



CITIZENS *for* PUBLIC JUSTICE 2009 Annual Report

From the Board Chair

A highlight for the CPJ board in 2009 was development of a new strategic plan for 2010 - 2012. It builds on the solid foundation of CPJ's work and the transition to Ottawa. It will expand CPJ's impact by engaging more Canadians in support of public justice and grow CPJ's support base at the same time, with an emphasis on young adults. Based on input from our supporters through focus groups and questionnaires, the desired outcome of the plan will be a more sustainable and influential organization.

CPJ's forward plans bumped into the recession, which was beyond our control. The board had to make some difficult decisions to deal with reduced income. Board members gave extra time to do their work through monthly conference calls instead of in-person meetings, to save costs. On behalf of CPJ's board and

members, thank you to CPJ staff for their cooperation, including reduced work hours and wages, and more importantly, for their dedication to advancing CPJ's public witness in a challenging political and economic context.

On behalf of CPJ members, I would like to thank retiring board members, Emily Hutten, Maria Paez-Victor, and Nick Van Dyk, for their commitment and contributions. As I leave the board, special thanks go to all CPJ members. You are an extraordinary group. In the context of uncertain times, CPJ members deserve an award for faithful commitment to the cause of a Christian witness for justice in the public life of our nation.

On behalf of the board,

- Kathy Vandergrift



CPJ Board members (May 2009): Lee Hollaar, Bill Lodewyk (former Board member), Nick van Dyk, Jim Joosse, Mike Bulthuis, Mark Huyser-Wierenga, Jake Kuiken, Fred Wind, Kathy Vandergrift, Lisa Chisholm-Smith (former Board member), Maria Páez Victor, Sheila McKinley osu, Emily Hutten, Ruth van Mossel Adema, Maylanne Maybee.

From the Executive Director

2009 marked CPJ's 46th year, and second full year in Ottawa. For me, the one and a half years I've spent with CPJ seems to have raced by. There is so much to be thankful for, and to look forward to achieving!

In a year when many Canadians suffered economically, (with 1.5 million of us unemployed) it became extremely evident that concern for our neighbours cannot be a passing fancy. Public justice must become a serious and on-going commitment, worthy of our life's energy and faith-filled creativity.

Keeping in mind that CPJ is a membership organization, opportunities to meet supporters are always the highlights of this work. I was lucky enough to do this in three provinces this year, and visit many members in communities where interest in and appreciation of public justice ministry was evident.

You, the members, are our hope and inspiration for making public justice a reality in our world. In spite of tough economic times, we thank you for your faithful accompaniment of your organization in 2009, and pray that you'll help CPJ's voice grow stronger and clearer in the years to come.

- Joe Gunn

Our Work

MAPPING OUT OUR FUTURE

CPJ Board, staff and members participated in a year long strategic planning process in 2009.

Since CPJ relocated the offices from Toronto to Ottawa, and new staff people grew into their roles, it was time to discern together the future direction and emphasis for public justice ministry. The Board was clear that the mission and vision statement of the organization were not in need of a re-write. But these guiding documents led us to shared appreciations of the path ahead for 2010-2012.

The strategic plan was developed in a participatory manner. Questionnaires were sent to key informants and social partners. Several Board members organized encounters with members to provide feedback on possible future directions. A two day Board and staff session was a highlight of the entire process.

Strategic Directions (2010 - 2012) include:

- engage youth & young adults
- enhance volunteer involvement
- build local constituencies
- multiply CPJ "product" dissemination
- develop fundraising
- expand & enhance communications
- enhance collaboration
- knowledge transfer for staff

Whether developing workshop resources, worship guides, producing research or writing pieces for media exposure, CPJ will now be better able to judge our impact.

DIGNITY FOR ALL

CPJ, along with our partner agency, Canada Without Poverty, launched Dignity for All: The Campaign for a Poverty-free Canada in late May, 2009 in Calgary. Throughout 2009, CPJ made Dignity for All a major thrust of our public justice efforts.

A Campaign Committee of over a dozen organizations was established, after consultations with over 30 groups who expressed interest and provided input. By year's end, 252 organizations had publically announced their support for the campaign, including 17 politicians. Fourteen workshops were given, and meetings with two dozen MPs of all parties were organized. A website was developed by CPJ staff, and remains a main organizing tool of the campaign. Participants turn there for information, updates on activities and analysis. CPJ published over ten articles about the campaign, with an additional number of on-line reports being posted. In all, the Dignity for All campaign got off to a very promising start.

CPJ, Campaign 2000 (a coalition which works to end child poverty) and other groups involved in Dignity for All promoted a resolution calling on the federal government to establish a poverty elimination plan. The resolution passed unanimously in the House of Commons on November 24th. In December the Senate report, "In From the Margins: A Call to Action to End Poverty in Canada" was released – and expressed many of CPJ's positions. It seems that the Dignity for All campaign and CPJ's efforts in coordina-



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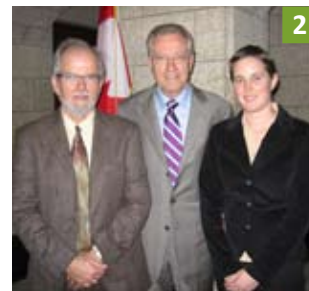
tion with many partner groups have been able to build momentum towards

federal government action on poverty in Canada. The time is right to build on these initial successes.

ON TOP OF THE HILL

With the CPJ offices less than a dozen blocks from Parliament Hill, enhanced communication with MPs and policy makers was achieved. 45 MPs were engaged on a range of issues, from CPJ's work on poverty issues to the environment and more.

CPJ's research and analysis was twice requested by Parliamentary Committees during the year. Karri Munn-Venn presented a brief to the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA)



concerning the federal role in reducing poverty. Chandra Pasma presented CPJ's views to a Finance Committee hearing as MPs were holding consultations in preparation of the federal budget.

ELECTORAL REFORM

In May CPJ also prepared, and circulated to all members in British Columbia, a flyer on electoral reform. This was done in advance of the referendum day on that question, where CPJ strongly recommended support of the Citizens' Assembly recommendation to adopt a system of a Single Transferable Vote.

LIVABLE INCOMES

Chandra Pasma helped to organize and presented at a workshop on Guaranteed Livable Income at the Canadian Social Forum in Calgary, as well as for a conference of the Basic Income

Earth Network (BIEN) Canada in Ottawa. Chandra also presented an important paper on the question of the work disincentive at this event.

ENGAGING YOUTH

CPJ has been blessed with four young and dynamic interns this year, each bringing their particular skills and enthusiasm to public justice work. A graduate of the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary and candidate for ministry has worked to develop worship resources, a pro-bono law student from the University of Ottawa has researched the roles of different levels of government in poverty reduction, and a social work student has analyzed how we measure poverty. As well, our Public Justice Intern, a year long position, has become a tremendous success story as competent young people grow into the role of public justice advocates of the next generation.

ENGAGING MEMBERS

In 2009 CPJ hosted public meetings with members in Calgary, Edmonton, Halifax, Red Deer, Toronto, Waterloo, Ottawa and Whitby. Staff also spoke at schools in three different provinces, gave lectures to several university classes and adult education forums. Joe Gunn gave three presentations to a major in-service gathering of over 100 teachers and youth leadership who wanted to reflect on their faith and the ecological imperative. CPJ continues to receive many speaking requests at different Christian churches and even at an event organized by people of the Baha'i faith.



COMMUNICATIONS

One of our feature articles in The Catalyst was the recipient of an award from the Canadian Church Press. But due to financial constraints, our



newsletter was published three times rather than quarterly. CPJ increased our on-line presence with weekly web features on our website, regular blogging, and our monthly electronic newsletter OLA! went to more members than ever. CPJ now publishes monthly columns in three religious newspapers in Western Canada. Staff regularly produce op-eds, articles and press releases on a wide range of issues of public justice.

1. CPJ's Karri Munn-Venn (left) and Rebekah Sears (right) with Canadian television and film star Mary Walsh
2. Chandra Pasma meets with Senator Eggleton, chair of the Senate Social Affairs committee and with Jim Mulvale from BIEN Canada
3. Joe Gunn meets with members
4. Karri Munn-Venn and the Hon. Ed Broadbent on the TV program Goldhawk Live

Staff During 2009

Mariel Angus
public justice intern
(until August 2009)

Suzanne Boileau
director, finance and operations

Christie Conway
intern, Ottawa U. law school

Kathryn Cummings
intern, Carleton U. social work

Karen Diepeveen
communications coordinator
(until November 2009)

Kevin Elder
financial development assistant & data manager
(until November 2009)

Darryl Exelby
membership & development officer

Marguerite Grant
administrative assistant
(until May 2009)

Joe Gunn
executive director

Michael Krakowiak
development & communications specialist

Karri Munn-Venn
socio-economic policy analyst

Chandra Pasma
public justice policy analyst

Rebekah Sears
public justice intern
(began September 2009)

Adam Snook
intern, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

Mission Statement

Our mission is to promote public justice in Canada by shaping key policy debates through research and analysis, publishing and public dialogue. CPJ encourages citizens, leaders in society and governments to support policies and practices that reflect God's call for love, justice and stewardship.

Financial Notes

CPJ experienced a very challenging 2009 fiscal year.

The ending of the major gifts campaign and the weak general economic situation resulted in our income not meeting budget expectations, and not even matching the actual 2008 income.

The major loss in 2009 created serious cash-flow problems during the year and resulted in increased borrowing requirements and high financing interest charges. Even though we were able to reduce some costs towards year-end, the overall 2009 expenses came in higher than budget because of those additional costs. We would like to thank Christian Stewardship Services and a number of our members for the loans provided to help us through these difficult times.

In order to regain financial stability, CPJ aims to eliminate the accumulated deficit (slightly more than \$108,000) over the next 3 years. The 2010 budget includes a planned surplus of \$36,500 to start that process.

The 2010 budget is based on the assumption that income for 2010 will be the same as in 2009. With support from the membership, we hope to actually increase income so we can eliminate the deficit more quickly.

Over the next year we plan to revise the format of the financial statements so they show our salary and benefits costs under the program, administration and fundraising categories. For 2009, we estimate that about 66% of our salaries and benefits were program related, 29% for fundraising and 5% for administration.

CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE

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Charitable Number:

89438 3512 RR0001 (CJL Foundation)

CJL FOUNDATION operating as

CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE

2009 Financial Statements*

BALANCE SHEET as of December 31	2009	2008
Assets		
Cash	\$44,811	\$56,507
Accounts Receivable	12,817	11,160
Prepaid Expenses	8,971	13,241
Due from CPJ Corp	30	0
Fixed Assets	29,137	42,231
Total Assets	\$95,766	\$123,139
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	32,134	21,750
Notes payable	171,801	102,253
Total Liabilities	\$203,935	\$124,003
Fund Balance	\$(108,169)	\$(864)
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	95,766	\$123,139

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND NET ASSETS

	Actual 2009	Budget 2009	Actual 2008	Budget 2010
Revenues				
Memberships	\$38,971	\$45,000	\$39,139	\$39,000
Donations	350,260	362,000	298,183	350,000
Campaign	87,081	60,000	188,041	50,000
Churches/Religious Congregations	82,017	150,000	69,829	135,000
Grants	29,000	65,500	25,000	25,000
Dignity for All Campaign	23,913	-	-	15,000
Other	20,067	40,000	20,275	16,000
Total	\$631,309	\$722,500	\$640,467	\$630,000
Expenses				
Salary/Benefits	461,041	469,100	420,125	369,950
Occupancy	97,029	83,057	74,141	83,900
Direct Program Costs	62,146	56,750	100,013	60,100
Program Support:				
Administration	78,850	63,847	72,348	43,300
Fundraising	26,453	37,400	35,166	24,100
Amortization	13,095	12,738	14,092	12,000
Total	\$738,614	\$722,892	\$715,885	\$593,350
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(107,305)	\$(392)	\$(75,418)	\$36,650
Net assets (deficiency), beginning	\$(864)	\$(864)	\$74,554	\$(108,169)
Net assets (deficiency), end	\$(108,169)	\$(1,256)	\$(864)	\$(71,519)

* Audited statements with notes available upon request