



# CANADIAN FEDERATION FOR THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Annual Report 2011



Canadian Federation for the  
Humanities and Social Sciences  
Fédération canadienne  
des sciences humaines

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Despite some challenges posed by resource constraints, I'm proud to say we've already achieved a great deal of progress implementing CFHSS's Strategic Directions 2011–2015, which the Board approved in early 2011. Supporting an ambitious vision and mission, it provides a solid, coherent and ambitious foundation to guide activities for the next several years and the impetus to see it implemented to the fullest. Through it, we will achieve greater reach, relevance and resources with which to carry out our mission.

This annual report details many of the activities and programs that made 2011 a stand-out year. Some were exciting new endeavours: our March conference in conjunction with our Annual General Meeting, *The humanities paradox: more relevant and less visible than ever?* was an undeniable success. More than 150 General Assembly, board and executive members, policymakers, NGO representatives, researchers, authors and citizens were engaged in lively debate. Speakers included Louis Menand of Harvard University and award winning authors Johanna Skibsrud and Kim Thúy.

Other expansions to long-standing and flagship programs proved very fruitful: Big Thinking attendance is at an all-time high, as is the quality of Congress programming. It's not surprising then, that regional, national and international news coverage for Canadian humanities and social sciences research coming out of Congress in Fredericton was the highest to date and we have even more ambitious plans for Kitchener-Waterloo.

We also made productive contributions to a number of public policy debates. Jay Rahn, York University and Chair of our Taskforce on Copyright appeared before the House of Commons Legislative Committee, Jean-Marc Mangin delivered our perspectives on international education and I presented our recommendations for the 2012 federal budget to the Finance Committee.

These types of efforts are time consuming, but important, as evidenced by significant announcements for our sector in 2011. Taking into account the pre-budget lobbying activities of PSE stakeholders and the recommendations of CFHSS's own pre-budget submission, the federal budget made new investments in innovation, education and training. The investments for the three federal research granting agencies included an increase of \$7 million per year to SSHRC. Notably, the budget stated that, "this allocation of new funding among the granting councils represents a higher share for social sciences and humanities research, compared to previous budgets."

Just in time for the busy fall schedule, we were also thrilled with the long-anticipated announcement of Chad Gaffield's reappointment as President of SSHRC. From instituting a new, streamlined program architecture to leading fundamental change in how we think and talk about the humanities and social sciences, he has helped inspire a new vision in, and for, our community.

This type of vision couldn't be more important. Looking ahead, we are facing several years of government cuts, making our job even more critical. At the same time, every day we see how questions about people, communities, culture and language prevail and preoccupy almost every sector of society. This is definitely our time to shine and I believe we've put the right plans and teams in place to make that happen.

I look forward to your continued support and assistance as we carry this out on behalf of the Canadian humanities and social sciences community.

Sincerely,



Graham Carr  
President, Canadian Federation for the Humanities  
and Social Sciences

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# CONGRESS OF THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Congress continues to be the single best connector of Canada's social sciences and humanities community. Bringing together almost 70 different scholarly associations and thousands of researchers, last year's Congress in Fredericton, New Brunswick was rich in interdisciplinary collaboration and east coast culture.

Congress 2011 was co-hosted by St. Thomas University and the University of New Brunswick and was the single largest conference in Fredericton's history. Close to 5000 researchers, publishers, scholars and members of the community took part in the eight day event.

Under the theme *Coasts and continents: exploring people and places*, Congress generated unprecedented media coverage on wide-ranging subjects including Question Period, residential schools, climate change and all-boys classrooms. More than 700 media hits were tracked globally, raising the profile of Canadian social sciences and humanities research to new heights.

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**CONGRESS 2012:** May 26 to June 2, 2012  
([www.congress2012.ca](http://www.congress2012.ca)): Wilfrid Laurier University  
and University of Waterloo

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**CONGRESS 2013:** University of Victoria

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**CONGRESS 2014:** Brock University

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**CONGRESS 2015:** University of Ottawa

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# 2011 BY THE NUMBERS

## 11 BIG THINKING SPEAKERS

and **712 ATTENDEES** on Parliament Hill from September 2010-2011

## 11 BIG THINKING LECTURES

(including the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, National Chief Shawn Atleo, climatologist Andrew Weaver and author David Adams Richards) at Congress 2011

**135 ATTENDEES** to Big Thinking “on the road” in Kitchener-Waterloo

## 713 MEDIA HITS

generated through Congress 2011

## 52 GRANTS

awarded to first-time applicants through ASPP

**\$1.5 MILLION** in funding awarded to scholarly publications

## 4 CANADA PRIZES

of \$2,500 awarded in 2011

## 26,067 UNIQUE VISITORS

to the CFHSS blog

**2,700 TWEETS** with #Congress11

## POLICY OUTREACH

*“the submission also encouraged cross-sector knowledge mobilization, while also investing in innovative graduate scholarships and research opportunities”*

CFHSS monitors issues and mobilizes the community for policy development and consultations in the areas such as open access and digitization, peer review and non-traditional research dissemination, ethical research practice, and equity issues within academia.

Over the course of 2011, CFHSS made a submission to the Expert Panel, Review of Federal Support to Research and Development, highlighting the importance of fostering links between industry and social science and humanities researchers. The submission also focused on creating opportunities for graduate students, all of which were picked up on in the Jenkins Report, issued in 2011, which made several recommendations to the government on how to improve productivity of the private sector in Canada.

We picked up on these themes in our pre-budget submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance. Recommending increases to the granting agencies, the submission also encouraged cross-sector knowledge mobilization, while also investing in innovative graduate scholarships and research opportunities.

Just recently CFHSS provided input to the Advisory Panel on Canada's International Education Strategy. CFHSS highlighted the opportunities Canadian institutions have to enhance their diversity, and the prospects Canadian students need for international experiences and learning.



Our Big Thinking series shares knowledge by introducing wide audiences to humanities and social science research. Topics this year attracted MPs, Senators, NGO leaders, heads of granting agencies and PSE organizations and many policy analysts from federal departments. We also took our popular formula on the road and partnered with the Communitech Hub to deliver Big Thinking “on the road” in Kitchener-Waterloo. This successful event drew over 120 attendees from the Kitchener-Waterloo region including municipal and provincial politicians, prominent community leaders and local business executives. The event doubled as a curtain raiser on Congress 2012, to introduce the entire region to the significance of that event to their region in spring 2012.

## 2011 BIG THINKING SPEAKERS

*“Building resilient communities: The economic impact of Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires in Canada”*  
 Lou Hammond Ketilson

*“The World Economic Outlook: Implications for Canadian fiscal policy”*  
 Jack Mintz

*“Generation Next: Social mobility of the children of immigrants”*  
 Philip Kelly

*“Food for thought: Addressing the global food crisis”*  
 Evan Fraser

*“On What Terms Can We Speak? Aboriginal-Canadian relations as an educational priority”*  
 Dwayne Donald

*“Helping the most vulnerable? Exploring gender, poverty and social policy in Canada”*  
 Lori Curtis

*“Between Militarization and Litigiousness: Canada’s policy choices in the fight against cybcrime”*  
 Benoit Dupont

*“The Greying of Canada’s Population - two policy challenges for the next generation”*  
 Christopher Ragan

*“From Canada 2.0 to a Digital Nation”*  
 Catherine Middleton

# AID TO SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS PROGRAM

Every year, thousands of humanists and social scientists publish their research, methods and findings in scholarly texts. These works are vital to the growth of humanity’s knowledge, and thus, represent an important aspect of our efforts to mobilize knowledge within academia and broader society.

Those books funded by ASPP are eligible for CFHSS’s annual awards. The Canada Prizes in the Humanities and the Canada Prizes in the Social Sciences recognize scholarly manuscripts that are vital to the growth of humanity’s knowledge, and enrich the social, cultural and intellectual life of Canada and the world. Four prizes—two in English and two in French—worth \$2,500 each are awarded each year, with the winners being selected by a cross-Canada jury of scholars.

## CANADA PRIZE RECIPIENTS

### The Canada Prize in the Humanities

was awarded to Louis-Jacques Dorais for *The Language of the Inuit: Syntax, Semantics, and Society in the Arctic* (McGill-Queen’s University Press).

### Le Prix du Canada en sciences humaines

was awarded to Antoine Bosclair for *L’École du regard. Poésie et peinture chez Saint-Denys Garneau, Roland Giguère et Robert Melançon* (Fides).

### The Canada Prize in the Social Sciences

was awarded to Joy Parr for *Sensing Changes: Technologies, Environments, and the Everyday, 1953-2003* (University of British Columbia Press).

### Le Prix du Canada en sciences sociales

was awarded to Marion Froger for *Le cinéma à l’épreuve de la communauté. Le cinéma francophone de l’Office national du film, 1960-1985* (Presses de l’Université de Montréal).

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

CFHSS ended 2011 with strong reserves and a clear focus on the rationalization of expenses. A smaller Congress provided a financial challenge to CFHSS but quick response to cost controls allowed for CFHSS to meet overall targets.

In 2011 revenue and expenditures were consistent with 2010 with the overall deficit increasing slightly. The 2011 deficit was only \$10,000 greater than originally planned, which was positive in light of the smaller Congress.

Our revenue stream from SSHRC has been stable while membership increased slightly. Congress and Outreach revenues decreased significantly which was anticipated prior to the start of the fiscal year. Congress revenue varies by location and can change dramatically. Investment income declined due to a bumpy year in the markets. Investment holdings are of the highest quality to mitigate market risk.

The costs for salaries and benefits declined due to the rationalization of some positions, position vacancies and implementation of a new health care provider.

Administrative expenses decreased slightly. Liaison and Congress expenses were greatly reduced as a result of both initial Congress planning and response to smaller Congress attendance numbers. Meeting and activities expenses were also reduced through aggressive cost containment. Amortization expense decreased slightly due to an increase in fully depreciated assets.

While the 2011 deficit was budgeted and anticipated, many of the rationalization efforts will be more fully appreciated in 2012 when CFHSS plans for a balanced budget.

\* Pending approval by the Board of Directors, scheduled for March 29, 2012

Note 1: Donations received are deferred until used for the purpose of the fundraising campaign.

Note 2: The expenses for related staff and general administration are included in the salaries and administrative totals

## SUMMARY OF 2010-2011 AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT \*

	2011	2010	% change
<b>Revenue:</b>			
Congress & Outreach:	792 523	1 054 612	-24,85%
<b>Memberships:</b>			
Universities	446 835	433 330	3,12%
Societies	144 365	140 677	2,62%
Affiliates	1 800	2 800	-35,71%
	593 000	576 807	2,81%
<b>Grants from SSHRC:</b>			
Connections	450 000	450 000	0,00%
ASPP Administration	308 550	308 550	0,00%
Aid to Scholarly Publications	1 758 000	1 633 000	7,65%
	2 516 550	2 391 550	5,23%
<b>Investment Income</b>	109 518	143 680	-23,78%
<b>Donations: (note 1)</b>			
ASPP campaign	3 918	-	100,00%
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>4 015 509</b>	<b>4 166 649</b>	<b>-3,63%</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Salaries & benefits	1 359 299	1 516 490	-10,37%
Administrative	438 462	444 787	-1,42%
Liaison & Congress (note 2)	502 887	547 554	-8,16%
Meetings & activities	94 940	107 960	-12,06%
Amortization	67 972	71 405	-4,81%
ASPP books paid	1 758 000	1 633 000	7,65%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>4 221 560</b>	<b>4 321 196</b>	<b>-2,31%</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency)</b>	<b>(206 051)</b>	<b>(154 547)</b>	<b>33,33%</b>

# CFHSS AT A GLANCE

CFHSS promotes research, teaching and learning across the humanities and social sciences. A charitable, not-for-profit organization, it represents approximately 85,000 researchers, professors and graduate students through its members: 79 learned societies and 79 universities and university-colleges across Canada, as well as five affiliated organizations.

Under the leadership of President Graham Carr, Interim VP, Research and Graduate Studies at Concordia University, CFHSS is governed by a Board of Directors of prominent Canadian academics and operates its Secretariat of about 15 full-time staff in Ottawa, Canada.

CFHSS's work is sustained by membership fees, revenue from Congress, Connections and other project funding from SSHRC and other government bodies, and with funds from the Canadian Endowment for the Humanities and Social Sciences.

In addition to delivering Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences and Big Thinking, CFHSS carries out many activities to support and promote the community, particularly through delivering a wide range of services to its members. These organizations, in turn, play a leading role in graduate student development, and knowledge creation and dissemination.

Policy outreach and advocacy around many issues that pertain to learning and research in the humanities and social sciences is a vital component of CFHSS's activities.

## VISION

In advancing equity, diversity, knowledge, excellence and innovation, the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences contributes tangibly to a free and democratic society.

## MISSION

The Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences promotes research, scholarship, creative activity and learning, and works to foster understanding of the contributions made by the humanities and the social sciences to Canada and the world.

## STRATEGIC INTENTION 1

Improve How We Communicate and Connect With Members

## STRATEGIC INTENTION 2

Increase our Influence among Canadians

## STRATEGIC INTENTION 3

Ensure Financial Sustainability

## CFHSS IS:

- A national, not-for-profit, funded by members and other sources
- Comprised of 79 scholarly associations, 79 universities and colleges and 5 affiliate organizations
- Housed at the secretariat in Ottawa
- Responsive and proactive about sharing the concerns and interests of the community to numerous public policy and funding debates
- The organizer of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, the largest annual multidisciplinary gathering of scholars in Canada
- Proud administrator of the Aid to Scholarly Publications Program, which supports the publication of 150 scholarly books and awards the prestigious Canada Prizes annually
- A knowledge connector—through policy dialogues and long-standing programs like Big Thinking, a series of lectures that connects experts with policy-makers and research benefactors

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CANADIAN FEDERATION FOR THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, VISIT:**

[www.fedcan.ca](http://www.fedcan.ca)

1-613-238-6112

@fedcan #congress2012 #bigthinking

