



CITIZENS *for* PUBLIC JUSTICE

# 2010 Annual Report



*CPJ Board members (Nov. 2010): Mike Bulthuis, Ericka Stephens-Rennie, Lee Hollaar, Maylanne Maybee, Jim Joosse, Sheila McKinley osu, Ruth van Mossel Adema, Fred Wind, Mark Huyser-Wierenga, John Murphy, Dwayne Hodgson. Absent: Will Postma and Jake Kuiken.*

## ***From the Executive Director***

The hard work and dedication of so many CPJ members blessed 2010 with tangible momentum towards public justice in Canada.

Please take a few minutes to read this report. You'll see that CPJ really helped move the yardsticks forward in terms of reliable research on the effects of the recession on poor people. You'll read how *Dignity for All: The Campaign for a Poverty-free Canada* helped mobilize growing numbers of participants, and how decision-makers turned to this movement for leadership. You'll be pleased to see your organization's new strategies for engaging members, the public and politicians in ecological justice issues. And you'll be proud that CPJ makes the engagement and mentoring of youth a priority so that the next generation can make its own invaluable contributions to public justice.

By visiting members in over 15 communities, our staff and our Board tried hard to share our work and message with all. And your response was tremendous, especially in terms of a much-improved financial picture going forward.

Please continue to faithfully accompany the work of public justice with your prayers, participation and financial support – to ensure 2011 becomes another tremendous year.

*- Joe Gunn*

## ***From the Board Chair***

It would have to be said that CPJ has had one of its best years ever, thanks to you!

This past year, the thirteen members of the Board of Directors of Citizens for Public Justice met in person on two occasions and numerous times by way of teleconferencing. Considerable additional effort was also given to Board committees. Two committees in particular, the Finance Committee and the Financial Development Committee, have done much heavy lifting as we worked toward rectifying some difficult financial challenges that arose in 2009. This work benefited greatly from the expertise and labour of several ardent CPJ supporters who served on these committees but were not directors.

The good news is that we can now look forward with optimism and an improved financial outlook as we plan to mark CPJ's 50th anniversary in 2013.

We remain grateful for the continued generous support from citizens across Canada. That enables our staff to carry on CPJ's mission of promoting public justice in connection with key societal issues.

Lastly, I'd like to thank Ruth van Mossel Adema who is completing her second 3-year term as a director. Ruth's wise counsel will be missed and I'm certain her passion and support for CPJ will continue unabated.

On behalf of the Board,

*- Mark Huyser-Wierenga*



## Our Work

From our base near Parliament Hill, CPJ met with MPs from all of the major political parties on issues ranging from poverty and housing, to immigration reform and the environment.

### DIGNITY FOR ALL: THE CAMPAIGN FOR A POVERTY-FREE CANADA

In collaboration with our *Dignity for All* campaign partners, CPJ convened “The Dish on Dignity: A Discussion about Eradicating Poverty” on February 1, 2010. This event brought people living in poverty together with Members of Parliament, Senators, federal candidates, and social justice advocates. Despite prorogation, 27 federal politicians participated in the dialogue that explored social and economic rights, as well as justice and equality issues. A key element of the discussion was the presentation by low-income citizens of concrete measures that could address poverty in Canada. One MP called it one of the best events she ever attended!

A private member’s bill drafted by NDP MP Tony Martin, Bill C-545, “An Act to Eliminate Poverty in Canada,” was tabled in the House of Commons in June, where it was notably seconded by Liberal MP Mike Savage and Bloc Québécois MP Yves Lessard. CPJ had been previously invited to comment on the draft, and we encouraged Dig-

nity for All supporters to make themselves aware of how such legislation could engage our federal government.

Having pressed hard for parties to come together to advance action on poverty, CPJ enthusiastically welcomed the November release of the report, “Federal Poverty Reduction Plan: Working in Partnership Towards Reducing Poverty in Canada.” The report was the result of a three-year study by the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills Development, Social Development and Status of People with Disabilities (HUMA) and cited CPJ several times. Immediately following the release of this report, CPJ and our *Dignity for All* partners held a press conference to commend the committee for their contribution towards creating a federal poverty elimination strategy in Canada. (Our commentary was picked up by a number of media outlets).

### CLIMATE CHANGE AS A MORAL ISSUE

As part of our 2010 strategic plan, CPJ committed to further developing policy capacity in the area of ecological justice. As a critical early step, Joe Gunn, along with 75 others, participated in a spring retreat at the headquarters of the United Church of Canada to discuss how climate change has become one of the foremost challenges to living faith with integrity.

The retreat launched a national inter-faith project on “Climate Change and Environmental Decline as Moral

Issues,” which CPJ now co-chairs.

Deepening dialogue was undertaken in the fall at three more public events (co-organized by CPJ) that brought together non-government organizations, faith leaders and Members of Parliament to explore the question, “Whose responsibility is it to deal with the effects of climate change?” This focus echoes earlier efforts in CPJ’s history, where care of God’s creation was a crucial criterion for development projects in Canada’s North.

### RESEARCH FOR ACTION

At the international conference, “Basic Income in a Time of Upheaval: A Path to Justice and Stability?” Chandra Pasma presented on “The Great Recession: What Happened to Economic Security in 2009?” By looking at key economic indicators, Chandra offered an analysis of poverty trends in that year.

CPJ’s annual brief to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance called for a responsible and caring federal budget focused on building sustainable and lasting change. Specifically, CPJ recommended: (1) A comprehensive, federal plan for poverty elimination; (2) action towards introducing a universal, Guaranteed Livable Income for all Canadians; and, (3) the rollback of recent corporate tax cuts and GST cuts.

In a major research report, “Bearing the Brunt,” Chandra Pasma charted the rise in poverty caused by the



recession. CPJ found that Employment Insurance was inadequate in meeting the needs of the unemployed; social assistance caseloads rose and the rate of precarious work increased across the country; and low income Canadians had to stretch their incomes farther as the cost of living increased more than inflation. The result was rising debt loads, an increase in bankruptcies and skyrocketing food bank use. This report received extensive media coverage across Canada and became a resource for many in the anti-poverty community. Members of Parliament referenced the report on more than one occasion in the House of Commons.

### ENGAGING MEMBERS ACROSS CANADA

Karri Munn-Venn delivered the keynote address at a gathering of approximately 100 Christians – predominantly Anglican – from across Canada. Community Justice Camp 2010 explored the role of community in our collective pursuit of justice. Housing, the environment, marginalized communities, Aboriginal issues, and food security were just some of the issues addressed in this intensive week-long event.

In October, CPJ joined Kairos Spirituality for Social Justice Centre, Polaris Institute, the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives and the Council of Canadians in welcoming David Korten

to Ottawa for an evening presentation of the Great Turning. Featuring a response to Korten’s vision by CPJ’s Kathy Vandergrift, the evening was both thought-provoking and informative. Combined with the workshop the next day, the event did a lot to raise CPJ’s profile in the Ottawa social justice community.

CPJ appreciated the many opportunities we had to meet with our members, supporters, and partners across the country. In 2010, CPJ staff travelled to Moncton, Quebec City, London, Hamilton, Waterloo, Toronto, Belleville, Ottawa, Pembroke, Renfrew, Chilliwack, Abbotsford, Surrey, Langley, and Vancouver. Our Board of Directors hails from Ottawa, Aldergrove (BC), Halifax, Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto, Chatham, Regina, and Whitby.

### CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE

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89438 3512 RR0001 (CJL Foundation)

## Staff During 2010

- Suzanne Boileau**  
Director, Finance and Operations  
(until April 2010)
- Callandra Cochrane**  
Intern, Laurentian Leadership Centre  
(3 months)
- Darryl Exelby**  
Membership and Development Officer
- Joe Gunn**  
Executive Director
- Michael Krakowiak**  
Communications and Development Specialist
- Karri Munn-Venn**  
Socio-Economic Policy Analyst
- Chandra Pasma**  
Public Justice Policy Analyst
- David Pollock**  
Coordinator, Finance and Administration (began June 2010)
- Jenny Prosser**  
Public Justice Intern  
(began September 2010)
- Rebekah Sears**  
Public Justice Intern  
(until August 2010)
- Adam Snook**  
Intern, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary  
(until August 2010)

CJL FOUNDATION operating as  
**CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC JUSTICE**

2010 Financial Statements (Audited statements upon request)

## Financial Notes

CPJ experienced a very positive year and many blessings during the 2010 financial year.

You will recall how difficult a year 2009 was for us. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and careful management of expenditures, we have turned the finances of our organization around. CPJ ended 2010 with a surplus of \$102,185. When transferred to our balance sheet, which takes into account prior years, we are now in a positive position with regard to our net assets by \$21,436. This does not tell the whole picture, however, since a very generous donation from a religious congregation was given to CPJ to undertake program work on the Dignity for All Campaign. \$100,000 of this grant was received in late 2010 with \$90,000 of it reserved for work in 2011.

Christian Stewardship Services loaned CPJ \$110,000 at the beginning of the year, and we are pleased to report that \$85,000 of that loan was repaid. CPJ also acquired a loan from another religious congregation for \$60,000, with interest on this amount only starting to be paid by us in 2012. In total, our outstanding loans to members at the end of 2010 were \$150,606, but we can now develop strategies to lower this amount over time.

We promised to develop a financial reporting format that broke out the Program Costs, Development costs and Administrative costs more clearly: this year marks the beginning of this new format. Salaries are allocated across various functions as is our occupancy cost. For the next five years we intend to allocate 71.8% of total costs to Program, 14.4 % to Development and 13.8% to Administration. The five year period allows us to determine how fully those percentages are maintained as an average. If the percentages change significantly during this period, new allocations may be utilized.

Now that CPJ is well-established in Ottawa, it has been recommended by the Finance Committee to the Board of Directors that a new auditor located in Ottawa be appointed. A motion to the AGM will be submitted for the consideration and approval of the membership in this regard.

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> as of December 31	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	\$187,353	\$44,811
Accounts Receivable	57,945	60,235
Prepaid Expenses	6,835	8,971
Due from CPJ Corp	0	30
Fixed Assets	16,233	29,137
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$268,366</b>	<b>\$143,184</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	5,324	32,134
Notes payable	150,606	191,801
Accrued Expenses	1,000	0
Deferred Revenues	90,000	0
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$246,930</b>	<b>\$223,935</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$21,436</b>	<b>\$(80,749)</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$268,366</b>	<b>\$143,184</b>

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND NET ASSETS

	<b>Actual 2010</b>	<b>Budget 2010</b>	<b>Actual 2009</b>	<b>Budget 2011</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Memberships	\$47,595	\$39,000	\$38,971	\$39,000
Donations	325,632	350,000	355,260	366,561
Bequests	14,115			
Campaign	17,329	50,000	92,081	0
Churches	34,773		82,017	35,000
Religious Congregations	126,920	135,000		100,000
Dignity for All	11,275	15,000	23,913	10,000
Non-receipted Donations (Other Charities)	36,373			25,000
Foundations	20,500	25,000	29,000	25,000
Other Income (Sales, Events, Royalties, Honoraria)	31,899	16,000	20,067	16,000
Deferred Revenue				90,250
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$666,411</b>	<b>\$630,000</b>	<b>\$641,309</b>	<b>\$706,811</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program [71.8%]	405,114	426,025	521,972	481,283
Fundraising [14.4%]	81,249	85,442	104,685	96,525
Administration and Overhead [13.8%]	77,863	81,882	100,323	92,503
Contingency	0	0	0	1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$564,226</b>	<b>\$593,349</b>	<b>\$726,981</b>	<b>\$671,811</b>
Salaries and wages as a percentage of total costs	54.00	N/A	63.42	56.40
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$102,185</b>		<b>\$(85,672)</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>
<b>Net assets (deficiency), beginning</b>	<b>\$(80,749)</b>		<b>\$4,923</b>	
<b>Net assets (deficiency), end</b>	<b>\$21,436</b>		<b>\$(80,749)</b>	

*Please note:* Only totals compare between years due to new reporting format.