



CPJ's Board of Directors (from left): Martha Wiebe, Cheryl Sprakman, Harold Roscher, Patti Fitzmaurice, Jim Dekker, Mike Bos, Rene Adams, Wayne Groot, Paul Berry, Tiffany Talen, and Trixie Ling. Absent: Adrienne Castellon, Daniel Cho, and Nick Van Dyk.

## A YEAR OF TRANSITIONS

### A MESSAGE FROM CPJ'S BOARD CHAIR

The year 2019 filled CPJ's calendar and staff with a number of significant transitions, some expected, others as blessed surprises. As you know, Willard Metzger began working as executive director in late January, after Joe Gunn's departure. As well, Deb Mebude left CPJ after one year as an intern and 14 months as our communications coordinator while Brad Wasink took his parental leave. We were delighted to hire Stephen Kaduuli as our refugee rights policy analyst. CPJ was sad to see Darlene O'Leary leave, but pleased to re-hire Natalie Appleyard full-time as our socio-economic policy analyst. In October, we said good-bye to Jim McIntyre, our financial development officer.

Our Board said farewell to Mike Bos, our Treasurer, who also serves on the Finance Committee; Naomi Kabugi and Leah Watkiss from the Program Advisory Committee; and Rick Manuel from the Financial Development Committee. To replace these faithful servants, we welcomed Adrienne Castellon, Paul Berry, Nick Van Dyk, and Daniel Cho. Not for the first time, our board members live all across the country, from Nova Scotia to British Columbia.

Election 2019 saw the transition to a minority government and changes in cabinet ministers. CPJ staff had developed good

working relationships with several ministers who moved to new portfolios. As staff comes to know new ministers, we trust those relationships will develop along similar cordial lines and also continue with the former ministers in their new files.

Well before the election, staff prepared our Election Bulletin outlining issues from public justice perspectives; more than 10,000 copies were distributed in the mail and at the twelve events taking place across the nation. Those meetings attracted participants numbering from a few dozen to over 300 in Waterloo. In several locations candidates for local ridings held panels on poverty, climate justice, and refugee rights. At those meetings several hundred people joined our mailing list, while we also welcomed 65 new members.

Perhaps 2019's most notable event was the purchase of our own building at 334 MacLaren Street, a few blocks from our former offices on Cooper. After much fundraising, some renovations, and packing, staff moved in early 2020. Without the generous support of many members, that single accomplishment could never have occurred. Thank you very, very much. We remain deeply grateful for your encouragement and loyalty to CPJ and pray for God's clear direction for CPJ in this and all years.

—Rev. Jim Dekker

Election years are always busy years for CPJ. And 2019 was no different. In a year already full of transitions, the 2019 federal election required CPJ's staff to prepare our resources early. Throughout the first half of the year, our policy analysts finished up their advocacy efforts with the 42nd Canadian Parliament and honed CPJ's policy recommendations for the fall election.

Our typically quiet summer months were spent hosting summer students and planning the Fall Election Tour to highlight our Election Bulletin. At each tour stop, CPJ staff and partner organizations discussed our key issues in the context of the federal election and local realities. With a new minority government in place, we closed the year by developing a new strategic plan, setting a course for CPJ's work for the next three years.

## REFUGEE RIGHTS

### TRAVEL LOANS

Early in 2019, CPJ launched the #WaiveRepayment campaign. Our public justice intern, Serisha Iyar, interviewed refugee families who experienced difficulties with repaying their travel loans. These are loans provided to refugees by the federal government to cover the costs of coming to Canada. Based on these interviews, Serisha created a series of infographics that narrate these stories. The campaign served as an educational tool surrounding the issue of travel loans, Serisha then published a piece in Broadview magazine arguing that "refugees shouldn't have to pay to get to Canada."

### THE MOST VULNERABLE

In 2019 CPJ published "The Most Vulnerable," a report from Serisha Iyar. It uses the lens of intersectionality as an effective way to understand the multiple forms of discrimination refugees face. The report examines how the federal government, churches, and advocacy groups can apply an intersectional approach to their policy-making and advocacy efforts. In order to explore the report in a more in-depth way, CPJ also

launched a new podcast called "The Intern Exchange" as a space for our interns to exchange opinions, stories, and policy recommendations on issues they are personally passionate about.

### CANADA'S BORDER WALL

In April, CPJ hired Stephen Kaduuli as our new refugee rights policy analyst. Stephen's presence significantly increased CPJ's capacity to respond to rising refugee-related policy announcements, releasing statements marking World Refugee Day and condemning the new changes to Canada's refugee determination system in the omnibus budget bill.

Stephen also went to work researching and developing the concept of *Canada's border wall*, that is, the social exclusion refugees and newcomers face upon arrival here. He published articles at Rabble, Lawyer's Daily, and on CPJ's website throughout the summer.

Later in the year, this social exclusion became a major theme of Stephen's presentations during CPJ's Fall Election Tour. He also supervised Halima Abdille, a social work placement student with CPJ,

as she prepared her own report on social exclusion. In December, CPJ published "Barriers to Integration," which analyzes the socio-economic challenges that refugees face in integrating into Canadian society. This all laid the groundwork for CPJ's research and advocacy in 2020, under a new minority government.



CPJ's refugee rights policy analyst Stephen Kaduuli presents at our Fall Election Tour event in Waterloo. (Photo credit: Martin Luther University College.)



Willard Metzger, CPJ's new executive director, presents at our 2019 AGM.

## STAFF DURING 2019

**Executive Director:** Joe Gunn (until January) and Willard Metzger (began January)

**Communications and Development Specialist:** Michael Krakowiak

**Communications Coordinator:** Deb Mebude (interim until August) and Brad Wassink (returned September)

**Coordinator, Finance and Administration:** David Pollock

**Fundraising, Development, and Donor Engagement:** Jim McIntyre (until October)

**Refugee Rights Policy Analyst:** Stephen Kaduuli (began April)

**Senior Policy Analyst:** Karri Munn-Venn

**Socio-economic Policy Analyst:** Darlene O'Leary (until June) and Natalie Appleyard (began July)

**Public Justice Interns:** Serisha Iyar (until August) and Keira Kang (began September)

**Edmonton Climate and Youth Organizer:** Gabrielle Gelderman (May to October)

**Summer Students:** David Menendez Ortiz, Andrea Rodriguez

**Student Interns:** Lisa Deveau, Nicki Papworth, Dalen Ewald, and Halima Abdille

# POVERTY IN CANADA

## CANADA'S POVERTY ACT

By the start of 2019, the federal government had tabled legislation for a national anti-poverty strategy, Bill C-87, An Act Respecting the Reduction of Poverty. As a result, our work focused on calling for this bill to be as strong and impactful as possible.

In February, the Dignity for All campaign released an open letter to then-Social Development Minister Jean-Yves Duclos calling for this legislation to eliminate, not just reduce, poverty in Canada; to ground these policies in human rights; and to establish an official poverty line that genuinely reflects the experience of poverty in Canada. The letter received 538 organizational and individual signatories.

In May, CPJ's socio-economic policy analyst, Darlene O'Leary, appeared before House of Commons and Senate committees to continue our advocacy on this anti-poverty bill. She also met with staff from the Prime Minister's Office to present the recommendations in our open letter.

Next, as we marked the 10-year anniversary of the Dignity for All campaign, we celebrated a major policy win. On June 21, 2019, as part of the government's Budget Implementation Act, we finally saw Canada's first national anti-poverty plan signed into law.

In July, Natalie Appleyard returned to CPJ to take on the role of socio-economic policy analyst. Through this transition, she bolstered our analysis of Canada's new anti-poverty act and CPJ's response to it. In Christian media, our anti-poverty work was highlighted in Mandate Magazine, Faith Today, the Catholic Register, and Presbyterian Connection. We also expanded our presence in mainstream media outlets, with coverage on CTV, CBC, and the Hamilton Spectator. Natalie also gave an interview to Global TV to talk about updates to Canada's official poverty line.

## CHEW ON THIS!

In the fall of 2019, Natalie presented at CPJ's Fall Election Tour on the status of poverty in Canada and the federal government's anti-poverty efforts. In

our annual *Chew on This!* campaign, we called on the government to commit to comprehensive, rights-based anti-poverty policies backed by adequate funding in the 2020 Budget. 2019 was our biggest year yet, with over 100 events in 65 cities representing every province and territory.

This was a year of major wins and accomplishments. However, much work remains to be done to truly end poverty in Canada.



Monique Stone of Julian of Norwich Anglican Church in Ottawa, CPJ's two socio-economic policy analysts this year Natalie Appleyard and Darlene O'Leary, and former public justice intern Bekah Sears, now with MCC's Ottawa office.

## GIVE IT UP FOR THE EARTH!

CPJ mobilized people of faith for climate action around our annual *Give it up for the Earth!* campaign. In addition to making personal commitments to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, participants came together to call on the federal government to end public financing of the fossil fuel sector and invest the savings in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and skills development. CPJ also published the report, "Putting Our Money Where Our Mouth Is: Climate Change and Public Finance in Canada"



CPJ's social work intern Halima Abdille and public justice intern Keira Kang at the Climate March in Ottawa.

# CLIMATE JUSTICE

as a helpful resource for participants and policy-makers. Over 155 faith communities participated in Give it up for the Earth! in 2019. Then-Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna also took part by committing to her own personal action.

## CLIMATE ADVOCACY

Our advocacy for a just transition became a major theme in both our Election Bulletin and Fall Tour. Through press releases, articles, and workshops, CPJ's senior policy analyst, Karri Munn-Venn, stressed the need for urgent climate action in Canada. CPJ joined the *Pact for a Green New Deal*, which aims to bring about the political will to confront the climate crisis and other societal challenges including injustices in Indigenous communities, job losses, rising racism, and economic inequality.

Our annual pre-budget submission focused on needed action to address the climate emergency. We also presented briefs to the Ministry of Finance and Environment and Climate Change calling for Canada to follow-through on its 10-year commitment to end fossil fuel sub-

sidies. Throughout the fall election campaign, CPJ staff and interns joined the Climate March in Ottawa as well as the regular Friday student climate strikes on Parliament Hill. CPJ also started work on an Edmonton chapter where our organizer Gabrielle Gelderman hosted local gatherings around climate justice.

## FOR THE LOVE OF CREATION

In 2019, CPJ marked Earth Day by working with the Canadian Council of Churches and KAIROS to create a video collaboration that highlighted the need for urgent action by Canadians – and the Canadian government – on climate change. "For the Love of Creation," saw Christian leaders from across Canada declaring together that the global climate crisis requires an urgent moral and spiritual response.

CPJ continued to partner with churches across Canada through our "Prayers for Creation" initiative during the Season of Creation and Global Climate Action Week in September. Our collaboration with faith groups grew later in the year, leading to the creation of a new Canadian ecumenical climate initiative in 2020.

# FINANCIAL NOTES

This was a particularly momentous year for CPJ. Blessed by our donors, we made the decision in 2019 to purchase our own house. This will ultimately reduce our operating costs and replace our rental payments with lower mortgage payments. A special year-end request for support resulted in income of over \$34,000 and an equal amount in future pledges.

It was momentous too, in that 2019 hailed the advent of a new executive director, Willard Metzger, who launched a special Fall Election Tour across Canada as a means to introduce himself to CPJ's existing membership and to stimulate the development of new members and stronger outreach.

Since CPJ has, for many years, run a surplus, the Board authorized a deficit for this purpose. The year concluded with a deficit of \$32,253 with revenues of \$854,476 and expenditures of \$886,729. Several larger grants expire in 2019 so as ever, CPJ looks to its faithful members to continue their many generous contributions for the important work of public justice.

In recent years CPJ ran a surplus so we have developed healthy reserves. Following the start of the March pandemic, the board revised our 2020 budget to permit a \$232,275 deficit, if required. This enables CPJ to maintain a robust organization and keep all current staff in place in what we pray is a once in a multi-generational event. The board has prudently planned for a 20% reduction in revenue but to date we are doing better than expected and we believe we will end the year with a deficit that is lower than what is shown in the budget presented for acceptance.

I wish to thank the outgoing Treasurer Mike Bos for his excellent support and financial oversight and the staff team responsible for finances.

—Nick Van Dyk, Treasurer



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## CJL FOUNDATION OPERATING AS CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE 2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS\*

Balance Sheet as of December 31	2019	2018
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	182,128	246,273
Investments	504,678	501,369
Accounts Receivable	33,175	14,413
Prepaid Expenses	14,725	6,827
Endowment Fund Investment	500,000	500,000
Fixed Assets	986	1,405
Despoit for House Purchase	20,038	0
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,255,730</b>	<b>\$1,270,287</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	10,810	10,514
Notes Payable	10,000	10,000
Deferred for Public Justice House Fund	120,650	103,250
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$141,460</b>	<b>\$123,764</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Bequest Fund	288,173	243,688
Unrestricted Net Assets	326,097	402,835
The CPJ Public Justice Endowment Fund	500,000	500,000
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,114,270</b>	<b>\$1,146,523</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,255,730</b>	<b>\$1,270,287</b>

Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Change in Net Assets	Budget 2020	Actual 2019	Budget 2019	Actual 2018
<b>Revenue</b>				
Individuals (direct to CPJ)	258,813	282,408	438,438	369,487
Bequests	22,000	44,485	0	61,662
Churches	21,218	22,295	30,000	36,075
Religious Congregations & Orders	89,600	251,595	240,000	259,105
Other Charities (mostly individual donations as well)	75,462	134,008	78,000	61,524
Foundations	45,200	17,000	35,000	45,910
Other Income (Sales, Events, Honorary, and \$34,678 in special fundraising for the purchase of a house)	137,392	102,685	69,207	101,836
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$649,685</b>	<b>\$854,476</b>	<b>\$890,645</b>	<b>\$935,599</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program	617,989	621,331	650,141	553,683
Fundraising and Campaign	147,802	148,601	129,095	132,413
Administration	115,753	116,379	110,881	103,744
Amortization	416	419	0	684
Contingency	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$881,960</b>	<b>\$886,729</b>	<b>\$890,117</b>	<b>\$790,524</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit**</b>	<b>(\$232,275)</b>	<b>(\$32,253)</b>	<b>\$528</b>	<b>\$145,075</b>

Unrestricted Net Assets, beginning of year	402,835	319,422
Transfer to Reserve	44,485	61,422
Unrestricted Net Assets, end of year	326,097	402,835
Public Justice Endowment Fund (Restricted)	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.

\*\* Noting the surpluses in previous years, a deficit was approved for 2019 to allow special travel to introduce the new executive director and to promote membership development.