasoo/Xai'xais, Heiltsuk, Gitga'at, Haida, Nadleh Whut'en and Nak'adzli Nations won in court and the federal government killed the project. Thanks to unprecedented solidarity between Indigenous leaders and thousands of grassroots Pull Together allies, the Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline is dead and the north coast is clear of oil tankers!



West Moberly and Prophet River First Nations vs Site C dam

RAVEN donors allowed us to meet and exceed our goal of \$250,000 for West Moberly and Prophet River First Nations' legal challenges to the proposed Site C dam project in northeastern B.C. We raised \$325,000 and saw the Nations all the way to the Court of Appeal in Montreal.



Pull Together — The People vs Kinder Morgan

We supported the Tsleil-Waututh Nation through preparations for filing a Judicial Review of the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline. 506 people raised nearly \$50,000 in a month so that First Nations can stop Kinder Morgan in the courts. This work planted the seed of a much broader campaign that would become our second Pull Together campaign in 2017.



Tsilhqot'in vs Taseko Mines

In late 2016 we learned that Taseko Mines was appealing the rejection of the proposed "New Prosperity" mine at Teztan Biny (Fish Lake), a pristine and culturally significant place in the heart of Tsilhqot'in territory. This is the third attempt by the company to ram through a polluting mine that would destroy a sacred lake. Our Tsilhqot'in campaign is ongoing and ramped up in January 2017.



Beaver Lake Cree vs the Tar Sands

We continued supporting the Beaver Lake Cree through active trial preparation for their constitutional challenge to tar sands mining in their territory.

SNEAK PREVIEW: In the fall and winter 2016, we were also quietly working to prepare for the launch of three new campaigns in 2017! Our first Yukon campaign to save the Peel launched in January 2017, as did a multi-nation challenge to the proposed Petronas LNG terminal and pipeline. And, we are standing with Heiltsuk heroes to bring a polluting oil transport company to take responsibility for the damage from a catastrophic oil spill in Heiltsuk waters in 2016.

2016 YOUNG SCHOLARS ESSAY PRIZE

The purpose of the RAVEN Young Scholars Essay Prize is to recognize outstanding undergraduate work which intersects with the core precepts and values of RAVEN. Quite simply, we want to recognize students who are asking questions about the sorts of topics that we know to be important. The essay competition is open to all disciplines in the social sciences and humanities. Papers from all methodological and theoretical standpoints are considered: submissions may be made from papers already written as part of normal coursework. We're grateful to the adjudicating panel:

Glen S. Coulthard – Professor, Politic Science, First Nations Studies Program, UBC

Dara Culhane – Professor, Anthropology, SFU

Dawn Hoogeveen – Graduate Student, UBC

Max Ritts – Graduate Student, UBC; RAVEN volunteer

2016 First Place winner: Saul Brown, "Heiltsuk Herring: An Exploration of Stories, The State, and Capitalism"



Excerpt from paper: "My Hailhzaqvla name is Ach'ebuh, which originates from the unceded territory of the Heiltsuk Nation located in what some refer to as the central coast of British Columbia (BC). My Hailhzaqvla name roughly translates into "ferocious grizzly bear" or "the silvertip/hump of a grizzly bear". I come from the house of Hemas Dhadhiyasila - this is my Grandfather and Father's house. This name of rank and house has been handed down to worthy Chiefs since the first ancestor descended down from the cosmos. Since time immemorial the Heiltsuk have had a complex society based on the potlatch, which is our form of governance. It is from the potlatch that my name came. It is through the potlatch that our stories stay vibrant and rich, such as the stories of my name. All of our ancestral names that my family owns and uses tie us directly to the land and seas from which we come and the stories that connect us to that place. Thus, names enforce our inalienable relationship to place.

In Heiltsuk the name of a person carries a transfer of privilege and responsibility from one generation to the next, providing for intergenerational succession. This is also like the succession of stories. This is our truth as a Nation even when we, the Heiltsuk, stood on the brink of annihilation by way of Canadian colonization. As a member of the Heiltsuk Nation who was born and raised in our traditional territory, I have been exposed to the implications of Heiltsuk stories and everything they embody. Being exposed to Heiltsuk stories at a young age was never an oddity for me because I was born into the house of Hemas Dhadhiyasila. Being born into this life and responsibility nurtured my Heiltsuk worldview just as the potlatch nurtures Heiltsuk stories. My worldview accepts, trusts, and celebrates Heiltsuk stories. I do not identify as Canadian."



Second Place winner: Sol Diana. "The Grass Beneath My Feet: Reflections for Blackfoot Poet Zaccheus Jackson 'Nyce'".

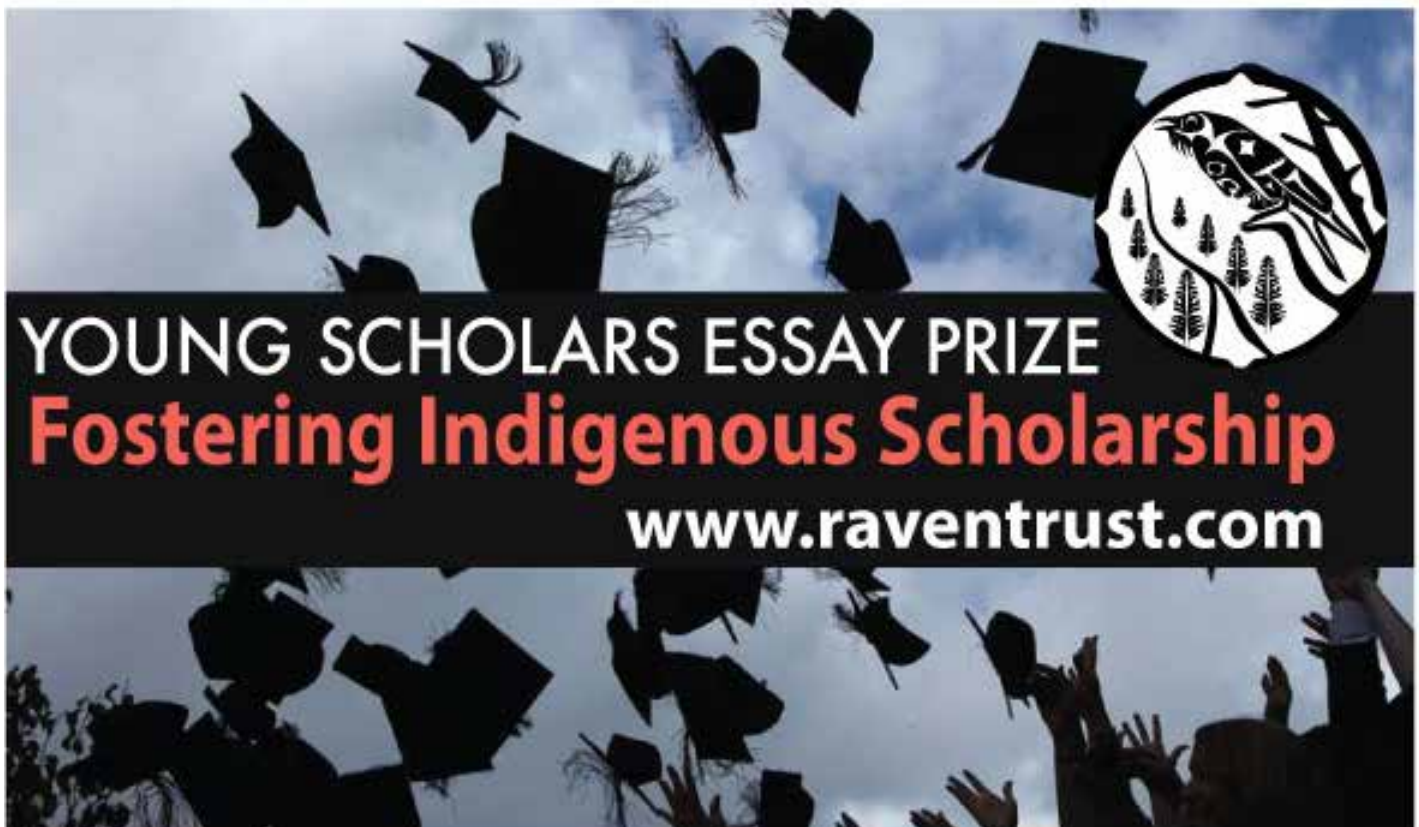
Says Diana, "I chose to write for and about Blackfoot spoken word artist Zaccheus Jackson 'Nyce', and explore his work as decolonial praxis, for many interrelated reasons. First, I am a spoken word artist myself, as well as a First Nations and Indigenous studies student at UBC. Therefore, the intersections between art and

radical resistance have been a central inquiry in my studies. Second, I have met and worked with Zaccheus before, so I have a personal connection there—one that I wanted to honour through my writing and research.

In writing this paper I was led to the scholarship and stories of other incredible, powerful, and sharp Indigenous artists such as Leanne Simpson, Frank Waln, and Karyn Recollet, amongst many others. They each, in their own voices and ways, testify to the healing and resisting potential of art and storytelling in the face of such a dehumanizing force as settler colonialism. It was a necessary reminder that Indigenous scholars, activists, authors, writers, and artists are resisting, and theorizing the unravelling of, settler colonialism. This reminder also positioned me to continue being mindful of my own responsibilities as a non-Indigenous settler artist. What am I doing with the stories and scholarship of these Indigenous artists that I have access to? How will I hold up and amplify their voices? To be reminded to ask such important questions was indeed one of the most powerful experiences to come out of writing this piece.

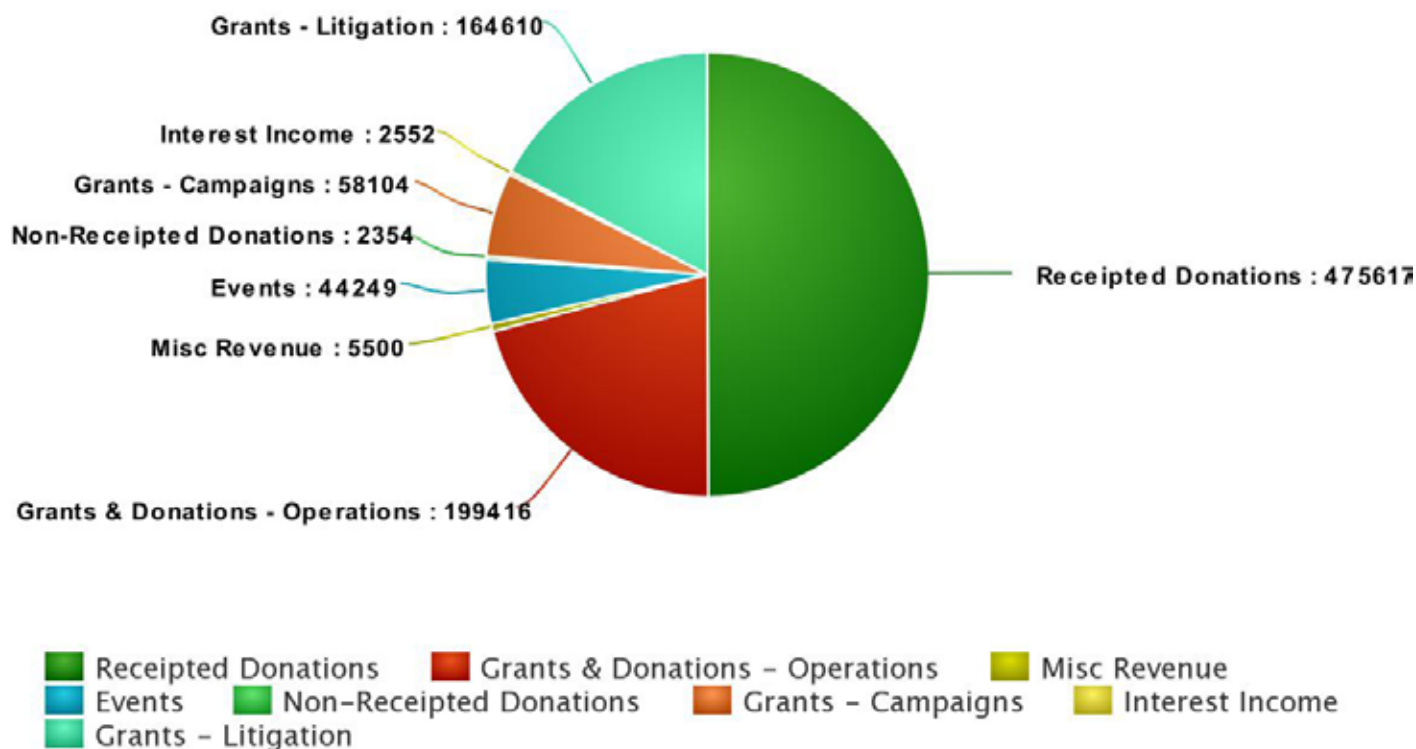
I am not sure if honoured is the right word, but it is sure is the most accurate one in describing how I feel about being recognized as this year's second place winner. I am overjoyed to have had the opportunity to write about a hero of mine, Zaccheus Jackson, and explore the anti-colonial praxis embedded in his work. Lastly, but certainly not least, I am thrilled that the writing of an Indigenous writer has been recognized as the first place winner this year. It is an indication that platforms and networks for Indigenous scholarship and voices are continuously being created, and an important reminder that this work must keep happening. Maraming salamat (thank you sincerely)."

Both papers are on RAVEN's website at <https://raventrust.com/2017/01/26/2016-young-scholars-essay-prize-winners/>



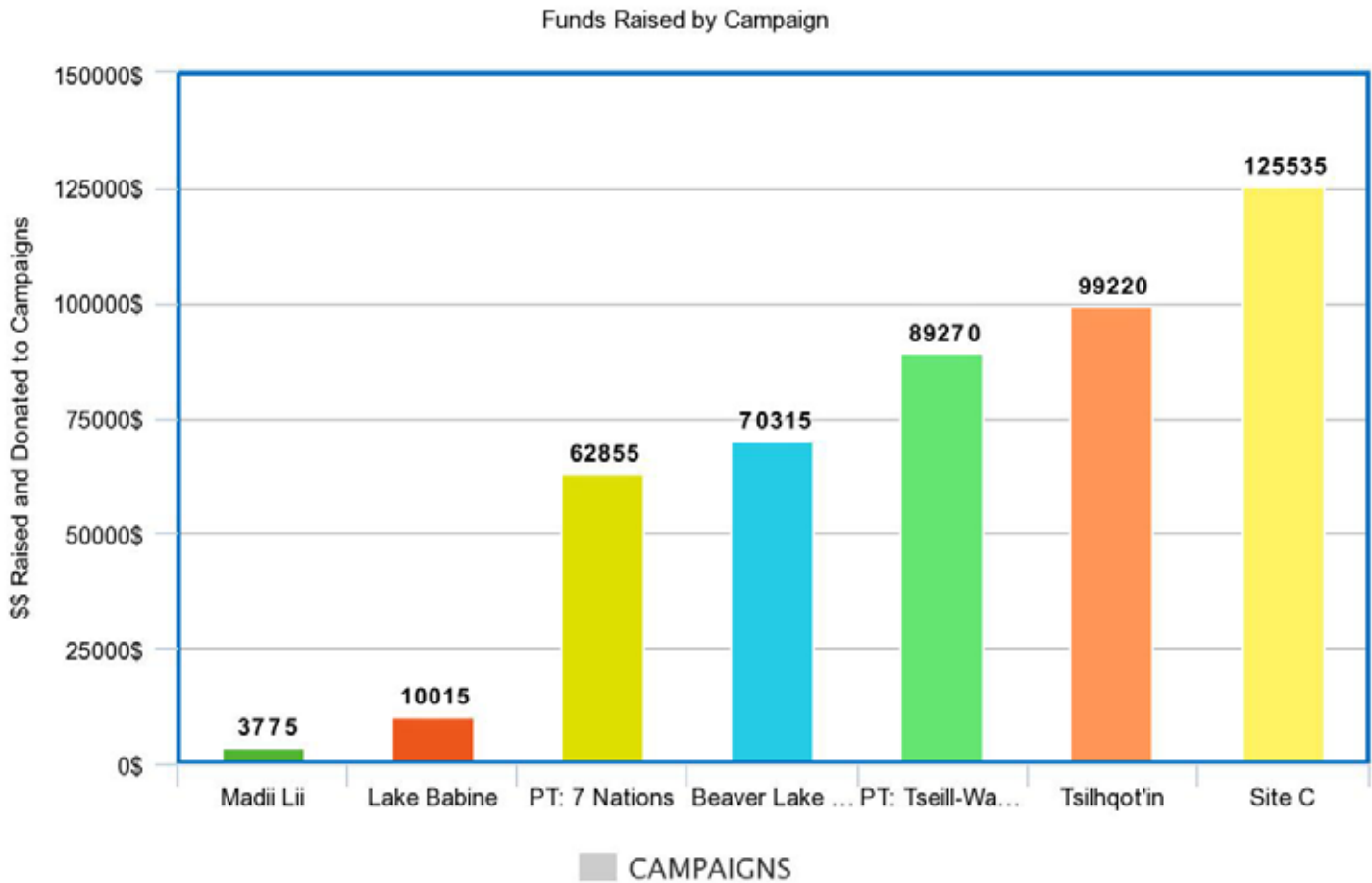
HIGHLIGHTS FROM RAVEN'S 2016 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

REVENUE BY SOURCE



Pie Chart/Revenue Breakdown:

Individual donors who are motivated to defend Indigenous rights and the environment have the largest impact on litigation costs for the many Nations on the legal front lines. RAVEN also partners with many foundations who support litigation and campaign costs as well as operations costs. 2016 was a good year for events; they are a great way to stay in touch with the caring public.



Bar Chart/Campaign Breakdown:

In 2016, individual donors to the Join the Circle Campaign raised over \$125,535 for the Nations fighting the Site C dam! The Tsilhqot'in Save Fish Lake Campaign received \$99,220 in support. The Pull Together to Stop Enbridge Campaign brought individual fundraisers to the forefront of RAVEN's work, and we are keeping those doors open for Pull Together: Kinder Morgan.

**R.A.V.E.N.
Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs**

Statement of Financial Position (Part 1)

(Prepared without Audit or Review: See Notice to Reader)

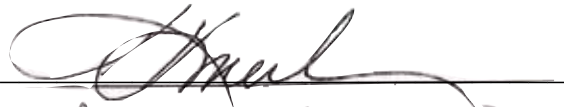
as at December 31, 2016

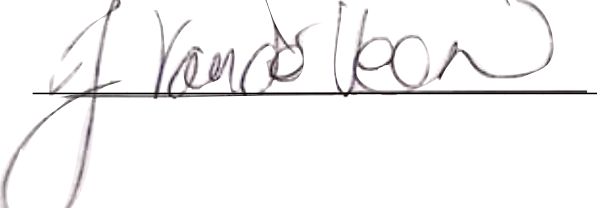
Assets

	2016	2015
Current		
Cash	\$ 493,554	\$ 455,190
Marketable Securities	200,000	-
Due from Governmental Agencies	2,722	4,440
Prepaid Expenses	<u>1,974</u>	<u>1,949</u>
	<u>\$ 698,250</u>	<u>\$ 461,579</u>

*The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these
Financial Statements.*

Approved on Behalf of the Board:

_____
Director

_____
Director



**R.A.V.E.N.
Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs**

Statement of Financial Position (Part 2)

(Prepared without Audit or Review: See Notice to Reader)

as at December 31, 2016

Liabilities

	2016	2015
Current		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 4,529	\$ 1,385
Wages Payable	6,274	2,750
Restricted Donations	<u>24,488</u>	<u>24,488</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>35,291</u>	<u>28,623</u>

Members' Surplus

Net Assets	<u>662,959</u>	<u>432,956</u>
	<u>\$ 698,250</u>	<u>\$ 461,579</u>

*The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these
Financial Statements.*



R.A.V.E.N.
Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs
Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets
(See Notice to Reader)
For the year ended December 31, 2016

	2016			2015		
	Projects	Operations	Total	Projects	Operations	Total
Receipts						
Donations	270,474	228,699	499,173	851,703	153,300	1,005,003
Swag Sales (net)	-	340	340	100	315	415
Project Grants	225,214	172,500	397,714	204,440	2,000	206,440
Capacity Building	-	68,667	68,667	-	96,201	96,201
Other Income	-	2,552	2,552	31	2,842	2,873
	495,688	472,758	968,446	1,056,274	254,658	1,310,932
Disbursements						
Cash Awards	-	1,500	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Capacity Building	68,667	-	68,667	82,786	-	82,786
Salaries and Wages	3	180,477	180,480	27,833	81,277	109,110
Administration	1,306	15,208	16,514	4,858	11,982	16,840
Marketing - Advertising	93	6,333	6,426	10,028	14,683	24,711
Project Expenses	365,757	72,130	437,887	818,509	61,268	879,777
Occupancy Costs	-	26,968	26,968	7,205	9,878	17,083
	435,826	302,616	738,442	951,219	180,588	1,131,807
Net Receipts for the year	59,862	170,142	230,004	105,055	74,070	179,125
Excess revenues over expenses	59,862	170,142	230,004	105,055	74,070	179,125
Net Assets, Beginning	304,628	128,327	432,955	199,573	54,257	253,830
Net Assets, Ending	364,490	298,469	662,959	304,628	128,327	432,955
Internally Restricted Net Assets	364,490	414	364,904	304,628	414	305,042
Unrestricted Net Assets		298,055	298,055		127,913	127,913

*The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these
Financial Statements.*

**R.A.V.E.N.
Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs**

Cash Flow Statement

(Prepared without Audit or Review: See Notice to Reader)

for the year ended December 31, 2016

	2016	2015
Effects on Cash Flow by:		
Operating Activities		
Net Receipts for the year	\$ 230,003	\$ 179,125
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Increase in Due to Governmental Agencies	5,242	4,038
Increase (decrease) in Accounts Payable	3,144	(60,117)
Decrease (Increase) in Accounts Receivable	-	2,340
Decrease (Increase) in Marketable Securities	(200,000)	-
(Increase) in Prepaid Expenses	(25)	(1,191)
Decrease (Increase) in Wages Payable	-	2,015
Decrease (Increase) in Inventory	<u>-</u>	<u>1,447</u>
Net cash provided by operations	<u>38,364</u>	<u>127,657</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash	38,364	127,657
Cash, Beginning of the year	<u>455,190</u>	<u>327,533</u>
Cash, End of the year	<u>\$ 493,554</u>	<u>\$ 455,190</u>

*The accompanying Notes are an integral part of these
Financial Statements.*



R.A.V.E.N. Respecting Aboriginal Values and Environmental Needs

Notes to the Financial Statements

(Prepared without Audit or Review: See Notice to Reader)

for the year ended December 31, 2016

1. Significant Operational Commitments

The 2014 fiscal period found the organization maturing and able to solidify a long term commitment with the executive director and secure independently leased office space. The operation budget for the 2017 period reflects these anticipated commitments.

2. Mission Statement

2010 was RAVEN's first full year in operations as a Canadian non-profit charitable organization. In 2009, RAVEN took flight so to speak, with the creation of a logo, website and actual presence.

Among the first steps were to decide on a mandate. When we formed RAVEN we recognized the need to redress an inherent imbalance. To obtain justice in the courts for Canada's First nations in their struggle to protect rights and lands, native leaders, advocates and their legal teams almost always face overwhelming odds when going against the established interest of large corporations.

Governments and wealthy corporations are able to hire large teams of lawyers and experts to bolster their arguments. Their resources appear almost limitless to cash - strapped First Nations and their dedicated legal teams that all too often work pro bono because of their belief in the cause. The background research and other costs attendant on the fight for native rights are invariably immense. Yet, without adequate research and background information, native causes are bound to fail in non- native legal systems.

RAVEN believes first and foremost that our legal system should dispense justice based on the best evidence available regardless of wealth and power imbalances. Our goal is to bring to light to this issue, and in doing so, also bring some balance to the legal game. As such, RAVEN's mission is to raise legal defence funds to assist First Nations who enforce their rights and title to protect their traditional territories. Through our education programs, RAVEN transforms public awareness to eliminate environmental racism and create a collaborative new economy.

3. Legal Structure

The Society was established September 7, 2006 under the Canada Corporations Act Part II.



THANK YOU ~ RAVEN'S CIRCLE OF ALLIES

Six years after RAVEN began working together with First Nations for equitable access to justice, we launched our "Circle of Allies" long-term giving program.

Our Allies Circles are comprised of people who step up and commit to ongoing support for RAVEN's core funding needs. Long term investments allows RAVEN to fulfill its ambitious vision and mission. The Circle of Allies welcomes your sustaining commitment to justice and environmental integrity through monthly giving.

RAVEN GOLD ALLIANCE CIRCLE MEMBERS

David & Laura Slik

Christopher Fleck

Woodward & Co

RAVEN DIRECTOR'S ALLIANCE CIRCLE MEMBERS

Kim Martyn

Tessa Sage Flores

Elizabeth Fitzzaland

Marissa Slaven

Cheryl Kabloona

Lee Adamson

RAVEN CAMPAIGN ALLIES CIRCLE MEMBERS

Robert Shaw

Andrew Woodsworth

David Herzig

Barbara Freitas

Rachael Defibaugh-Chavez

Linda Stanton

RAVEN CORE ALLIES CIRCLE MEMBERS:

Derril Gudlaugson

Fiona Gregory

Reynold Reimer

Sheila Curran

Kirsten Bunner

Karen Guttman

Melissa Gregerson

Mary E Love

Paul Bennett

Vanessa Sloan Morgan

Thomas McMahon

Candace Batycki

Catherine Lewis

Ann Ishiguro

Barry Faires

Reynold Reimer

Elizabeth Pruszyński

Taylor Milne

Debrah Hubbard

Rosalyn Newis

Renee Groves

Lisa Kettle

Mikal Baker

Bruce Carter

John Lerner

Eveline de Koning

Alison Vida

Thomas McMahon

John Lewall

Stephen Hopkins

Alicia Dempsey

Mikal Baker

Rodger Hamilton

Melody Mason

Andrew Fair

Debrah Hubbard

Lawrence Thicke

Roseanna F Kremler

Joseph Kuhn

Alison Vida

Stephen Williams

Amanda Gomm

Sharon Blomme

Candice & Ian Morgan

Merle Alexander

Kent Mjolsness

Patrick Plestid

Andrew Fair

Linda Cooney

Lawrence Fredeen

Valerie Booth

Josef Kuhn

Shannon Daub

Lisa Kettle

Art Fredeen

Alison Murray

Lawrence Thicke

Taylor Milne

Ute Kelly

Betty Logan

Rodger Hamilton

Elaine Julian

Cody Anderson

Nancy Wood

Heidi Monk

Melody Mason

Linnea Rowlatt

Mary Nockleby

Kim Martyn

Faith Kremler

Eve Mark

Pat Vickers

Adam Linnard

Rosalyn Newis

Kaye Atkinson

Alison Murray

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Bruce Carter

Deanna Bayne

Bradley Benson

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FOUNDATIONS Weissman Family Foundation • Patagonia • Vancouver Foundation • Flanagan Foundation • Common Stream • David Suzuki Foundation • Victoria Foundation • Tides • Fitzhenry Foundation • Glasswaters Foundation • Donner Foundation • McLean Foundation • Price Waterhouse Cooper • New Venture Fund • Schein Foundation • CRD Idea Grant

UNIONS & ORGANIZATIONS UNIFOR, BCGEU, Unitarian Church, Lead Now, Kairos, Sum of Us

CORPORATE Woodward & Company, Comalatech, Lush, MEC, Michael Green Architects, Price Waterhouse Cooper, Onward Up, Moxie Bookkeeping

PULL TOGETHER BUSINESS SPONSORS Moksha Yoga, Denman Island Chocolate, Salt Spring Coffee, Otylia Photography, Culturalive!, Bandidas Taqueria, Be Clean Naturally Soap, Al's Gourmet Falafel, Spirit Bear Lodge, Santosha Yoga Retreat, Dad's Westcoast Awesome Sauces, Uprising Bakery, Yogacara, The Nest Hot Yoga, Mother Felker Farms, Sea Bluff Farms, Saanich Organics, Glorious Organics, Earnest Ice Cream, Sweet Digz Farm, Duck Creek Farm, Amara Farms, Righteous Rags Clothing.

SITE C "GRAB A PADDLE" BUSINESS SPONSORS Golden Ears Farm, Mason Street Farm, Yogacara Whistler, Uprising Breads Bakery, Earnest Ice Cream, Cold Comfort Ice Cream, Cartems Donuterie, Luke Wallace, Patagonia, Little Rivers Productions, Moksha Yoga Victoria, Talaysay Tours, Ocean and Crow Yoga, The Soap Dispensary, and East Village Bakery.

RAVEN ONLINE FUNDRAISERS

Nani Babu	Kyla Tremblay	Cindy Holmes	Lisa Bramson
Alex Schofield	Penny Boden	Reynold Reimer	Tracie Moser
Mike Rizzo	Eveline Woltersen	Caleb Behn	Barbara Nirman
GreenSeeds Music	Bill Horne	Patricia Swift	Sasha Kvakic
Gordon White	Emily Dwornikiewicz	Joe Foy	Melanie Siebert
Jasper Meiklejohn	Rosanna Trapani	Lynn Chapman	Gary Gordon
Ragnhild Flakstad	Paul Rosenberg	David Williams	Mary Dolman
Marina Hadland	Kim Scarrow	Harold Steves	Sweet Digz Farm
Rob Juneau	Ximena Londono	RC Whiten	Tenneille Metz
Mark Alberti	Holly Arntzen	Tim Managh	Susan Auger
Luke Wallace & Ali Harris	Shannon McPhail	Matthew Bolla	Sarah Lalonde
Anne Languedoc	Renata Colwell	Barbara Daley	Jesse Hodsman
Candace Campo	Elizabeth Moore	Tracey Maynard	Kate Shippam
Maja Lampa	David Suzuki	Aaron Handford	Oliver Swain
Bat-Ami Hensen	Tai Salih	Jackie Avery	Charlotte Kingston
Howie & Sheila	Candice Campbell	Chantal Chagnon	Aiyana Kane
Sandra Leckie	Verena Hofmann	Matt Hammer	Crystal Easton
Janet and Steve Gray	Gerald Amos	Haydn Smith	Jeff Schlingloff
Morag Keegan-Henry	Wendy Francis	Galen Armstrong	Laura Purdy
Michelle Fletcher	Caitlin Murphy	Jess Bennett	Molly Clarkson
Shelley Falk-Ouellette	Lorraine Ward	Gary Gordon	Danaca Ackerson
Lisa Dumoulin	Naomi Fleschhut	Matt Hulse	Darwyn Coxson
Percy Hart	Teresa Summer	Gary Gordon	Grant Waldman
Lia Walsh	Martin Pundt	Sven Biggs	

WHERE YOU FIT INTO RAVEN'S FUTURE



It's no secret that RAVEN holds a vision that would ultimately see us close the doors – because it would mean we live in a nation that embraces the ancestral laws and stewardship values of Indigenous Peoples and their equitable access to the justice system within a thriving natural habitat. We're not there yet. You can help though.

Every time you commit to caring, join in, act by donating or hosting an event, or lead by example and bring others into the circle, you move us along the trajectory of seeing that vision become a reality.

RAVEN is committed to standing alongside Indigenous Peoples on key legal challenges with a goal of seeing a better future for us all. In 2016, donors and fundraisers stepped up to help with legal actions

aimed at stopping a mega dam, two pipelines, two open pit mines, and the vast tar sands industries. They were also stepping up to protect the waters of the Skeena and Peace rivers, to keep the eagles flying in Treaty 8 territory and the salmon running in traditional lands of the Gitksan.

The core of RAVEN has grown significantly in the past several years, which is a true testament to the loyalty of our donor base. RAVEN's Circle of Allies are with us as we write about the successes of 2016. These allies have supported RAVEN throughout the year, while we work hard to raise legal defence funds for our many different campaigns. 2017 will see Development staff continue to grow our sustaining donor base whose support is the true backbone of our organization.

RAVEN's core operations were well bolstered this year by a generous anonymous foundation grant. This grant allowed us to hire into the new position of Campaigns Manager, and to research a new donor database system that will be implemented in 2017. We were also able to plan our move to a right-sized office, equipped with a desk, phone and computer for each staff member! We are grateful to all of our donors for making this growth in capacity a reality for RAVEN.

RAVEN staff and board participated in several trainings this year. We attended two legal primer trainings on the Canadian legal system, taught by David Robbins of Woodward & Co, which were instrumental in helping us understand the legal trajectories of the cases we support. We also received training in cultural sensitivity with the Indigenous Perspectives Society, which left us wanting to know so much more about the indigenous experience in Canada, and the traditional Lukwungen Territory on which we live and work.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2017

The development team is excited to lead the transition to RAVEN's new donor management system, create and implement a Legacy Giving Program and a Major Gifts Program, and continue to build RAVEN's Education Program. Thank you for standing with us in solidarity for equal access to justice for indigenous people, and an abundant future for all of us.

One thing we realized in our seven years? We cannot continue our great work in supporting these critical cases if we do not invest in our own sustainability. We appreciate that you may have previously donated to one of our campaigns, and we are grateful for your support.

RAVEN is the ONLY organization in Canada that provides legal defence funds for First Nations. We are having a direct and powerful impact on the ability of First Nations to access justice. We operate with a minimal staff team and keep administrative allocations below 15% so that more funds raised go directly to the legal costs of the nations. We can only do this if a core group of donors are willing to support our real costs, which are frugal.

Your donation is more important than ever before!

Our mission is strong and we need consistent help to carry on fundraising for the Indigenous Peoples who fight for the land we all love. Your investment in RAVEN makes it possible for our top-notch fundraising team to support Indigenous Peoples in Canada who are committed to defending the integrity of their traditional lands, culture and livelihoods.

Join RAVEN to back the First Nations who are fighting to protect the land and water for the future of all.

RAVEN 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jessica Van der Veen
President

Ronald Lameman
Vice-President

Karl Mech
Treasurer

Directors:
Clara Bradley
Jessica Brown
J.P. Laplante
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RAVEN STAFF

Susan Smitten – Executive Director
Laurie MacKenzie – Co-Development Director
Jan Bate – Co-Development Director
Ana Simeon - Campaigns Manager
Leah Ritch – Operations Manager

Contractors:
Andrea Palframan – Communications/Social Media
Christopher Roy – Webhosting/Marketing
Josie Bannerman – Grant Writing
Ethan Krindle – Legal

"RAVEN is really giving us hope: that has more value than any monetary value that can be put to anything. It's beyond words how we appreciate what BC and British Columbians and Canadians are doing to help stand beside us in our fight. It's really humbling. How can you not feel like you're going to win?"

kil tlaats'gaa Peter Lantin, President, Council of the Haida Nation



raventrust.com



RAVEN acknowledges that we are situated (guests) on unceded Lekwungen and Coast Salish traditional territories.

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