

Annual Report 2018



CPJ's Board of Directors (from left): Leah Watkiss, Martha Wiebe, Jim Dekker, Trixie Ling, Naomi Kabugi, Mike Bos, Adrian Helleman, Rick Manual, Rene Adams, Wayne Groot, Harold Roscher, Monique Verhoef, Tiffany Talen, and Cheryln Spraakman.

A YEAR OF AMPLIFICATION

A MESSAGE FROM CPJ'S BOARD CHAIR

Our splendid CPJ staff put their heads and hearts together day after day in 2018 to research and write policy briefs, letters to Members of Parliament, issues of *The Catalyst* for our members and other interested folks, and reports on important policy matters. All of this work focused on our three areas of advocacy and activism: poverty elimination, refugee rights and ecological justice. While we have not amplified the number of policy issues that we focus on, as you read this report, you will see that we have deepened our research and programs, encouraging more members, as well as faith and school communities across Canada, to dedicate many hours in our *Give it up for the Earth!* and *Chew on This!* campaigns.

We have also amplified our public voice in cooperation with other justice-related organizations: in joint appeals to legislators; in public meetings in churches, schools and various social spheres; during many visits to Parliament Hill; and in towns and cities all over Canada. I invite you to read this report with thanks to our staff, as I, on behalf of CPJ's Board of Directors, extend our thanks to you for your support and encouragement year after year.

In keeping with our theme of amplification, after several years of consideration, CPJ's Board decided to hire a full-time policy

analyst for refugee rights. We pray that this position will continue CPJ's witness for people who find a home in Canada after fleeing religious persecution, political unrest and wars in many parts of God's world.

Finally, with deep gratitude, we bade farewell to Joe Gunn early in 2019, wishing him well in his new position at St. Paul University. For a decade, Joe dedicated himself to CPJ in the office, on Parliament Hill, and on visits to supporters and donors. We will miss Joe's warm and engaging presence.

Of course, Joe's departure occasioned the Board's search for a new Executive Director. CPJ's Board is confident that we found a worthy replacement in Rev. Willard Metzger. Willard comes to CPJ with 18 years of experience as a Mennonite pastor, five years developing World Vision Canada's Church Relationship Department, and eight years as Executive Director of Mennonite Church Canada. Welcome to this new amplified ministry Willard!

With that, and on behalf of CPJ's Board, I offer you, our faithful and devoted members, this annual report, thanking you for your interest and support of CPJ, and praying that CPJ continues to provide a deep and resonant voice for biblically-informed thought and action in Canada's public square.

—Rev. Jim Dekker

Our collective call for greater public justice in Canada was amplified in 2018. With the publication of *Journeys to Justice: Reflections on Canadian Christian Activism*, the long-awaited launch of Canada's first-ever national anti-poverty plan, incremental but important policy developments on carbon pricing and refugee resettlement, and the deepened engagement of people across Canada in our Give It Up for the Earth, Chew On This, and refugee rights campaigns, the voice of those seeking the common good was heard from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

As a member-driven movement, CPJ staff were grateful to continue to expand our work through numerous workshops and events, meetings and correspondence with federal leaders, increased collaboration across faith communities, and timely policy research and analysis. Significant policy changes were achieved in 2018, certainly as a result of years of collaboration and hard work. Together, we amplified the call for public policies that support a just society for all.

2018 Highlights

100 Chew On This! events in every province and territory.

800 Copies of *Journeys to Justice* sold.

1,500 Petitioners called for end to refugee travel loans.

2,500 Give it up for the Earth! postcards signed and delivered.



More than 2,500 Give it up for the Earth! postcards were presented to Minister McKenna by (left to right) sixth grade student Taya Lavictoire, CPJ board member Martha Wiebe, the Minister of Glebe-St. James United Church Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole, and CPJ's Senior Policy Analyst Karri Munn-Venn.

ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE

GIVE IT UP FOR THE EARTH!

For the second consecutive year, CPJ ushered in the Lenten season with the launch of our Give it up for the Earth! campaign. People of faith – in over 145 churches, high schools, and religious orders in more than 90 communities in all 10 provinces and the Yukon – took action to reduce their personal greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Along with these actions, they sent postcards urging the Government of Canada to end all subsidies to the fossil fuel sector and invest strategically in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and skills development to set Canada on a course for a just transition to clean energy by 2050. Incredibly, more than 2,500 Give it up for the Earth! postcards were hand delivered to MP Catherine McKenna, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change to round out the campaign.

ACCELERATING A JUST TRANSITION

Throughout the year, CPJ spoke out in support of a shift to clean energy. In March, CPJ released a backgrounder on fossil fuel subsidies, explaining how financial benefits for the oil and gas industry don't belong in Canada's climate policy. Instead, we recommended that funds be re-directed to build momentum for a just transition, through skills development, training, and investments in clean sources of energy that can shift Canada to a green economy.

CPJ's Karri Munn Venn joined with Indigenous elders and residential school survivors, Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth, United Church justice staff, clergy and church members, and other partner organizations to explore practical solutions to live out reconciliation and climate justice commitments in Canada. Later, CPJ joined over 200 people from Canada's climate movement for two days of discussion at ClimaCON. CPJ and the Green Economy Network also collaborated to host a panel discussion with MPs from three major political partners on climate change solutions and a just transition to clean energy, as well as for one-on-one meetings with MPs Linda Duncan, John Aldag and Alexandra Boulerice.

AMPLIFIED JUSTICE FOR THE CLIMATE

In October, the federal government finally confirmed that effective January 1, 2019, there would be a price on carbon emissions from coast-to-coast-to-coast, including in those jurisdictions that have not developed their own carbon pricing plans (Ontario, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and New Brunswick). CPJ had advocated for carbon pricing (either through a carbon tax or cap-and-trade system) for many years, seeing a price on pollution as a key component of Canada's efforts to address climate change.

POVERTY IN CANADA

LIVING IN THE GAP

In 2018, CPJ continued to push for policies to end poverty in Canada. In February, CPJ's public justice intern, Sarah DelVillano, published *Living in the Gap: A Snapshot of Precarity in Canada*. The report showed how precarity affects typical families living in the gap between what they have and what they need and explained the need for targeted, evidence-based approaches to tackling poverty in Canada.

CPJ's Natalie Appleyard attended a policy forum where she met with Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, to talk about Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy. CPJ's Joe Gunn, along with Campaign 2000, Ottawa ACORN, and Child Care Now, met with NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh and NDP MP Brigitte Sansoucy for a conversation about child poverty in Canada. CPJ also joined with national partners in an open letter calling on the federal government to legislate the right to housing.

AMPLIFIED JUSTICE TO END POVERTY

After years of advocacy from CPJ and other anti-poverty organizations across

Canada, in late August, the federal government released *Opportunity for All*, Canada's first federal poverty reduction strategy.

In October, CPJ released *Poverty Trends 2018*, our annual report on poverty in Canada. It reports that a staggering 5.8 million people in Canada (or 16.8 per cent) live in poverty.

CHEW ON THIS!

Dignity for All (co-led by CPJ and Canada Without Poverty), hosted our annual *Chew on This!* event on October 17 to mark the International Day for the Eradi-

cation of Poverty. Participants drew attention to poverty in Canada and called for a strengthened national plan to end poverty, including a call for legislation of the strategy and funding in the 2019 federal budget. This was the largest *Chew on This!* yet — with over 100 groups participating, representing every province and territory — and with more MPs, Senators, and faith leaders on Parliament Hill than ever before.

CPJ's Darlene O'Leary co-organized a Dignity for All Summit, which brought together experts to discuss policy solutions to end poverty in Canada.



This year's *Chew On This!* reached a new record of participation, with ten Members of Parliament (including Minister Duclos, whose office released the strategy in August), two Senators, Ottawa's Deputy Mayor and an ecumenical delegation of faith leaders.

REFUGEE RIGHTS

Moving forward with solid partnerships in support of refugees throughout the previous year, CPJ joined colleagues at Mennonite Central Committee, the Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue, World Renew, and the United Church of Canada to engage with MPs about the issues of wait times, allocation limits, and travel loans on resettled refugees in Canada. Together, we met with Liberal MPs Rob Oliphant, Jean Yip, and Marwan Tabbara, as well as the Vice-chairs of the Immigration committee, NDP MP Jenny Kwan

and Conservative MP Michelle Rempel. On April 4, Refugee Rights Day, CPJ and these partners launched a joint advocacy campaign and petition calling for an end to travel loan repayment for refugees.

RECLAIMING PROTECTION

On World Refugee Day in June, CPJ's public justice intern, Deborah Mebude, released *Reclaiming Protection*, an advocacy resource on the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA). The report highlights the first-hand experiences of several refugee claimants, details how the STCA has put refugees in danger, and provides guidance on how to advocate for a just approach to refugee protection in Canada. In response to members of government referring to refugee claimants as "illegal," CPJ wrote a letter to federal leaders urging them to not mischaracterize refugees.

As part of the Canadian Council for Ref-

ugees' International Refugee Rights Conference, which was attended by more than 800 participants from all parts of the world, CPJ sponsored and facilitated a workshop exploring how various faith communities can work jointly to advocate for refugees.

CPJ's public justice intern, Serisha Iyar, presented at the Development & Peace fall workshop on Forced Migration, the Refugee Crisis and Immigration, providing context on refugee rights in Canada and the issue of the STCA.

AMPLIFIED JUSTICE FOR REFUGEES

Following months of petitioning and collaboration by dozens of faith communities from coast-to-coast, CPJ's joint travel loan petition was presented in the House of Commons by NDP MP Jenny Kwan in December. The paper petition, along with an online component, garnered over 1,500 signatures from across Canada.



CPJ's Deborah Mebude, CRCPD's Lydia McGeorge, and MP Marwan Tabbara.

FINANCIAL NOTES

CPJ has been blessed with an outstanding year on all accounts. Our total revenues raised were a record \$935,599, compared with expenses of just \$790,524. Thanks to our faithful members, CPJ is in a strong financial position to help us manage over the next several years when two significant grants from religious organizations are due to be completed. From this financial position, and through the blessing of an enduring endowment, CPJ generated interest of \$48,547 in 2018.

As a result of our success in 2018, CPJ is able to expand the policy staff in 2019 by hiring a new full-time policy analyst, Stephen Kaduuli, to amplify our refugee rights program. With Willard Metzger as the new Executive Director of CPJ, we are excited to explore new development opportunities for 2019 together.

On behalf of the board, I would like to thank our CPJ members and supporting organizations for their faithful and generous contributions and to our committee volunteers and staff members whose dedicated focus on CPJ's financial well-being serves us so well.

—Mike Bos, Treasurer

Staff During 2018

Executive Director: Joe Gunn

Communications and Development Specialist: Michael Krakowiak

Communications Coordinator: Brad Wasink, Deb Mebude (interim began July)

Coordinator, Finance and Administration: David Pollock

Fundraising, Development, and Donor Engagement: Jim McIntyre

Senior Policy Analyst: Karri Munn-Venn

Socio-Economist Policy Analyst: Natalie Appleyard (interim until June), Darlene O'Leary

Public Justice Interns: Sarah DeVillano, Deb Mebude, Serisha Iyar



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Unceded Algonquin Territory

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Charitable number: 89438 3512 RR0001
(CJL Foundation)

CJL FOUNDATION OPERATING AS CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

Balance Sheet as of December 31	2018	2017
Assets		
Cash	246,273	185,681
Investments	501,369	433,879
Accounts Receivable	14,413	19,999
Prepaid Expenses	6,827	6,313
Endowment Fund Investment (new in 2016 restricted to gift to use interest only)	500,000	500,000
Fixed Assets	1,405	2,089
Total Assets	1,270,287	1,147,964
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	10,514	13,266
Notes Payable	10,000	30,000
Deferred for Public Justice House Fund	103,250	103,250
Total Liabilities	123,764	146,516
Net Assets		
Bequest Fund	243,688	182,026
Unrestricted Net Assets	402,835	319,422
The CPJ Public Justice Endowment Fund	500,000	500,000
Total Net Assets	1,146,523	1,001,448
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,270,287	1,147,964

Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Change in Net Assets	Budget 2019	Actual 2018	Budget 2018	Actual 2017
Revenue				
Individuals	438,438	369,487	491,516	392,500
Bequests	0	61,662	0	44,065
Churches	30,000	36,075	32,000	27,539
Religious Congregations & Orders	240,000	259,105	230,000	249,252
Other Charities (mostly individual donations as well)	78,000	61,524	51,000	92,136
Foundations (\$25,000 grant for House shown only on balance sheet)	35,000	45,910	10,000	20,550
Other Income (Sales, Events, Honoraria)	69,207	101,836	51,955	63,807
Total Income	890,645	935,599	866,471	889,849
Expenditure				
Program	650,141	553,683	629,219	579,650
Fundraising and Campaign	129,095	132,413	117,246	108,010
Administration	110,881	103,744	115,006	104,796
Amortization	0	684	0	1,150
Contingency	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	890,117	790,524	861,471	793,606
Surplus/Deficit**	528	145,075	5,000	96,243
Unrestricted Net Assets, beginning of year				
		319,422		267,244
Transfer to Bequest Fund (as a result of transfer of funds since beginning of policy)				
		61,422		44,065
Unrestricted Net Assets, end of year				
		402,835		319,422
Public Justice Endowment Fund (restricted - New gift in 2016 to use interest only)				
		500,000		500,000
Total end of year in Public Justice House Fund				
		103,250		103,250

* The complete audited statements are available upon request.

* Expenditures are done using both actuals plus salary allocations across categories