



CITIZENS *for* PUBLIC JUSTICE

# annual <sup>2011</sup> REPORT

## *From the Executive Director*

In 2011 CPJ distinguished itself by assisting faith communities to speak out together publicly on such important issues as poverty elimination and climate change. In effect, by working with Christian and non-Christian leaders, we amplified CPJ's public justice message.

By publishing our popular booklet of reflections, prayers and action on poverty issues, *Living Justice: A Gospel Response to Poverty*, we committed ourselves to long term education and animation among Christians who care enough to examine the link between their faith and their civic responsibilities. By carrying out focus groups before and after publication, we consulted and involved a very wide ecumenical base, even beyond our own valued CPJ members.

At CPJ's Annual Meeting, keynote speaker Bob Goudzwaard cautioned against the despair wrought by our "self-chosen idols," and challenged us to "break through the power of deeply unrealistic illusions." A hopeful, faithful, realistic response – a Christian response, a public justice response – is exactly what makes CPJ's efforts effective and worthy.

Please continue to encourage CPJ's vision with your commitment to faithfully accompany the work of public justice with your prayers, participation and financial support.

- Joe Gunn

## *From the Board Chair*

This wonderful past year for CPJ might best be described one of important transitions – transitions that have led to a more vibrant and effective organization for public justice in Canada.

On a sobering note, we experienced some considerable sadness at the passing of Gerald Vandezande (77), a remarkable public justice advocate who often personified CPJ from its earliest years. It was a wonderful blessing for so many of us that we enjoyed seeing him in action two months before, when CPJ held its Annual General Meeting in Toronto last May. His many friends will miss him and his limitless energy for public justice. But rest assured that in our common efforts to promote public justice through CPJ, Gerry's passionate vision lives on.

The organization's consolidation into good financial health, described in detail on the back page of this report, marked another important transition. Your Board and staff worked hard to complete so many advances in the public justice agenda, all within budget.

I would like to thank retiring board members, Jim Joesse, who served admirably as Vice-Chair, and Mike Bulthuis, who served on CPJ's Finance Committee. I'm pleased to report that both of these gifted men will continue to volunteer with CPJ as very active members and supporters.

- Mark Huyser-Wierenga



CPJ Board members (Nov 2011): Mark Huyser-Wierenga, Dwayne Hodgson, Maylanne Maybee, Mike Bulthuis, Sheila McKinley osu, Fred Wind, Carol Thiessen, Jim Joesse, John Murphy, Lee Hollaar. Not in the picture: Jake Kuiken, Will Postma and Ericka Stephens-Rennie.

# Action for Public Justice

For nearly 50 years now, CPJ has been faithfully promoting an alternative values-framework in Canadian public policy. Together with you, we have diligently worked for justice and the common good.



In 2011, a year of transition and change – including the passing of Gerald in July, several staffing changes, and Canada's shift to a majority government following May's general election – CPJ was faithful to its calling of bearing witness to God's love and justice in the Canadian public square.

We continued to seek justice for Canadian families living in poverty. In March, *the Dignity for All campaign for a poverty-free Canada*, co-founded by CPJ, held its inaugural Policy Summit in Ottawa. Over 50 participants from 23 organizations attended the Summit to discuss the issues of housing and early childhood education and care. Several key policy recommendations were developed that, along with future Summits, will ultimately lead to a model federal poverty elimination plan. By engaging in the development of creative proposals, CPJ is able to go beyond merely calling for



change to having constructive policy alternatives to offer.

Along with our *Dignity for All* partners, CPJ was also proud to sponsor, *Who's in the Middle?* a discussion on what faith communities and politicians are saying and doing about poverty in Canada. The event was a great success with over 125 people in attendance. The next day we organized the *Interfaith Forum on Faith and Poverty*, an event on Parliament Hill that brought leaders from a range



of different faith-based traditions together with MPs from all four federal parties to discuss the Parliamentary report on poverty in Canada. Through these events, CPJ played an important role in helping faith communities to draft their common statement, invite MPs and organize the proceedings.

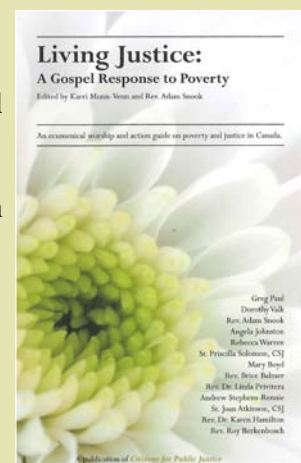
In the lead up to the general election in May, CPJ published an Election Bulletin that was cited in many other organizations' resources. We also provided ongoing election coverage on our website, analyzing such issues as housing, childcare, poverty, Aboriginal justice, and we included the regional perspectives of CPJ members. We were asked to chair an all-candidates' meeting on the environment. The respect for CPJ materials and work was

highlighted in the more than 50 media mentions of our election resources during the campaign. By encouraging discussion and reflection on national priorities and values we ensured that the election rhetoric was about more than political showmanship or narrow economic policies.

CPJ was pleased to release its latest background and position paper, this time on tax fairness. In *Taxes and the Common Good*, we explored the changes made in the past decade to Canada's tax system and their impact, as well as policy options currently being advocated to challenge inequality. This research and analysis on taxation has been used extensively by the newly formed organization, Canadians for Tax Fairness.

As in years past, CPJ submitted a pre-budget brief to the federal Finance Committee. Our recommendations emphasized that job creation and sustainable recovery can be achieved with a reallocation of existing priorities. Our recommendations for Budget 2012 could have created as many as 128,500 new jobs while boosting economic growth and creating greater income security for low income Canadians through investments in housing, Aboriginal programs, the National Child Benefit Supplement, green technology and eco-retrofits, all without any new net spending.

In August, CPJ released our brand-new ecumenical worship resource, *Living Justice: A Gospel Response to Poverty*. Designed to engage and animate Christian faith communities on poverty issues, *Living Justice* is being promoted to churches, social justice





& outreach committees, youth groups and high schools as a tool for prayerful reflection and action. We officially launched *Living Justice* in Ottawa on September 27th to a full house of CPJ supporters, church leaders and politicians, and quickly had to go to a second printing.



CPJ played a major role in organizing the historic *Interfaith Forum on Faith and Climate Change* in October. It was the first time that faith leaders met to address the growing issue of climate change. Leaders from faith, political and environmental communities discussed the newly drafted *Canadian Interfaith Call for Leadership and Action on Climate Change*. A public event was organized on Sunday October 23 at St. Andrew's Church, just in front of the Supreme Court. Next day, an event for seventy leaders of various faith communities was held on Parliament Hill. Our involvement in these events and in promoting the *Call for Leadership* further positioned CPJ as a leading voice amongst Canadian people of faith on climate change issues.



In addition to some of these major events and pieces of work, CPJ staff continued to offer workshops at



churches, schools, and social justice groups. We collaborated alongside other social policy organizations in policy research and promotion. We presented at conferences and interfaith forums. We published weekly articles on our website, including research and analysis of government policies and legislation. We continued to meet and develop relationships with MPs and other officials in Ottawa.



Now more than ever, Canada needs a serious voice promoting analysis, dialogue and public policy, bearing witness to God's call for love and justice for all. Together, we can promote a different understanding of economic growth by encouraging reflection on our deeply-held values and shifting the focus of attention to where it ought to be: human dignity and the integrity of creation.



## Staff During 2011

**Melodi Alopaeus**  
Public Justice Intern  
(began September 2011)

**Shana Conroy**  
Social Work Intern (September  
– December)

**Darryl Exelby**  
Development Officer (until June)

**Joe Gunn**  
Executive Director

**Rene Joergensen**  
Development Officer (from September)

**Michael Krakowiak**  
Communications and Development  
Specialist

**Simon Lewchuk**  
Socio-Economic Policy Analyst (from  
August)

**Daniela Ljomov**  
Social Work Intern (until July)

**Karri Munn-Venn**  
Socio-Economic Policy Analyst (on  
maternity leave from July)

**Chandra Pasma**  
Public Justice Policy Analyst (until  
September)

**David Pollock**  
Coordinator, Finance and  
Administration

**Jenny Prosser**  
Public Justice Intern (until August)

**Anna Thede**  
Intern, St. Peter's Lutheran (from  
September)

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89438 3512 RR0001 (CJL Foundation)



## Financial Notes

2011 was a very positive financial year for CPJ, in which we received many blessings.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and careful management of expenditures, we have continued to improve the organization's finances and stability. You may recall what a difficult period 2009 was for CPJ. In just two short years CPJ has gone from a deficit of \$80,749 to a positive balance sheet showing total equity of almost \$100,000 at the end of December 2011. By any reckoning, that is a remarkable turn-around for which we give sincere thanks. CPJ has reduced our member loans from \$125,606 in 2010 to \$105,746 by the end of December 2011.

In May of 2011 our development officer, Daryl Exelby, announced his plan to leave our employ. CPJ had to postpone our major campaign, designed to fully rebuild and launch new initiatives. We hired Rene Joergensen in September, and with hard work, were able to slightly increase revenues over 2010.

CPJ cannot afford to become complacent however. We reached our 2011 revenue target not by raising more from individuals but thanks to a major grant from a Catholic religious congregation. In 2012-13, Rene will provide leadership in launching a major campaign to realize CPJ's next set of goals (which include hiring a new staff position in the form of a much needed Communications Officer.)

This year, CPJ allocated 72% of income on public justice programs. 14% on fundraising, 12% on administration and 2% on depreciation. Acting upon a resolution of the 2010 AGM, our new auditors, *Ousley Harvey Clipsham and Deep LLP* are now in place. Based in Ottawa, this firm has spent several days with our financial staff in our offices and has provided CPJ with a clean bill of health.

Respectfully submitted,  
 - Frederick Wind, Treasurer

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b> as of December 31	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash	\$172,005	\$187,353
Accounts Receivable	40,389	57,945
Prepaid Expenses	6,871	6,835
Due from CPJ Corp	0	0
Fixed Assets	4,110	16,233
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$223,375</b>	<b>\$268,366</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	20,348	31,324
Notes payable	105,746	125,606
Deferred Revenues	0	90,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$126,094</b>	<b>\$246,930</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$97,281</b>	<b>\$21,436</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$223,375</b>	<b>\$268,366</b>

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND NET ASSETS

	<b>Actual 2011</b>	<b>Budget 2011</b>	<b>Actual 2010</b>	<b>Budget 2012</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Memberships	\$45,695	\$39,000	\$47,595	\$44,000
Donations	288,134	351,561	325,632	361,632
Bequests	4,216	0	14,115	0
Campaign	4,705	15,000	17,329	0
Churches	35,740	35,000	34,773	35,000
Religious Congregations & Orders (Includes grant for DFA)	182,706	190,250	126,920	190,000
Dignity for All	9,575	10,000	11,275	3,175
Non-receipted Donations	54,235	25,000	36,373	25,000
Foundations	19,500	25,000	20,500	35,000
Other Income (Sales, Events, Honoraria)	22,733	16,000	31,899	18,400
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$667,239</b>	<b>\$706,811</b>	<b>\$666,411</b>	<b>\$712,207</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program [71.8% of expenditure]	424,620	481,283	405,114	500,170
Fundraising [14.4% of exp.]	85,161	96,525	81,249	100,313
Administration and Overhead [11.75% of exp.]	69,489	92,503	64,960	81,852
Contingency	0	1,500	0	8,000
Depreciation [2.05% of exp.]	12,123	0	12,903	6,280
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$591,393</b>	<b>\$671,811</b>	<b>\$564,226</b>	<b>\$696,615</b>
Salaries and wages as a percentage of total costs	62.9		54.0	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>\$75,846</b>		<b>\$102,185</b>	<b>\$15,592</b>
<b>Net assets (deficiency), beginning</b>	<b>\$21,436</b>		<b>\$(80,749)</b>	
<b>Net assets (deficiency), end</b>	<b>\$97,281</b>		<b>\$21,436</b>	

\* "The Campaign" revenue line relates to a previous campaign, now completed.

\*\* Non-receipted donations are often actual donations but made through a third party so they can be added to donations to get an accurate picture.