ParlAmericas\' operations and activities in the 2020 fiscal year\(^1\) were financed through the support of our member parliaments and the generous contributions of the Government of Canada, through Global Affairs Canada.

The following information represents ParlAmericas preliminary Financial Statements on September 30, 2020. All amounts are reported in Canadian Dollars. In accordance with ParlAmericas by-laws, ParlAmericas Financial Statements are audited by an independent third party.

In-Kind Contributions are included in ParlAmericas Annual Financial Statements when supporting documentation is provided by the Member Parliament.

It is acknowledged that the amount recorded in the ParlAmericas Annual Financial Statements is not an accurate representation of the total value of in-kind support provided by member parliaments, partners, and International Secretariat volunteers in the normal course of ParlAmericas operations. Therefore, ParlAmericas also tracks and records for its Board, Member, and Donor reporting an indicative value of the total contributions to ParlAmericas programming. The following information represents the estimated total

\(^1\) ParlAmericas Fiscal Year runs from October 1 – September 30.
value of ParlAmericas operations, inclusive of the in-kind contributions not captured in the ParlAmericas Financial Statements.²

*International Secretariat In-Kind
ParlAmericas' programming benefits from the support of Ottawa-based student volunteers contributing their time through internships; as well as secretariat staff contributing both unpaid overtime hours to support the delivery of ParlAmericas programming and the purchase of carbon offsets for the climate neutral now initiative.

** Member Parliament In-Kind Contributions³
1. The ParlAmericas International Secretariat is hosted by the Parliament of Canada through the provision of office space within the parliamentary precinct and benefits from access to House of Commons IT support.
2. When hosting ParlAmericas activities, parliaments cover a range of costs related to the execution of the respective activities.
3. Parliaments support ParlAmericas programming by financing the travel and lodging costs of parliamentarians participating in ParlAmericas activities. ParlAmericas ascribes an indicative value of $1200 CAD per traveler to approximate this contribution.

***Other Partner In-Kind Contributions
ParlAmericas works with several partners in the course of implementing its activities. The contributions of our partners take many forms:
1. Partners contribute content-specific expertise in activities – including as keynote speakers, expert panelists, moderators, participants, and contributors to the development of knowledge resources⁴;
2. Partners self-resource travel to participate in some ParlAmericas activities;

² The additional in-kind contributions, not included in the ParlAmericas Financial Statements, that have been tracked and recorded for reporting purposes to ParlAmericas members and donors is estimated to be an additional $323,100 Canadian Dollars.
³ It is acknowledged that the referenced amount does not capture the invaluable contribution made by individual parliamentarians and parliamentary staff to work with ParlAmericas in the implementation and follow-up of its programming.
⁴ It is acknowledged that the referenced amount does not capture the invaluable contribution made by partner organizations in the production of joint publications.
3. Partners cover travel for parliamentarians to participate in some ParlAmericas activities; and
4. Partners cover costs related to the co-hosting of some ParlAmericas activities.

In-kind Contributions by partners are captured where fair values can be reasonably estimated or supporting documentation is provided. This information is tracked and recorded in ParlAmericas reporting for information purposes.

**Update on the Process of Becoming a Climate Neutral Organization**

Following the Board of Directors approval of the proposal presented in the previous Board meeting, ParlAmericas signed on April 23, 2019, a commitment formalizing ParlAmericas’ intention to join the UNFCCC Climate Neutral Initiative.

The International Secretariat of ParlAmericas committed to strive to become climate neutral by measuring our carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂) emissions, setting reduction targets, and offsetting emissions that cannot be reduced by buying certified emission reductions.

- **Actions to make the International Secretariat greener**
  - Reusing lanyards and other reusable items from ParlAmericas events
  - Reducing paper consumption for internal use/procedures
  - Ensuring computer screens are turned off everyday after work
  - Ensuring lights controlled by ParlAmericas are turned off when no one is in a room/space
  - Increasing recycling knowledge in the office
  - Reducing the use of disposables for lunch
  - Taking compost home to reduce waste
  - Encouraging staff to consider meat-free lunches

- **Voluntary purchase of carbon offsets by Staff of International Secretariat**

During the 2020 ParlAmericas fiscal year, ParlAmericas staff have voluntarily purchased a total of 88 tonnes of carbon offsets to compensate for all International Secretariat staff travel for ParlAmericas activities.  

- **Purchase of carbon offsets by the International Secretariat**

In accordance with the commitment announced at the 16th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly on October 31, 2019, ParlAmericas purchased a total of 170 tonnes of carbon offsets to compensate for all flights purchased by ParlAmericas directly for the implementation of our programmes.

For parliaments wishing to learn more about how to become Climate Neutral, we invite you to read our Guide on Green Parliaments, or contact the ParlAmericas Climate Change Programme at parlAmericasCC@parlamericas.org.

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5 Since taking the pledge, ParlAmericas staff have voluntarily purchased 153 tonnes of carbon offsets.