



The Church Council on Justice and Corrections

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014



About CCJC

Our Mission: CCJC is a national, faith-based coalition of churches and individuals that fosters crime prevention and healthy community through restorative approaches to corrections, education, advocacy, and social responsibility.

Incorporated in 1972 by eleven founding churches, our mandate is to assist those we serve to reflect on the nature of justice, to examine the impact of the present system on the lives of those it touches, and to search for pathways of change.

Our current member denominations include: the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Anglican Church of Canada, the Presbyterian Church in Canada, the United Church of Canada, the Christian Reformed Church in North America, the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), the Mennonite Central Committee Canada, and the Disciples of Christ. Several Religious Orders and Communities are also CCJC members and provide financial support for our work. We also receive funding from Public Safety Canada. We provide financial and administrative management to the CoSA National Demonstration Project.

CCJC holds affiliations, memberships and/or collaborates with secular and Government agencies working for compassionate change in the systems of justice and corrections. They are: The

National Association Active in Criminal Justice (NAACJ), the Collaborative Justice Program, Ottawa Restorative Justice Network, the Coalition for Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing, Correctional Service of Canada, Canadian Collaboration on Child Protection, and the Transforming Communities Network and ecumenical ministries involved in peace and social justice.

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Board of Directors & Staff

Board of Directors:

Nancy Steeves, President
Sharon Dunlop, Vice-President
Rebecca Bromwich, Treasurer
Sarah Chandler, Secretary
Stephen Siemens, Director
Laurent Champagne, Past President
Scott MacIsaac, Director
Greg Dunwoody, Director
Glen Morison, Director

The United Church of Canada
The Anglican Church of Canada
Presbyterian Church in Canada
Independent
Mennonite Central Committee Canada
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
Disciples of Christ
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

CCJC Staff:

Schuyler Playford, Research and Communications Coordinator
Kathryn Bliss, Education Coordinator
Sandie Lessard, Finance

CoSA National Demonstration Project Staff:

Jill Bench, National Coordinator
Ann Morneau, CoSA Project Associate
Maggie McPhail, CoSA Project Administrative Assistant



(from left to right) Greg Dunwoody, Glen Morison, Laurent Champagne, Sharon Dunlop, Henriette Thompson (CCJC Liaison), Jill Bench, Janet Handy, Sarah Chandler, Nancy Steeves

President's Report



This is our 41st year as an ecumenical council seeking to serve as a shining light for restorative approaches to justice and corrections. In our personal lives, finding ourselves in our forties

is often to discover ourselves to be in a time of transition and change. It is no less true in the life of an organization.

As we navigate this time of transition in the work of the Church Council on Justice and Corrections, we find wisdom in the ancient story of an emancipated tribe in Egypt, who after spending a proverbial forty years in the wilderness, find themselves on the threshold of a new place and a new time in their lives. In the world of the legendary story, they have been under the leadership of Moses for their exodus and wilderness journeys. But as they are poised to cross the Jordan and enter the land of Canaan, they are grieving the death of Moses who has been their leader for decades and receiving the new leadership Joshua offers them.

Nothing is as it was. And nothing looks familiar. In their disorientation, they lament that they have “not passed this way before.” (Joshua 3:4) It was a new and strange land. It was a new generation of pilgrims about to cross the Jordan River. It was not the same generation that left Pharaoh’s captivity forty years earlier. It was a time of deep transition and unwelcome change. Amid their confusion and uncertainty, they found

comfort and guidance in a symbol of presence which has been with them every time they had “not passed this way before.”

Perhaps this symbol was a reminder that there were many times in their wilderness journey of finding themselves where they had not been before. Perhaps it reminded them that life is an ever unfolding journey of being where we have not been before. But we are not without wisdom, experience and symbols of presence that enable us to collectively find our way through transition and into a new time and place meeting its challenges with courage and conviction.

For CCJC this is a time of transition with respect to projects we have undertaken. We are close to receiving the evaluation report of the CoSA demonstration project which has been a significant part of our work for the last five years. We are poised to begin a Victim Impact Project, a new pilot project with funding from Public Safety Canada (PSC), developing a curriculum and training volunteers in a program to develop empathy in offenders with respect to the harm their victims have experienced.

We began our year inspired by the vision of restorative justice we saw in Norway’s Halden Prison. In October, 2013 we were privileged to hear Are Høidal, Warden of Halden Prison address us in a fundraising event we hosted at City Hall in Ottawa. Throughout the year, we have continued to conduct restorative justice workshops, create opportunities for education with our story telling quilt in a newly released digital format in addition

to its actual physical tours, champion Restorative Justice Week and support Victims Awareness Week with a meaningful Ottawa based event, and provided valuable resources on our website.

It is a time of transition with respect to our personnel and staffing model. We celebrate the work of Janet Handy who served as our Executive Director from August, 2011 to April, 2014. Jan brought great passion, creativity and diligence to the work of the council. We have also been very fortunate to have the gifts, experience and leadership of Jill Bench who has been our CoSA National Demonstration Project Coordinator as well as assuming the responsibilities as Senior Office Manager for CCJC since April, 2014. We have been well served by Kathryn Bliss who joined us as acting Research and Communications Coordinator in July, 2013 to cover this position during Schuyler Playford's parental leave. As we welcomed Schuyler's return to this position we celebrate that our newly configured staff team includes Kathryn Bliss in a new role as Education Coordinator. We are deeply grateful to our remarkable staff team along with generous volunteers who give the work of CCJC their skills and dedication. I am honored to serve CCJC alongside them together with a complement of talented and hardworking board members.

It is a time of transition rich with potential and possibility. We remain committed to being faithful to the light we have received from participating denominations, staff, supporters and members and friends of CCJC. This will be a time that calls for strategic planning, prudent management of our financial resources, creativity and vision to meet the challenges of a new time and a new place. Out of a rich history with

much to guide us, we bring our capacity for discernment and our commitment to restorative practices to the long adaptive work of being faithful to our vision. We are grateful for our many conversation partners including the Government of Canada, the churches of our supporting denominations, religious communities and colleagues in other non-profit organizations.

Executive Director's Farewell



Janet Handy served as CCJC's Executive Director until April 9th, 2014. Family needs required Jan to move to Southern Ontario where she is currently serving as the Executive Director of

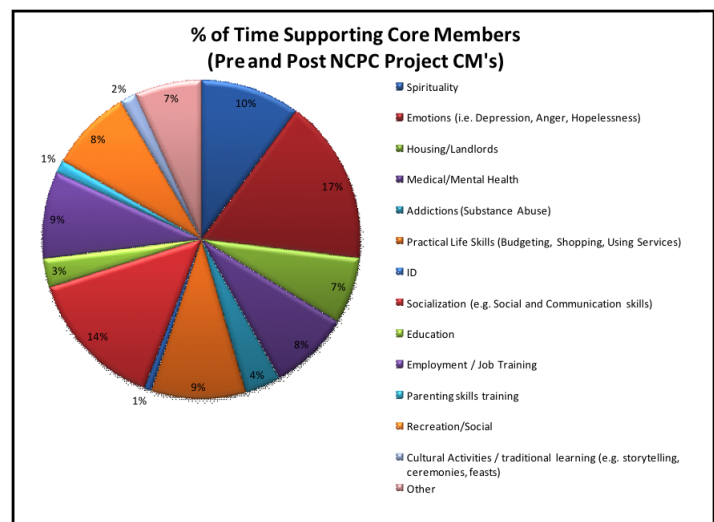
the Kristen French Child Advocacy Centre Niagara. Jan brought a strong voice for the support of victims "on both sides of the bars" during her time with CCJC. She pointed to the connection between childhood trauma and adult dysfunction, noting that "the proliferation of so many social problems is contingent on how well or how little we do to respond to these our most vulnerable victims. With 75% of the prison population having experienced child abuse and 80% of those who abuse children having also experienced childhood abuse, it is time to build on the resilience of survivors and our capacity to respond with intelligence and comprehensive plans to end this major social health problem." She thanks CCJC members, staff, Board of Directors, and the wider network for an eventful two and half years in Ottawa. She will continue to send her prayers and positive energy to the Ottawa NGO community that works so hard to meet the many offender, victim and community needs.

National Project Manager's Report - Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA)

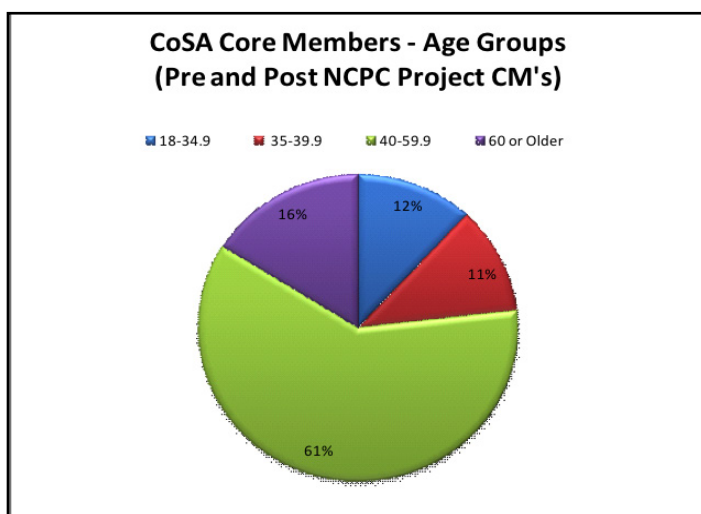
The Church Council on Justice and Corrections (CCJC) is the umbrella organization holding the Contribution Agreement with the National Crime Prevention Centre (NCPC) of PSC for the funding of the CoSA Evaluation. This evaluation will assess the effectiveness of the CoSA program in lowering the rate of recidivism of high risk sexual offenders.

CoSA is a community-based reintegration program for sex offenders grounded in restorative justice principles. Individuals taking part in the program are referred to as “Core Members” and are individuals who have either been released at the end of their entire sentence or have been released under long term supervision.

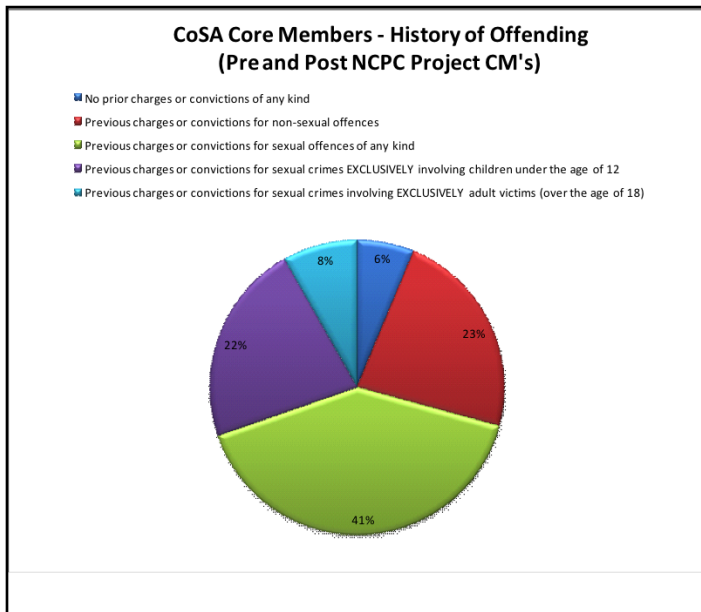
The goal of CoSA is to substantially



reduce the risk of further victimization of community members by assisting, supporting and holding core members accountable in their effort to reintegrate into the wider community. There are currently 16 CoSA sites located across Canada, with 13 of these sites participating in the national evaluation of CoSA.



In 2013-14, we completed the fifth year of this project during which time we continued gathering data for the Evaluation Project. In September 2014 the final draft Evaluation Report will be submitted to the NCPC, Public Safety Canada for their approval and acceptance. While ongoing sustaining funding has yet to be obtained, the CoSA sites across Canada continue with their invaluable work and efforts to keep our communities safe. We can only



of the sites participating in the national Evaluation to come together and hear, in some depth, some preliminary findings of the Evaluation.

hope that the creation of the national, incorporated CoSA organisation will lead to sustainable funding.

As of April, 2014, CoSA:

- Was working with 727 volunteers located in the 13 CoSA sites;
- Volunteers had given more than 2,852 hours of their time to working with core members in support groups known as Circles;
- Had 131 active Circles served by CoSA last year.

Please refer to the charts for current Core Member demographics.

In May 2014, CCJC hosted the annual CoSA Gathering in Calgary. Calgary was the location of the first CoSA Evaluation Project Gathering and so, as the Project comes to an end, it seemed only fitting to convene our meeting there. This three day event provided an opportunity for the staff

A Just Place: An Evening With Are Høidal



The Are Høidal fundraising event "A Just Place"

"What kind of neighbour do you want? An angry, violent one or one who can contribute in a healthy way to community?" This was the question put to the audience by Are Høidal, Governor of Norway's Halden Prison.

On October 17th, 2013 CCJC hosted a dinner at Ottawa City Hall. The event featured a presentation and conversation with Are Høidal. The evening's Master of Ceremonies was David Daubney, Chair of Penal Reform International. The event began with greetings from then Ontario Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, Madeleine Meilleur and the Director General of Public Safety Canada, Angela Connidis. We also heard from CCJC's Board President Nancy Steeves, who welcomed everyone on behalf of CCJC and talked about CCJC's vision of creating a more compassionate justice system. Those in attendance were treated to a three course dinner before Høidal began his presentation.

During his presentation Mr. Høidal explained the central idea behind corrections in Norway, that offenders

should be prepared for inevitable re-entry into society. In fact, there are no life sentences handed out in Norway, everyone who serves time within the walls of the prison are eventually released back into the community. The underlying rationale behind this approach is to try and make the living conditions within Halden as close to those on the outside as possible in order to facilitate reintegration.

A shift in the overall approach to corrections, Mr. Høidal explained, happened through a consultation with Canadian experts. In the 1990's Norwegian government officials traveled to Canada to learn about our approach. This all led to the creation of new "white papers" which had a distinctive focus on reintegration and rehabilitation. Halden prison is a shining example of how the rehabilitative philosophy has permeated into all aspects of policy and practice.

The dinner was a great success and provided an excellent opportunity for members of the public, justice professionals and policy makers to hear about this unique approach to corrections and learn from the success of the Norwegian approach.

CCJC hosted a second event with Mr. Høidal on October 15th at St. James Anglican Church in Kingston.

Fundraising Committee

This year CCJC's Fundraising Committee concentrated on three fundraising activities. Once again John DeVries generously ran the "Marathon for Justice" and raised funds through online sponsorship of his run.

Greg Dunwoody and Laurent Champagne reached out to chaplains across the country inviting donations to the CCJC as well as offering memberships to the CCJC.

Our major fundraising event was a dinner and silent auction. Our featured guest speaker was Mr. Are Høidal,

Governor of Norway's new Halden Prison. As well as raising money for the CCJC it also raised our profile in the community.

The Committee wishes to thank all of those individuals who worked on these events as well as all those who contributed financially to the ongoing work of the CCJC this past year.



The Are Høidal fundraising event "A Just Place"

Financial Report

The mandate of the CCJC Finance Committee is to assist the CCJC Board in fulfilling its responsibility to ensuring the financial sustainability and accountability of the organization.

The Committee fulfills this function in various ways:

- It oversees
 - o the financial and control system; and
 - o the appointment of an auditor.
- It reviews
 - o the investment portfolio;
 - o the annual auditor's report; and
 - o monthly financial Statements.
- It makes recommendations
 - o for appropriate policies;
 - o about the annual budget; and
 - o about fundraising needs
- It advises the Board on particular financial issues; and
- It reports regularly to the Board.

The Committee has the following members:

Rebecca Bromwich (Treasurer)

Jan Handy (former Executive Director)

and Richard Haughian

The Committee meets on a monthly basis.

The Church Council on Justice and Corrections: 2013-2014 Financials

Financial Positon as of March 31, 2014

Revenue	
Donations and Grants	
Supporting Denominations	\$36,670.00
Religious Societies	\$13,200.00
Federal Government	\$45,061.00
Memberships	\$670.00
Supporters	\$8,132.00
TOTAL =	\$103,733.00
Fundraising	\$570.00
Interest	\$40.00
Miscellaneous	\$6,128.00
Income from Projects	\$1,521,937.00
TOAL =	\$1,632,408.00
Expenses	
Projects	\$1,517,516.00
Administrative	\$124,224.00
TOTAL =	\$1,641,740.00
Net Revenue (Expenses) for the year	\$(9,332.00)

Assets	
Current	
Cash	\$64,025.00
Short-term investments	\$34,817.00
Accounts receivable	\$27,473.00
Prepaid expenses	\$19,195.00
	\$145,510.00
Liabilities	
Current	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$62,215.00
Deferred contributions	\$4,036.00
	\$66,251.00
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	
Operating	\$76,259.00
	\$145,510.00

Victims Pastoral Care

Once again this year the Victims Pastoral Care Committee's primary focus was on the planning of a full day workshop to mark National Victims of Crime Awareness Week 2014. The workshop entitled *Acting on Faith: The Interplay Between Spirituality, Pastoral Psychotherapy and Victim Trauma* took place on April 8, 2014 and was supported by the Department of Justice. It was a rainy morning as participants gathered at St. Giles Church in Ottawa. The day began with a panel discussion with front-line psychotherapists from the Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre who practice trauma counseling with a spiritual/holistic focus. The panellists spoke to their professional experience in pastoral psychotherapy; focusing on the benefits of an integrated approach that includes mind, body and spiritual healing.

After a delicious lunch participants had the opportunity to attend two of the four workshops being offered. Workshop 1 called *Healing in Connection: Transforming Sorrow and Loss within a Community* offered a look at the transformative power of connections and attachments in relationships. Workshop 2 called *Anger: The Gift with Teeth* provided an exploration of issues around anger through personal writing, discussion and body movement. Workshop 3 entitled *Mindfulness as a Way of Being* took the form of a guided meditation focusing on mindfulness of breath as well as a guided body scan. Finally,

workshop 4, *Healing From Within: An Introduction to Art Therapy* took participants through a short guided visualization and then allowed them to express themselves using a variety of art materials provided.

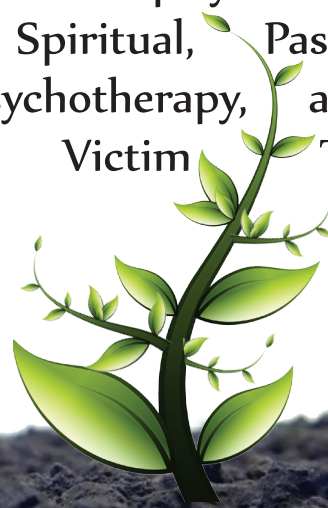
Participant feedback was positive, and participants enjoyed the dynamic and interactive approach to the workshops. It was felt that people left with a better understanding of the connections between the mind, body and holistic healing. It is the hope of the committee once again to host an event to mark National Victims of Crime Awareness Week in 2015.

National Victims of Crime Week 2014

ACTING ON FAITH

- TUESDAY APRIL 8TH, 2014 -

The Interplay Between
Spiritual, Pastoral
Psychotherapy, and
Victim Trauma



Public Engagement

A central role for CCJC is to engage communities in discussion about justice and corrections. Through the 2013-14 fiscal year, CCJC continued to work towards this goal through a number of outreach and educational activities.

Restorative Justice Week

The promotion of restorative justice has long been central to the mission and vision of CCJC. The theme for this year's Restorative Justice Week (November 17-24, 2013) was 'Inspiring Innovation'. This theme inspired us to learn from innovations shown by restorative justice practitioners, researchers and advocates as we collectively push forward our goal of a more restorative justice system. Each year Restorative Justice Week grows, with participation and events in more and more communities across Canada. Our Ottawa event was presented in collaboration with the Ottawa Restorative Justice Network (ORJN) and was titled *The Ripple Effect of Victimization: How Restorative Justice Can Calm the Waters*. The event featured a presentation by Dona Cadman and Supryia Desai who spoke about their own stories: a journey from the pain of losing a son, and of being the parent of a teen who committed a violent offence, to a place of healing and hope together. Their journey illustrated the powerful potential of restorative

justice in addressing issues for families of both the victims and offenders.

This year our Justice Storytelling Quilt was featured in the Correctional Service of Canada's Restorative Justice Week resource kit. A full article about the history of the quilt highlighted this unique tool which was created to spark dialogue about justice.

In keeping with CCJC's tradition of creating public resource materials promoting and exploring restorative justice, CCJC developed a pamphlet called "A Year of Reflection" which offered a number of guided reflections that challenged people to consider aspects of the justice system and our role in the justice process. This pamphlet was made available on our website.

Public Education

CCJC's E-bulletin, SAGE continues to gather the voices of our partners and individuals faithful to the CCJC call for compassionate justice. Each of the three issues this year provided opportunities to reflect on a variety of issues at the forefront of justice and corrections. Our summer 2013 issue provided a thorough overview of our National Victims of Crime Awareness Week event titled "Moving Towards Wholeness". In anticipation of the National Victims Bill

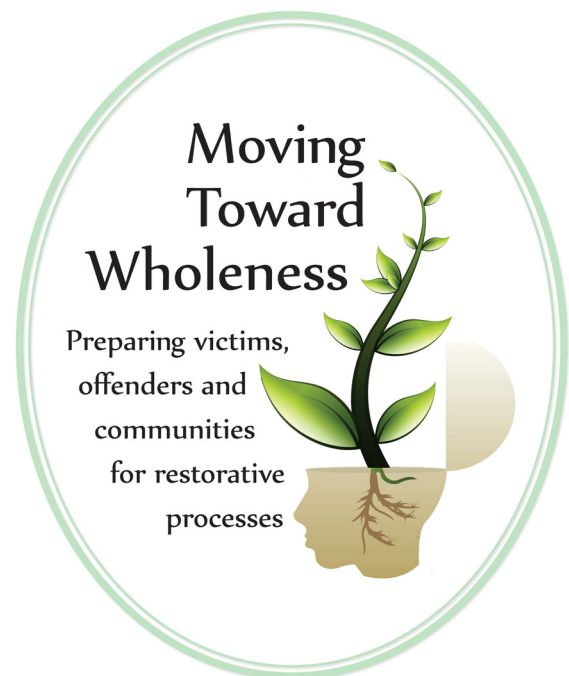
Public Engagement

of Rights, our Fall 2013 issue focused on victims needs- on both sides of the bars. Finally, our Spring 2014 issue explored the complex issues faced by the children and family of the incarcerated.

For CCJC, art has been a powerful tool used to engage the public to consider how we, as communities, ought to respond to the harms caused by crime. One of the most successful tools to date has been the Justice Storytelling Quilt. The quilt is an interactive, multi-media, bilingual piece created to tell the human stories of crime and its ripple effects. The quilt consists of 40 squares, each created by a victim of crime or an incarcerated offender. Again this year the Justice Storytelling Quilt has been travelling the country helping to humanize the effects of crime and the path to justice. The quilt spent the month of November on the east coast, and travelled to an art show in Montreal in early 2014. The quilt continues to be a valuable resource available to communities interested in opening up dialogue about justice.

Public Presentations

CCJC staff and Board volunteers presented numerous workshops and presentations this year covering a wide range of topics. CCJC staff presented at local events such as the Ottawa Restorative Justice Network meetings as well as local parishes. CCJC's Executive Director Janet Handy gave a talk as part of the Stuart Iverson Memorial Lecture Series at the Ottawa First Baptist Church. The talk explored the links between resilience and restorative justice.



CCJC Quebec Report



The 2013-2014 year was difficult and does not reflect the glorious past of the Conseil des églises pour la justice et la

criminologie, section Québec (CEJCQ). In fact, we have the minimum capacity needed to keep the organization active. We have been unsubsidized since the Restorative Justice Week of 2011. 2013 was marked by the end of the contract of our last coordinator, Céline Fantini. However, we organized two events during 2013: Volunteers' Day on June 8th, and Restorative Justice Week, held the week of November 17th to 23rd, 2013. You will find the highlights below. In the final comments, we offer a new service for 2014-2015: a Christian justice education workshop.

Each year since 1996, during Restorative Justice Week, CEJCQ has coordinated a community forum in the Montreal region and endeavoured to reinforce collaborative ties between members of the restorative justice network. Last year's chosen theme was: "Who will dare to humanize criminal justice?" The committee in charge of organizing the Restorative Justice Week was comprised of the CEJCQ team in collaboration with Montreal Community Chaplaincy (MCC), the Aumônerie communautaire

de Montréal (ACMTL), the Centre de services de justice réparatrice (CSJR) and Montreal Southwest Community Ministries (MSCM). A variety of activities were held, including a conference given by Brian McDonough on the impact of the Safe Streets and Communities Act adopted by the federal government two years ago (Bill C-10) and a participatory workshop on the humanization of criminal justice with the discrete collaboration of the author of the television series *Unité 9*, Danielle Trottier. During this evening of discussion regarding the televised representation of living conditions in correctional environments, the conversations were touching. Sharing in a circle of "anonymous" people who might be inmates, workers, citizens, or a television author (!) allows different points of view to be brought together. This holistic approach meets one of the principles of restorative justice, which suggest that all of the parties involved in a crime should be fairly heard.

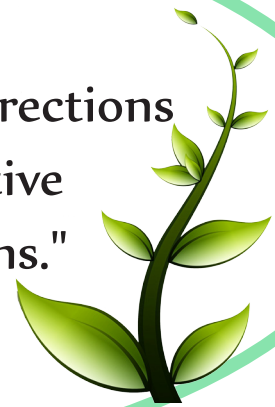
We thank our partners CSRJ and the Archdiocese of Montréal, for their support and their ideas. More specifically, we would like to thank all those who helped with the implementation of the activities, the members of the CEJCQ Board of Directors as well as Pascale Matheron, Claudie Bourget, Audrey Champagne, Brian McDonough, Danielle Trottier and

Aetios Productions, and those who worked anonymously, the numerous participants in the activity. A big thank you also to the spaces that welcomed us: the Faculté de théologie et des sciences des religions of the University of Montreal, Saint Joseph's Oratory and l'Institut pastoral des Dominicains.

This year was marked by a slowing of CEJCQ activities. However, the organization's resources do not seem to be depleted. We hosted an intern during the Fall 2013 semester and she reflected on a theology of restorative justice. We would like to address Christian communities. Standing proud, it is possible to embrace our Christian roots and explore what Christian justice means with believers. The workshop entitled "The Justice of Jesus" will be presented in September.

Nancy Labonté, President CCJC Quebec

"The Church Council on Justice and Corrections serves as a shining light for restorative approaches to justice and corrections."





**The Church Council on
Justice and Corrections**

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