

ACCESSIBILITIES OVERVIEW

SF Public Interest Research Group, Burnaby SFU Campus, Contact Kalamity Hildebrandt

Audit performed July 20th, 2012

<http://www.sfpirg.ca/>

[Link To Google Map of Area](#)

[Link To The Full Access Audit](#)

Overall Accessibility Ratings

Access Type	Rating		Comments	
Blind / Vision Limited			non	No specific accommodations, obstructions throughout, well lit
Deaf / Hard of Hearing			non	No specific accommodations
Scent Reduced / Free			non	No policy in place, but intend to create policy
Wheelchair/Mobility Limited	full	sem		Generally accessible in public areas, but many obstructions, tight spots, high shelves, etc. throughout

Accessibilities Rating Key:

FULL: e.g. can freely access all publicly available spaces; scent policy in place and enforced; ASL, Braille, & other accommodations available at no charge to the individual; sliding scale available; etc.

SEMI: e.g. can access most/main activity spaces but not all public areas, some arrangements/changes required, some accommodations provided for deaf/HoH and blind/vision limited folks; adequate lighting for signing; limited scent policy; etc.

NON: e.g. can't access main public areas; no scent policy in place; no asl, Braille or other accommodations; inadequate lighting for signing; no sliding scale; etc.

Please note that I conducted this audit while riding my large Ranger Scooter, which measures 44"long X 25"at the widest X about 48"high with me in it. That may give you a better sense of space.

The Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG) on the Burnaby Mountain campus is a student-funded and student-directed resource centre dedicated to social and environmental justice. It is a gathering space, library, workshop space and much more. PIRG is located in the Rotunda area of the SFU Burnaby Campus, between the Women's Centre and Out On Campus.

While there is not a washroom at PIRG itself, there are a few options in the surrounding area, which run from fully wheelchair accessible (in the Maggie Benston Building) to not accessible (in the Business Centre and hallway leading to the courtyard for example). I have heard rumours of a gender neutral washroom on campus but was not able to confirm at time of this audit.

PIRG is conveniently located near accessible transit, elevators, cafes and other services. The main space of PIRG is open, comfy, and inviting. I was able to access the area without too much trouble, though there are a number of movable obstructions throughout, there is a wide variety of seating options.

Some issues include ensuring the kitchenette area is accessible. For example the fridge is hinged on the

wrong side to allow for easy access to people with mobility limitations, and chairs need to be moved to access. Other areas like the lounge/library could be moved around, reducing obstructions, to better accommodate people with low vision and limited mobility; lighting is unfortunately exclusively fluorescent. There are currently no specific accommodations for blind / low vision and Deaf / hard of hearing folks visiting the space; shelving is in some spots too high to reach and/or blocked with seats.

Some other recommendations include: create and post a scent-free or scent-reduced policy or lack thereof for the space; post building emergency info at entry, preferably in multiple and accessible formats; have a hard copy of this audit as well as any updates in policy regarding accessibility posted clearly in the space so anyone may access it at any time, and everyone is on the same page.

Staff and volunteers have been incredibly helpful in ensuring this audit takes place, and are on board for making the space more accessible to more people.

Please note that there is / is not currently a scent-reduced or scent-free policy in place at PIRG. Specific events may have their own policies. Refer to these resources if you'd like to learn more about how you can help create a safer environment for folks with Multiple Chemical Sensitivities:

A FAQ on MCS and being scent-free

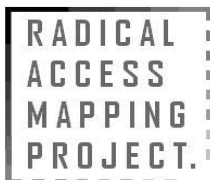
<http://www.peggymunson.com/mcs/fragrancefree.html>

On making your event scent-free or scent-reduced:

<http://dualpowerproductions.com/2011/03/26/organizing-a-fragrance-free-event/>

On products you can use to reduce your use of scents:

<http://eastbaymeditation.org/accessibility/scentfree.html>



Questions, concerns, additions, corrections, or kudos regarding this accessibility audit?

Please email: rampvancouver@gmail.com

Learn more about auditing, captioning, and the Radical Access Mapping Project here:

<https://radicalaccessiblecommunities.wordpress.com/>