



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

CPJ's Board of Directors. Back row: Daniel Cho, Ian Van Haren, Michael DeMoor, Tenielle Patterson (on the screen), Cherylyn Spraakman, Paul Berry and Cathy Rogers. Front row: Tiffany Talen, Vincent Yagayandi, Keira Yoon-Kang, Wanda Walter and Marlene Bergsma. Not in the photo: Monica Tang.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF PUBLIC JUSTICE

A MESSAGE FROM CPJ'S BOARD CHAIR

As the effects of the pandemic lingered in 2022, Citizens for Public Justice continued to be a “hope filled presence in Canadian public affairs” (CPJ website). The leadership of Willard Metzger and the work of the talented staff have championed this small but influential organization.

At the 2022 AGM, CPJ made public the “Equity and Anti-Op-pression Statement”. This was presented first for eastern Canadians, and later in the evening for westerners. The Board of Directors and the staff met many times over two years in consideration and contemplation of the statement, which provides clarity and consistency for members and collaborating organizations.

2022 was a year of adjustments and change. In April, long time staff member David Pollock, Coordinator Finance and Administration, retired. The staff and Board sent him off with a virtual party of poems and roasting. At the end of August another valued staff member, Kari Munn-Venn, Senior Policy Analyst, resigned to spend full days farming on her beautiful west Quebec farm Leystone.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to replace either of them. Maryo Wahba is doing double duty as Communications Coordinator and Climate Analyst, planning the climate justice campaign “Give it up for the Earth!”

Thanks to Ruva Gwekwerere, who finished her internship in 2022. We welcomed Rena Namago as the 2022/23 Public Justice Intern, starting in September. Rena has recently become a new Mom.

The Board met in person in Ottawa in September for the first time in three years. This was a hybrid meeting where many fulsome deliberations took place. The Board approved the new

Strategic Plan, renewing commitment to refugee and migrant rights, climate justice and eradicating poverty.

In the 2022, Annual Report I thanked Board members Martha Wiebe, Nick van Dyck and Adrienne Castellon for their time on the Board. Each finished their terms in May 2022.

In 2021 Board members Harold Roscher, Rene Adams and Trixie Ling finished their terms. Rene and Trixie served on the Program Advisory Committee. Harold was a Vice-Chair and also served on the Program Advisory Committee.

In 2022 Charles Kooger asked to step away from his term. Charles served on the Program Advisory Committee. We appreciated Charles’ perspective, as a retired Christian Reformed Church clergy.



New to the Board last year were Cathy Rogers, Wanda Walters, and Vincent Yagayandi. Cathy is a former university professor and New Brunswick Cabinet Minister. She currently works for the New Brunswick Nurses Union. Wanda worked as a Parish Worker at Christ Lutheran Church Regina and at Saskatchewan Polytechnic. She is currently a student at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon. Vincent completed his law degree at McGill University and will be working at Bennett Jones, Vancouver, as an articling student.

As can be seen in this financial report, CPJ finished 2022 with a significant deficit. We are planning for improved revenue in 2023, with celebrations for the 60th anniversary of CPJ. From 1 Thessalonians 5 we receive reassurance - “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”, We remain very grateful to our generous donors and members.

—Cherylyn Spraakman

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ) is celebrating 60 years of being a powerful force for social change in Canada! Since our founding in 1963, we have advocated for policies that aim to eradicate poverty, care for creation, and support those who have been forced to flee their homes. In 2022, CPJ continued to innovate in our approach to public advocacy in order to maximize our impact on Canada's policies. In April, after the Federal Government released its annual budget, CPJ demonstrated how the government continued to [Prioritize the Status Quo](#).

In May, CPJ hosted its second annual virtual Justice Conference, titled "[Seeking Justice in our Institutions](#)." The three-day event fostered dialogue and learning on creating a just and sustainable society by addressing injustices within institutions. Participants engaged in keynotes and workshops exploring living examples of pursuing justice and promoting healthier relationships with one another and the environment. Concurrently, CPJ's Annual General Meeting took place, during which members approved the [Equity and Anti-Oppression \(EAO\) statement](#).

The EAO statement outlines CPJ's commitment to applying an intersectional, rights-based, anti-oppression framework in our research, advocacy, and internal policies. It emphasizes CPJ's dedication to addressing systemic oppression, dismantling barriers faced by marginalized communities, and promoting equity within the organization and its advocacy efforts. Through our EAO commitment, we aspire to drive transformative change by fostering stronger partnerships, elevating diverse voices, and working collaboratively towards a more just and inclusive society.

In response to the EAO statement, CPJ collaborated with a team of Graduate students in Carleton University to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for the EAO implementation.

As we reflect on this past year, CPJ is proud of the strides made in our pursuit of justice. We remain committed to seeking justice and building a more equitable and inclusive society for all.

CLIMATE JUSTICE

In 2022, CPJ has diligently pursued its mission to promote climate justice throughout Canada and beyond. On March 16, CPJ's Public Justice Intern and Climate Justice Policy Analyst collaborated with community partners, including Just Faith Alberta and the Green Resilience Project, to facilitate a panel discussion that examined the interplay between climate change, income security, and community resilience.

CPJ also championed a comprehensive understanding of the term "Just Transition" during the Progress Summit, advocating for equitable, inclusive, and sustainable solutions to the climate crisis. This approach aligns with our faith-based commitment to caring for all of creation.

The annual *Give it up for the Earth!* Lenten campaign continues to inspire thousands of faithful individuals, churches, and communities across Canada.

In 2022, the campaign highlighted the rights of Indigenous peoples, urging the government to honor its environmental commitments and act justly.

As part of the [For the Love of Creation](#) initiative, CPJ played a leading role in selecting and supporting young Indigenous and Global South representatives to attend the COP27 conference in Egypt. This collaboration embodies our dedication to amplifying marginalized voices in the fight for climate justice.

After Karri Munn-Venn, CPJ's Climate Justice Policy Analyst and Senior Policy Analyst, left her position in August 2022, we express our heartfelt gratitude for her transformative work over the years and her lasting contributions. Following Karri's departure, Maryo Wahba took on the role of Climate Justice Policy Analyst in a part-time capacity, in addition to his existing role as CPJ's Communications Coordinator.

BOARD MEMBERS IN 2022

Cherilyn Spraakman (Ontario-at-Large)

Paul Berry (Canada-at-Large)

Marlene Bergsma (South-Western Ontario)

Adrienne Castellon (Canada-at-Large)

Daniel Cho (Ontario-at-Large)

Michael deMoor (Northern Alberta/NWT)

Keira Kang (Toronto)

Charles Kooger (SK/MB/NU)

Tenielle Patterson (North & Eastern Ontario)

Cathy Rogers (Eastern Canada)

Tiffany Talen (Alberta South)

Monica Tang (British Columbia/YT)

Ian Van Haren (Canada-at-Large)

Martha Wiebe (Northern and Eastern Ontario)

Nick Van Dyk (Ontario-at-Large)

Vincent Yagayandi (Canada-at-Large)

Wanda Walter (SK/MB/NU)

STAFF IN 2022

Executive Director: Willard Metzger

Climate Justice Policy Analyst & Communications Coordinator: Maryo Wahba

Communications and Development Specialist: Michael Krakowiak

Coordinator, Finance and Administration: David Pollock (until March), Debra Warren (March to August)

Refugee and Migrant Rights Policy Analyst: Emilio Rodriguez

Senior Policy Analyst & Climate Justice Policy Analyst: Karri Munn-Venn (until August)

Socio-economic Policy Analyst: Natalie Appleyard

Public Justice Interns: Ruva Gwekwerere (until August), Rena Namago (from September)

Social Work Intern: Gurleen Bhatti (from September)

Policy Liaison Intern: Carlos Andres Monasterios Tan (September to December)

Student Placement via the Ottawa Diocese of Anglican Church: James Adair (from November)

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RIGHTS

CPJ is producing a book to honour the legacy of Stephen Kaduuli, former Refugee Rights Policy Analyst at CPJ who passed away in April, 2021. The book serves as an opportunity to articulate CPJ's policy positions on Canadian immigration, prominently feature the voices of migrants and refugees, and strengthen partnerships across the country. The book proposal was approved by the McGill-Queen's University Press (MQUP) in August 2022. The MQUP intends to publish it in its Forced Migration and Refugee Studies Series upon a successful peer-review process. The final manuscript will be delivered in the Fall of 2023.

On February 17, 2022, CPJ hosted an event with Human Rights Watch (HRW) in the context of the [#WelcometoCanada campaign](#). The event presented a [report by HRW and Amnesty International about human rights violations in immigration detention](#) and launched an [inter-faith call to action](#), which gathered the

signatures of more than 160 faith leaders, organizations, congregations, and community members. CPJ's involvement with the campaign continued through the year with a letter writing campaign to the federal government, and focalized action at the provincial levels. During 2022, four provinces canceled their contracts with CBSA that allowed for immigration detention in provincial correctional facilities, a change that can be attributed in part to these collective lobbying efforts.

In September, CPJ welcomed Public Justice Intern Rena Namago, to work alongside Emilio Rodriguez on the Refugee and Migrant Rights file. In the Fall, CPJ and International Justice Mission (IJM) Canada kickstarted their partnership with a joint event in Ottawa in November, 2022 focused on barriers to access refugee protection for survivors of gender-based violence. Shortly after the event, both organizations released a [re-](#)

[port](#) and an [email campaign](#) on the same subject, which has been widely utilized to advance lobbying efforts at Ministerial levels. CPJ and IJM continue to look for opportunities to deepen collaboration mechanisms as they foster public justice advocacy domestically and internationally.

In 2022, CPJ joined the effort to create a broad regularization program for all migrants. Advocacy activities included speaking at a rally on Parliament Hill, and lobbying members of parliament. In November, CPJ hosted a workshop about youth as agents of change at the Canadian Council for Refugees' Fall Consultations in Toronto. Lastly, at the end of the year, CPJ published a joint report with Tracy Glynn from the Canadian Health Coalition on [barriers to access health care based on immigration status](#). The reports has been utilized to lobby members of federal and provincial parliaments on this issue.

POVERTY IN CANADA

2022 began and ended with work to engage churches, community groups, and students in learning about poverty in Canada through our Poverty Trends reports. In early 2022, CPJ released Discussion Guides for our [2021 Poverty Trends report](#), made available earlier in the fall. The Discussion Guides are available for faith groups, community and workplace groups, and college and university classrooms.

Throughout the year, CPJ's Socio-Economic Policy Analyst, Natalie Appleyard, worked with our 2021-2022 Public Jus-

tice Intern, Ruva Gwekwere, and Gurleen Bhatti, a Social Work student doing a placement at CPJ in the fall/winter of 2022-2023 to engage people across the country with our research and resources on poverty in Canada. We spoke at churches, conferences, student clubs, and at Parliament Hill, amplifying the expertise and experiences of people living with the impacts of poverty in their day-to-day lives. Specific topics included CERB repayment amnesty for low-income people, a basic income guarantee, food and housing security, and the (on-

going) development of a Canada Disability Benefit.

tions to food insecurity and poverty in Canada. Our rally on Parliament Hill included speakers from Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, Disability Without Poverty, and CPJ's own Emilio Rodriguez, speaking about the importance of status for all. Natalie and Gurleen also had meetings with the All Party Anti-Poverty Caucus and several individual MPs and Senators, with participation from representatives of The Presbyterian Church of Canada, The Anglican Church of Canada, The United Church of Canada, and the Canadian Council of Churches.



Top row, L-R: Gurleen Bhatti (CPJ), Jonathan Schmidt (Canadian Council of Churches), Natalie Appleyard (CPJ); bottom row: MP Mike Morrice, Anna Miedema, intern. CPJ staff and Dignity for All partners met with MPs to discuss policy solutions to food insecurity, following our Oct. 17 Chew on This! campaign.

development of a Canada Disability Benefit.

At a time of skyrocketing food prices, our October 2022 *Chew on This!* campaign included over 20 events on Parliament Hill and in communities across Canada, calling for meaningful solu-

In November 2022, Gurleen and Natalie co-authored our [2022 Poverty Trends Update](#). This report highlighted lessons learned through temporary pandemic benefits that served to protect many from food insecurity and the loss of housing, while placing others who were already particularly vulnerable at ever greater risk. The report underscored the need to expand the eligibility and adequacy of income supports and to ensure that policy decisions are grounded in our human rights obligations.

FINANCIAL NOTES

CJL FOUNDATION OPERATING AS CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS*

This past year CPJ has been one of mixed blessings in several ways. The Board approved another deficit budget for 2022, due primarily to the lingering effects of COVID. Unlike 2021, when Government support help offset some of these effects, this year saw a significant decrease in that support. David Pollock's retirement this past year has been felt both within the Finance Committee and the CPJ staff. Replacing David has proven to be a challenging task.

Occupancy costs decreased significantly, and this upcoming year will be the first full year without any lingering effect of the Cooper property rental. The benefit of this is already being felt with a reduction in Property Cost by over \$20,000. Next year this savings should more than offset the Mortgage interest costs of almost \$30,000. The more quickly we are able to pay down the mortgage, the greater will be the financial benefit of the Maclaren property acquisition.

Donations from Foundations were up in 2022, but most other categories were down significantly. Most expenses held steady in 2022, but there was a significant increase in Salaries and Benefits, and a smaller increase in Program costs. The latter was due, in part, to the increased program activity as we emerged from the pandemic.

The future holds some promise of reversing some of these trends. Other than occupancy costs, it will be difficult to realize any reduction in expenses. So, the turnaround will have to come from the Revenue side, barring any significant changes in our operations. With our 60th anniversary, there is guarded optimism that this can be realized. We have our first surplus budget in several years for 2023.

This was my first full year as Treasurer, and I benefited greatly from the advice and guidance of the former Treasurer. In fact, with half the Finance Committee consisting of former board member and Treasurers, I am very grateful for the wisdom and guidance the committee provides. I also wish to recognize the efforts of the Executive Director and the staff who have had to step in with David's departure. I am thankful for all these blessings.

—Paul Berry, Treasurer

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Charitable number: 89438 3512 RR0001
(CJL Foundation)



Balance Sheet as of December 31	2022	2021
Assets		
Cash	117,904	251,452
Investments	520,874	639,052
Accounts Receivable	15,031	14,567
Prepaid Expenses	-	20,413
Endowment Fund Investment (<i>borrowed with permission, for house purchase</i>)	23,250	23,250
Fixed Assets (<i>house plus other fixed assets</i>)	1,144,809	1,180,687
Despoit for House Purchase		
Total Assets	\$1,821,868	\$2,129,421
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	12,044	11,438
Notes Payable (<i>zero interest includes \$40,000 Covid loan with only \$30,000 to be repaid</i>)	70,000	70,000
Deferred revenue from grant 2020 and for Public Justice House Fund (2019)	128,751	148,325
Current portion of mortgage payable	-	17,060
Deferred contributions related to property	126,128	131,383
Mortgage payable	645,259	662,328
Total Liabilities	\$982,182	\$1,023,474
Net Assets		
Bequest Fund	430,311	413,706
Unrestricted Net Assets	(90,625)	192,241
The CPJ Public Justice Endowment Fund	500,000	500,000
Total Net Assets	\$839,686	\$1,105,947
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,821,868	\$2,129,421

Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Change in Net Assets	Budget 2023	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Actual 2021
Revenue				
Individuals (<i>Direct to CPJ</i>)	340,000	274,918	302,500	285,822
Bequests	35,000	16,605	35,000	60,785
Churches	15,000	20,359	24,000	20,054
Religious Congregations & Orders	35,000	32,425	99,325	69,925
Other Charities (<i>Mostly individual donations as well</i>)	133,000	126,998	160,000	140,228
Foundations	231,323	53,860	65,000	38,074
Other Income (<i>Interest, Sales, Rental Income, Conference Revenues, Events, Honoraria</i>)	107,413	81,004	110,356	171,205
Brought into Income accessibility grant improvements	80,000		20,000	
Total Revenue	\$976,736	\$606,169	\$816,181	\$786,093
Expenses				
Program	550,298	501,931	533,564	403,468
Fundraising and Campaign	104,500	94,530	101,130	88,581
Administration	262,364	240,091	255,052	246,123
Amortization (<i>see note</i>)	32,835	35,878	14,500	37,544
Total Expenses	\$949,997	\$872,430	\$904,246	\$775,716
Initial Surplus/Deficit**	\$26,739	(\$266,261)	(\$88,065)	\$10,377
Unrestricted Net Assets, beginning of year (<i>deficit approved by Board from investments</i>)		0		242,649
Transfer to Reserve		0		60,785
Unrestricted Net Assets, end of year		0		<u>192,241</u>

* The complete audited statements are available upon request.

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

Note: Amortization is not a cash expense; Administration includes all occupancy cost plus administration.