

# The Church Council on Justice and Corrections

**Annual Report 2008** 





CCJC Board, staff and members–from left to right: Bertrand Gendron (CEJC Quebec), Maristela Carrara, Richard Haughian, Cindy Ayala (CEJC Quebec), Laurent Champagne, Meredith Egan, John deVries, James Loewen, Lorraine Berzins, Dick vonBriesen, Brian MacDonough, Jane Griffiths.

# **President's report**

When I joined the board of CCJC, it was beginning a very difficult stage in its development. Financial vulnerability and staff turnover were resulting in major difficulties as the board struggled to shift from an advisory role to an action role. Despite all of the difficulties and crises that confronted us as a board, we felt constantly affirmed that CCJC was meant to continue and that it still had important work to do. Through the strong leadership of previous presidents, the active and vital contributions by board members and staff, 2008 marks another year of new beginnings and strong steps forward in living out our vision to promote healing justice in Canada.

Through a renewed and strengthened connection with our churches and a strong reputation within government CCJC is moving forward. Reading the coordinators report you will see that we are building towards national work with Circles of Support and Accountability as a result of our work in setting up and carrying out the CoSA national gathering.

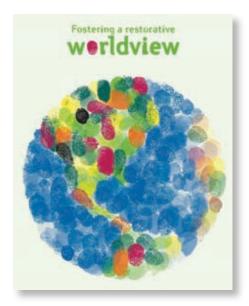
As past events and activities continue to bear fruit, we are building towards national work with churches in promoting, supporting and nurturing pastoral care for those harmed by crime. This is an exciting direction which will nurture and grow our relationship with member churches and also engage others as we roll out the project in years to come.

In 2008 we continued exploring a new form of relationship with the Collaborative Justice Project with the goal of guiding it into a more local and engaged support structure. With the various funding and programmatic challenges that CJP is facing, we continue to be committed to its meaningful and important work.

Our staff and board have developed a delightful partnership as we support and encourage one another, reminding each other of our work; each carrying the loads that we feel led to carry. I have been so blessed and encouraged by these relationships and what we are accomplishing together. I believe that we are actively seeking to live out the values and practices of restorative justice through our Christian faith.

In many ways 2008 was a year of building new relationships, strengthening old ties, and seeking out the ways in which the Spirit was moving in this land. It is only in being responsive to the guiding hand of God that we can truly fulfill our mission and goals. As we look towards the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, we can see that we do indeed have much work to do. This work will be accomplished by the dedication of our staff, board and other volunteers as we seek to do justice in our world.

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#### **RJ Week 2008**

Once again in 2008 a team of CCJC members developed faith-based materials for Restorative Justice Week through a contract with the Correctional Services of Canada. This small contract every year is one avenue volunteer members work to support CCJC, ensuring the contract obligations are met and thereby monies received. Maristela Carrara ably supported us, and we enjoyed the opportunities to both serve and educate.

The theme given us was Fostering a Restorative Justice Worldview. Together we composed a Christian and Multifaith bulletin, and gathered a list of resources that could support faith communities exploring restorative justice. For the first year we developed a 2-hour workshop that could be offered to small groups focusing on the experiences of both the current legal system, and a more restorative approach. CCJC will develop further workshops in 2009 and 2010 so that together the agenda for a full-day workshop on restorative justice will be available.

The materials were well received this year by the people who responded to our post-RJ Week survey. Most reported that their faith communities mentioned or made a focus of justice during the third week of November. About half found our materials useful, and expressed a need for increased access to facilitators and speakers who could assist them in providing special events to their congregations. We will be assisting CSC in developing a Speakers Bureau.

We appreciate that we have a chance to influence people of faith through this work, and the careful preparation of materials that reflect our beliefs in a compassionate and effective approach to justice. We know it makes a difference as we ask the question of ourselves and others "As people of faith, what does justice mean to us?".



Sculptures made during the Plato's Shadows project.

# Art-Making for Policy Change, with thanks to Mr. Plato

CCJC completed the first phase of a daring new project

to experiment with how public art may help stimulate the kind of community awareness that gets governments to make good policy change. In collaboration with cj fleury and her Ontario Arts Council grant, street-involved people were guided in the creation of 'self-identity sculptures' for use in experimental projections casting shadows. These we hope will be projected onto public buildings!

The purpose is to deepen public insight into key policy choices through enabling street-involved people to make themselves known to their fellow citizens in ways other than through the frightening stereotypes to which they are often reduced. The inspiration came from Plato's Cave allegory and was put forward to harness imaginations: 'It is as if the general public only sees a shadow of who the street involved people really are'... 'If making art can 'make special' their full humanness (to themselves as well as others), the observer's initial perception could be forever changed.'

CCJC came to this project because words of rhetoric alone have failed to create sufficient public support for crime prevention policies that could make the biggest difference to the safety of marginalized people, who are most at risk. And so we turned to art, and the adventure has begun.

You can view a powerpoint presentation of the identity sculptures in-the-making, at http://www.ccjc.ca/art.html and read more about it in the Spring 2009 edition of The Well.

Partnering agencies represented at the Plato's Shadows project's first meeting in the Spring of 2008.



#### **Administration and Finances**

The 2008 crop was particularly abundant since we managed to do more with the same financial resources as last year. I must mention the exceptional co-operation obtained from the members of the Board of Directors in support of the excellent work done by our two employees, Lorraine Berzins, who occupies the Community Chair of Justice, and Maristela Carrara, our co-ordinator. We wouldn't know where to start to calculate the amount of volunteer work done, and we clearly feel that CCJC manages to survive thanks to the spirit of self-giving for the most needy of our Churches and our community.

The fund-raising campain held in November was very successful since we managed to accumulate more than seven thousand dollars, amount which was applied to our budget forecasts. A very, very big THANK YOU to our benefactors for their generosity, and we encourage you to continue supporting our mission. Our Churches have been very constant in their financial support, which has allowed CCJC to establish plans to meet new challenges. One of these new projects is the management of all CoSA projects at the national level. The meeting of all CoSA representatives in Calgary was very successful thanks in part to Maristela's great organizational skills. With the help of members of various Canadian Circles, she is working on the final details of the submission which will allow CCJC to manage the budgets of all CoSAs at the national level. A few members of the Board of Directors are helping her navigate through the maze of things to do in order to meet the conditions imposed by NCPC before obtaining the contract.

This past year, Martha, Howard and their dog have been present on the public scene to express their views on different subjects related to justice. They have been daring to speak the truth. This is a real find, and a special credit has been established for this project in our annual Budget. The contract with CSC for the production of documents related to the Restorative Justice Week opens the door to collaboration with the government, gives us national visibility and brings us closer to those we want to inform of this complement to our penal justice system.

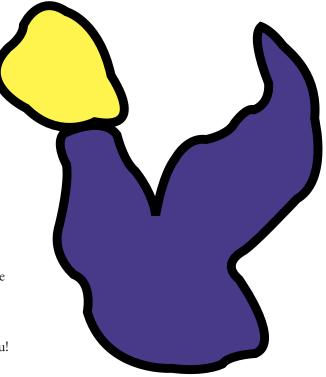
We have continued to support Kim and Tiffani in their Collaborative Justice Program in the Ottawa area. This project is having a very positive effect on the reality of the justice system since it allows members of our society to have a very different and positive experience.

As treasurer, I owe many thanks to Maristela for her wise administration of our organization's funds. A big Thank you! also to Jane and Richard, of Ottawa, who as members of the Board of Directors also sign the cheques. We are truly

one big family where each and every one of us contributes very actively in every aspect of our administration, because the volunteer work accomplished is very valuable and also essential to our mission.

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## **Coordinator's Report**

CCJC's year started with two very interesting events. In January CCJC coordinated a National CoSA (Circles of Support and Accountability) Gathering that brought together, for the first time, all programs in Canada. CoSA is a reintegration program based on restorative justice principles for high-risk sex offenders who have been released from prison. CCJC continued to be involved with CoSA throughout the year, more information is available on our website: www.ccjc.ca/cosa.html In February we were excited to participate in the Second Annual Restorative Justice International Conference in Jamaica. CCJC's movie "Stitched Together" was shown during the opening of the ceremony. Lorraine Berzins shared lessons learned from CCJC and Canada in a plenary session, and we also offered a workshop for the Church stream of the conference. We were excited and encouraged by the level of interest and engagement exhibited by the Jamaican church leaders.

In May, CCJC and the John Howard Society of Canada co-hosted a public forum in Ottawa where CBC's Michael Enright interviewed Marc Mauer, Executive Director of the Washington, D.C. Sentencing Project. Mauer is the author of "Race to Incarcerate", in which he explains how more incarceration may actually cause crime. The full interview is available through our website at www.ccjc.ca/martha\_howard.html CCJC invited "Martha and Howard" to help publicize the event. "Martha and Howard" are talking plywood characters created by Stephen Goldsmith of the American Urban Design Coalition. "They" were shocked to learn that Canada is adopting many of the measures that their government implemented about 30 years ago-now proven to be a huge failure. Martha and Howard's videos are also available through our website and they are now on Facebook! To become friends with Martha and Howard on Facebook search for their e-mail address: ccjc@ccjc.ca Some of the projects we were involved with are described separately in this report, such as "Plato's Shadows" on page 2, Restorative Justice Week 2008, on page 2, and our public education campaign for the 2008 elections, on page 5. They also have their own page on our website, please check www.ccjc.ca/community.html for more information.

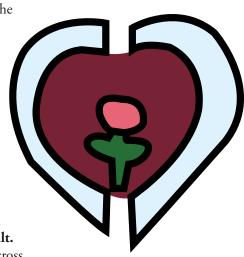
We finalized production of the movie "Stitched Together", which documents the creation of the Justice Storytelling Quilt. The movie will be available for distribution shortly, but can already be downloaded from our website at no charge: http://www.ccjc.ca/quilt.html The Quilt continued to travel to various events across Canada, including Cornwall, Toronto, Montreal, Kitchener, and Manitoba.

We also worked on a Victims Pastoral Care project, as a follow up to 2007's Victims Symposium, which is starting to show its fruits in 2009. Next year's annual report will have more information on a consultation we are holding as part of our AGM 2009. We were represented in the World Conference of the International Institute for Restorative Justice and took part at the Quakers Fostering Justice (QFJ) meeting at the Quaker house, both in Toronto. The Well, our electronic newsletter continues to be distributed three times per year and received lots of positive feedback in 2008. We are now gradually working towards making it a bilingual publication.

Finally, CCJC has a new website with lots of interesting information on all the projects we have been developing. Take a minute to check it out; your feedback is very welcome: **www.ccjc.ca** In sum, a very busy and fruitful year! I thank the support I have received from our Board, staff, volunteers, students, membership, and partnering organizations without which we wouldn't have been able to accomplish so many goals!

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Our electronic newsletter continues to be distributed three times per year and received lots of positive feedback in 2008.





Lorraine Berzins and Stephanie Coward shooting videos of Martha and Howard in front of the Supreme Court in Ottawa.

# 'Tough on crime' challenge goes pop ed with USA's own Martha, Howard (and Skippy)

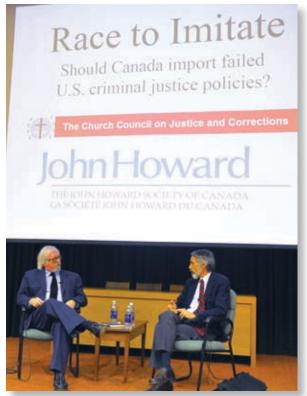
Should Canada import failed US criminal justice policies? Martha and Howard certainly think not. They (and their dog Skippy) are plywood characters hailing from Utah where they were created by Stephen Goldsmith to tell fellow citizens about issues of concern (taped dialogues were played along with their display).

Last Spring they heard Canada was adopting measures their government tried before: another "tough on crime" agenda after all that evidence of failure and tragic results! Martha said, 'I'm shocked'. Howard said, 'Let's do something'. Skippy said, 'Woof Woof'. The rest is history.

They spent time on Ottawa streets sharing their views and handing out pamphlets for our May public forum Race to Imitate. Prepped on the facts, and on popular education, by our very own Stephanie Coward-Yaskiw, they knew how to explain in their homespun way just what the problems are with such things as deterrence, the cost of longer sentences, court backlogs, who those mandatory laws really net, prevention needs, how prisons affect communities, and so on.

During the Fall election they got into the act again: you can find them on Facebook (145 friends and still counting); and on Youtube., shot at various justice hotspots in Ottawa, speaking on victims; on youth crime; on effective solutions to crime; on alternatives to jail; on prison population; and on smart investments. You can easily find them on youtube by searching for "Martha and Howard".

Stay tuned for more in 2009!



Michael Enright interviewing Mark Mauer in a public interview promoted by CCJC with the John Howard Society of Canada.

#### **Race to Imitate**

As the year unfolded, it became clear that crime policy bills coming before the public for consideration were largely based on imitating measures—such as more mandatory minimum sentences-that have already been tried in the US, with catastrophic results. The Canadian public needed to know that U.S. policymakers are reconsidering their "tough on crime" approach—and why. On May 6, CCJC and the John Howard Society of Canada co-hosted a public forum about this, featuring Marc Mauer, Executive Director of the Washington, D.C. Sentencing Project.

Mauer is the author of "Race to Incarcerate", in which he explains how more incarceration may actually cause crime. The forum drew a large audience to St Paul University to hear CBC's Michael Enright interview him on lessons Canada could learn from the US failures as well as evidence from other countries. A vibrant committee of CCJC partners and volunteers insured that the event reached some new audiences beyond those already knowledgeable about the issue, it provided them with some solidly researched fact sheets, and it was well covered by the media, both radio and print. You can find those and other related fact sheets on our website. You can also, at http://www.ccjc.ca/martha\_howard. html, read the press features (Toronto Star and the Ottawa Citizen ) and watch a video of the thoughtful conversation that unfolded between Marc and Michael Enright. We thank them both for the very generous contribution of their time.

#### Dear CCJC donor/member,

The Church Council on Justice and Corrections (CCJC) believes we can only deal with crime by building a peaceful, safe and just society. We need to name and struggle with harm done to people and attend to healing for victims, offenders, their families and the larger community. We call for a commitment to non-violent conflict resolution that is both person-centered and preventative, as an aid to healing rather than blame.

Donor and member support has played an important role in CCJC's ability to bring communities together to foster restorative approaches to justice. Your contribution will sponsor education, advocacy and community development initiatives that foster healthier communities and crime prevention through social responsibility. To support CCJC's work, please provide your contact information, including your e-mail if you have one, and choose one of the two options: A. Donor, or B. Membership.

Name/Organization		
Organization contact person		
Address		
City/Province	Postal code	
Telephone (home)	(work)	
E-mail		
wish to use a credit card, please go to www.cana	org or	
B. Membership		
You may become a Member of CCJC as an individual or an organization and thereby support the Church Council in its program initiatives. CCJC relies on its members for advice or reflection in the fields they are most familiar with. CCJC members benefit from access to CCJC's growing network of regional and local faith or community justice clusters, enjoy voting rights at CCJC's Annual General Meeting and eligibility to be nominated as Board director.		
<ul> <li>I am already a member of CCJC (we appreciate your updating your contact information)</li> <li>I would like to renew my membership for a period of 1 (one) year</li> <li>I wish to become a member of CCJC in 2009.</li> </ul>		

SEE BACK

Annual Membership Fees: Please note that, as of 2007, membership fees cover a one-year term. Three-year term memberships purchased in 2006 are still valid until 2009.

- Individuals \$40
- Students and Seniors \$20.00
- Small groups and organizations \$100.00
- Large organizations (budget greater than \$250,000) \$200.00

For members: I support CCJC's mission statement as described above.

Signature:	Date:	
Enclosed is my Membership Fee of \$ for	r the coming year	
CCJC is not permitted to issue charitable receipts for membership fees. However, if you would like to make a charitable donation in addition to your membership fees, as many members do, please also complete part "A" of this form. CCJC is a Registered Charity and will issue charitable receipts for all donations.		
Please make cheques payable to "Church Council on Justice and Corrections".  Mail to: The Church Council on Justice and Corrections 507 Bank Street, 2nd Floor Ottawa, ON K2P 1Z5  Thank you for your kind support!		
I am interested in volunteering with CCJC (check as  Research policy issues (e.g. for input into briefs o  Fundraising/marketing/communications (e.g. writi organizing special events)  Development of educational materials and resource Helping to develop a regional CCJC network  Website maintenance  French translations of website and written material Data base management  General office/administration work (at National Of Other interests/skills	n pending legislation) ng, editing, developing marketing strategies, ces als fice in Ottawa)	



Maristela Carrara, Claudia Powell (Jamaican Department of Justice) and Lorraine Berzins. during the 2nd Annual Restorative Justice International Conference in Jamaica – read more under the Coordinator's report on page 4.

# Ramping up the public conversation

Throughout 2008 the position of Community Chair of Justice served as a hub for a flurry of fresh attempts to engage our fellow citizens in a 'new' public conversation about justice: in churches, in government, on our streets. This was spurred on by events: numerous crime policy proposals before the public eye, a federal election campaign.

CCJC spearheaded several initiatives to let more Canadians know that billions of tax dollars were about to be spent on prison construction. The major parties had been voting to increase incarceration: they think Canadians don't care about all the existing evidence that this will NOT increase benefits to victims of crime, nor make communities safer. We took steps to reach out more widely to provide for informed discussion about this.

We gathered a team of partners and volunteers with an impressive array of expertise, to prepare fact sheets and articles suitable for local church networks and community newspapers: the costs of prisons, the greater effectiveness of alternatives, the lower costs and greater successes of community solutions. A 'Comment' was published in the Globe and Mail. With John Howard Society Canada, we co-hosted a public forum, Race to Imitate, which received good media coverage-radio, television and print. It featured CBC's Michael Enright interviewing US sentencing expert Marc Mauer. To promote this event, CCJC enlisted the help of 'US visitors' Martha, Howard (and their dog Skippy)-plywood cut-outs complete with voice and a message.

Then came the election, and CCJC took further steps to reach yet more people with its call for informed discussion. Fact sheets were revised in light of feedback from CCJC church reps. Election Questions for candidates were prepared and distributed to faith communities as well as to all the political parties. An election package with press release went to all CCJC networks and to a variety of weeklies and community newspapers across the country. CCJC also launched at this time a 6-part church series about criminal justice concerns from a faith perspective: Criminal Justice at a Crossroads: are we called as Christians to new hearts and minds about crime and justice? And Martha and Howard (and their dog Skippy) got into the act again: you can find them on Facebook (145 friends and still counting); and on Youtube.

Art-Making to Change Policy was another Community Chair of Justice initiative in 2008. Plato's Shadows Community Art Project completed its first phase—to see how public art may help stimulate the kind of community awareness that gets governments to make good change.

The year also included several opportunities for witnessing on public policy through written presentations and consultations. But political representatives need to hear straight from people in communities that they are not being well served by the current system and will insist on change that improves on quality. For 2009, we are developing an initiative to foster this awareness in communities: then perhaps will we see the mustard seed grow.

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# Conseil des églises pour la justice et la criminologie du québec

The year of 2008 put us to the test when it came to using our resources to keep the relationships within our network intact. Regardless, with the little resources we had, we have managed to still make progress and keep on striving to expand our movement.

CEJCQ strongly believes that education is key to having a true impact within our prisons. CEJCQ noticed that volunteers were not sufficiently informed of the changing situation in prisons and found themselves interacting with an increasing number of inmates with mental health problems. On Volunteers' Emphasis Day which was organized by CEJCQ, a training was provided by Correctional Services Canada (CSC) on those mental health issues.

This year, CEJC continued to organize events and activities in the Federal and Provincial Prisons. For example, in LaMacaza, at the Immigration Prevention Center as well as the pastoral activities in the women's penitentiary in Joliette were all repeated this year. These visitations are done by the chaplains, CEJCQ, and/or its volunteers.

Our second Community Day, which took place in October 2008 at LaMacaza, was a success with more than 35 volunteers and a very large number of participating inmates. Volunteers went to spend time with inmates who were sentenced for life and who have been receiving very little visitations. It was truly an experience that transformed hearts. The Christmas activities at the Immigration Prevention Center as well as in the women's penitentiary in Joliette were also very successful. This year, each inmate received a Christmas gift and volunteers were able to spend time with them all. As usual, we plan activities and special events outside the prison walls as well.

The Restorative Justice Committee organized three separate activities this year. The first two activities allowed participants to reflect on our new poster called "La Rencontre" ("The Encounter"). This poster was painted by an ex-inmate who witnessed a meeting between an inmate and a victim. Our third activity allowed Monique Lépine to make her first public appearance in 19 years. Monique Lépine is mother of Marc Lépine, a young man who killed 14 women at the Montreal Polytechnique on December 6th, 1989.

A conference on women and their role in restorative justice by Christine Lecompte, Kim Pate, and Sharon Klyne also gave us a new direction that the CEJCQ could explore in the next few months, not to mention widen our network. Our partners have helped us keep our visibility within the community. We partnered with the « Association des Services de Réhabilitation Sociale du Québec (ASRSQ) » for a restorative justice forum to help organizations and small community groups know each other and the services that are available in nearby neighbourhoods. We are also in the victims' pastoral care project created by CCJC Ottawa, and are looking forward to bringing those ideas to Quebec and our churches.

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## **Witnessing on Public Policy**

CCJC's activities in relation to public policy on criminal justice revolved around two major consultations and the election campaign in 2008. In February 2008, Lorraine Berzins represented CCJC before the Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs on Bill C-2 (introduced into the House of Commons as a confidence motion—meaning that if not passed as it, there would be new elections). CCJC's brief included three recommendations:

- 1. that the Bill pass a comprehensive review by experts
- 2. that it include provisions for adequate funding of reintegration programs
- 3. that changes to mandatory minimum be presumptive, not absolute, allowing judges to exercise their discretion on a case-by-case basis.

Unfortunately, despite the efforts of CCJC and many like-minded organizations, the Bill did pass Senate with no amendments. It is unfortunate that a Bill with so many faults identified by the witnesses before the committee has passed for fear of a new election. This makes us question the value that our party leaders place on expertise coming from academia and community agencies. Public safety is too important to be used as political currency, especially when the agenda of the day will cost taxpayers millions of dollars and still do a disservice for public safety.

We were also involved in government consultations about the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) review in the summer. Bruce Williams, CCJC's former board member for several years, represented us before the YCJA Review Roundtable promoted by Justice Canada. Bruce noted that there was almost unanimous agreement in the room, including by police representatives, that the proposed amendments were not likely to have a positive impact on youth crime and that they could in fact be potentially counterproductive. CCJC's first point was to reaffirm the principles and provisions of the YCJA as currently stated. The YCJA is effective; youth crime is decreasing, community-based support and resources for youth are becoming well developed, victims who participate in restorative alternatives to court are more satisfied than those involved in court proceedings and the costs of youth detention are declining. Secondly, resources are being better used to meet the education and support needs for youth and victims of youth crime, including for serious offenders. Adult provisions should NOT be applied to youth in conflict with the law. The adversarial legal process that dominates adult court leads to lesser likelihood that offenders will want to accept responsibility and make changes in their life, or that victims will have their needs met.

Finally, CCJC developed resources and raised awareness among voters during the elections campaign in 2008. Given the unanimous focus among political parties on what they consider "tougher approaches to crime", we wanted to highlight the importance of investing in criminal justice policies that can effectively address victims' needs and help reduce crime and re-offending. There is now a strong body of evidence that increasing incarceration does not do that. Instead, it incurs costs in prison construction which take away tax dollars from other programs and services proven to be of more value for all Canadians as well as for crime prevention. CCJC produced fact sheets and a questionnaire that was sent to all candidates. All are available through our website.

We encourage you to look at the "Witnessing on Public Policy" session of our website to keep informed of our activities: www.ccjc.ca/witnessing.html



#### **Board of Directors-2008**

#### **President:**

James Loewen (Mennonite Central Committee)

#### **Vice-presidents:**

Richard Haughian (Catholic Church) John deVries (Christian Reformed Church)

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Jane Griffiths (United Church)

#### **Directors:**

Richard von Briesen (Evangelical Lutheran Church) Brian McDonough (individual membership)

#### **Staff-2008**

#### **Community Chair of Justice:**

Lorraine Berzins

#### **Coordinator:**

Maristela Carrara

#### Director of the Collaborative Justice Program:

Kimberly Mann

### Caseworker at the Collaborative Justice Program:

Tiffani Murray

#### Caseworker at the Collaborative Justice Program:

Amber Montgomery

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Sandy Lessard

#### Special thanks to:

Tiffani Murray, Kimberly Mann, Sandie Lessard, Gaston Saint-Jean, Robert Aubut, Lee Mattice, all CoSA programs in Canada, Andrew McWhinnie, Craig Jones, Restorative Justice Network of Ottawa, Michelle Landry, Bruce Williams, Sheila Arthurs, Ethel Archard, Emile Therien, Stephanie Coward- Yaskiw, Danilo Chammas, Jamie Scott, Jim Potter, Loretta McCarthy, Petrina Bonia, Community Foundation of Ottawa, Centre 507, Anne Bachinski, cj fleury, Jessica Blair, Joanne MacGregor, John Lauder, Suzanne Bouclin, Katie Flemming, Megan Backus, David Lam, Danette Nearing-Guibord, Bishop Gary Gordon, Jonas Abromaitis, Maylanne Maybee, Bruce Williams, Maureen Murphy, our board, donors, members and supporters, all partnering agencies that worked in collaboration with us in 2008.

### **Financial Report-2008**

Donations and grants 117,411
Project income 295,685
Other 992
TOTAL INCOME 414,088

Operating expenses 145,031 Project expenses 250,986 TOTAL EXPENSES 396,017

**NET INCOME 2008 18,071** 

#### **About us**

The Church Council on Justice and Corrections was established in 1974 by the Canadian Council of Churches and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops. The supporting denominations appoint members from across Canada with experience and expertise in the field of criminal justice and corrections. CCJC is a national and bilingual organization.

The Council concerns itself with a broad range of issues: aboriginal justice, alternatives to punishment, community fears, death penalty, families of prisoners, family violence, law reform, long-term prisoners, parole, racism, sentencing, sexual offences, urban crime, victims of crime, violence prevention, women's concerns, youth and crime.

We strive to assist those we serve to reflect theologically about 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 redemptive change.

# **Supporting denominations**

- The Anglican Church of Canada
- Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec
- Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops
- Christian Reformed Churches of North America
- Disciples of Christ in Canada
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- Mennonite Central Committee Canada
- The Presbyterian Church in Canada
- Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- The Salvation Army in Canada
- The United Church of Canada
- Canadian Council of Churches



#### **Contact us**

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