

NAACJ • ANIJC



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The National Associations Active in Criminal Justice

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ABOUT NAACJ

In 1975, national voluntary sector organizations came together under the auspices of the Canadian Criminal Justice Association to share information, ideas, values and support for the community-based agencies that worked within Canadian federal justice and corrections. Referred to as “an experiment” at the time, NAACJ was incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in 2000, and now almost 20 years later continues to be a vital mechanism for non-governmental organizations to remain connected with each other and with federal departments.

Mission

NAACJ's mission is to enhance the capacity of Members to contribute to a humane, fair, equitable and effective justice system.

Purposes

1. Contribute to the education of its Members, other organizations from the governmental and voluntary sectors and the general public through activities that share and generate knowledge, information, ideas and values, in relation to current and emerging criminal justice issues.
2. Contribute to the capacity of the Members to carry out their purposes through activities that share and generate expertise and to serve as a catalyst for action by Member agencies and to provide collective support for actions undertaken by individual Member agencies where feasible.
3. Support the activities of its Members in the development of policy related to criminal justice by promoting the role and importance of the Members in consultation and policy fora with the federal government.



George Myette and Eileen Henderson supporting Louise Leonardi, Ottawa ON February 2018

Strategic Priorities

This past year, NAACJ made great strides towards its Strategic Plan 2016-2018. Highlights of our accomplishments this past year include:

Raise the Profile of NAACJ and its Members

- Strengthening relationships with staff from the Ministries of Public Safety Canada and Justice Canada, as well as the Parole Board of Canada
- Facilitating a meeting and discussion among NAACJ, its Members and the Minister of Public Safety Canada, Ralph Goodale
- Sharing information and perspectives with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Joint Committee on Community Corrections with CSC, PS, and the PBC

Enhance and Expand Relationships

- Welcoming a new Full Member to the Association: Book Clubs for Inmates
- Developing relationships with the National Association of Friendship Centres and Employment & Social Development Canada
- Participating in the National Restorative Justice (RJ) Symposium and the UNODC Experts Meeting on RJ with international delegates

Engage and Educate Members, Partners and the Public

- Increasing opportunities for Members to share knowledge and connect with each other and with federal partners via teleconference
- Co-hosting the annual policy forum with Public Safety Canada, *Reintegrating Well: Improving the Health of Prisoners & Communities*
- Facilitating an open letter to Parliamentarians concerning judicial discretion in sentencing

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Welcome to BCFI: Book Clubs for Inmates

NAACJ was delighted to welcome Book Clubs for Inmates as a new Full Member organization to NAACJ's network this past year.



**BOOK
CLUBS FOR
INMATES**

Book Clubs for Inmates (BCFI) is a registered charity that organizes volunteer-led book clubs within federal penitentiaries across Canada. Currently, BCFI is facilitating 30 book clubs from Nova Scotia to British Columbia.

BCFI runs French and English language book clubs for men and women incarcerated in minimum, medium, and maximum security facilities. Book clubs are usually made up of 10-18 members who meet once a month to discuss books, both fiction and non-fiction of literary merit.

Every month, hundreds of inmates participate in book clubs across the country and each year thousands of brand new books are purchased, read, and discussed.

NAACJ's membership is comprised of leading experts in the field of criminal and social justice in Canada, who provide a broad range of services from research and policy analysis to literacy and life skills training for men and women behind bars. As one federal government partner said: **"They know what is happening on the ground. They know how certain policies affect real people...they understand policy impacts. They understand the compounding problems that are linked for people who are locked in the justice system. NAACJ has members that address most of the justice cycle. They have all the players who understand how to help people who are trying to exit the justice system."**

NAACJ was proud to connect the following members in 2017-2018:

Full Member Organizations

1. L'Association des services de réhabilitation sociale du Québec
2. Book Clubs for Inmates
3. Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
4. Canadian Association of Social Workers
5. Canadian Bar Association
6. Canadian Criminal Justice Association

7. Canadian Families and Corrections Network
8. Canadian Friends Service Committee, Quakers Fostering Justice
9. Canadian Psychological Association
10. Church Council on Justice and Corrections
11. Circles of Support and Accountability (CoSA) Canada
12. CTI Canadian Training Institute
13. Frontier College
14. Innocence Canada (formerly the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted)
15. John Howard Society of Canada
16. Mennonite Central Committee Canada
17. Native Counselling Services of Alberta
18. Salvation Army
19. Seventh Step Society of Canada
20. St. Leonard's Society of Canada

Associate Member Organizations

21. Canadian Association for Community Living
22. Centre for Justice Exchange



Louise Leonardi, Duncan Gillespie, Anita Desai, Susan Haines, David Henry, Kathryn Bliss and George Myette on our way to a federal consultation meeting in Ottawa

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Allen Benson	Native Counselling Services of Alberta
Rebecca Bromwich	Church Council on Justice and Corrections
Dick Cotterill	Canadian Friends Service Committee
Kassandra Churcher	Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
Françoise Crabalona	Circles of Support & Accountability (CoSA) Canada
Anita Desai	St. Leonard's Society of Canada
Claire Dunmore	The Salvation Army
Duncan Gillespie	CTI Canadian Training Institute
Eileen Henderson	Book Clubs for Inmates
David Henry	Association des services de réhabilitation sociale du Québec
Randy Klassen	Mennonite Central Committee Canada
Mark Knox	Canadian Bar Association
Irving Kulik	Canadian Criminal Justice Association
Catherine Latimer	John Howard Society of Canada
Louise Leonardi	Canadian Families and Corrections Network
George Myette	Seventh Step Society of Canada
Fred Phelps	Canadian Association of Social Workers
Sarah Thompson	Frontier College
Win Wahrer	Innocence Canada (formerly AIDWYC)
J. Steve Wormith	Canadian Psychological Association

Executive Committee

President:	Catherine Latimer
Vice President:	Duncan Gillespie / George Myette
Treasurer:	Louise Leonardi / Irving Kulik
Secretary:	Eileen Henderson / Sarah Thompson
Past-President:	Allen Benson

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Revenues and Expenses

	Budget (unaudited)	2018
Revenue		
Public Safety Canada grant (Note 5)	\$ 61,491	\$ 61,493
CSJN Project grant (Note 5)	-	-
Contributions	-	3,200
Membership fees	8,100	8,100
Fundraising	3,644	-
In-kind revenue (Note 6)	10,225	12,651
Interest income	-	60
	83,460	85,504
Expenses		
Bank charges and interest	50	77
Computer services	500	337
Contract fees	575	1,135
In-kind expenses (Note 6)	10,225	12,651
Insurance	850	829
Meetings	5,375	4,371
Meetings - Joint Forum	500	653
Office	2,630	4,024
Professional development	1,150	996
Professional fees	3,600	3,847
Rent	-	-
Salaries and wages	58,005	57,230
Travel	-	-
	83,460	86,150
(Deficit) excess of revenue over expenses	\$ -	\$ (646)

Members' In-Kind Contributions



NAACJ's activities and accomplishments would not have been possible without the generous in-kind contributions of Members towards travel and accommodations.

This year, Members contributed **\$12,650** to participate in NAACJ meetings throughout the year!

Special thanks to

The Canadian Association of Social Workers

Hendry Warren LLP

Native Counselling Services of Alberta

Public Safety Canada

and the

Seventh Step Society of Canada

for your extraordinary support!



Public Safety
Canada

Sécurité publique
Canada



Step Society of Canada

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Twenty-eighteen was another busy and productive year for NAACJ as we took part in and facilitated numerous meetings, consultations, roundtables, surveys and discussions about various facets of federal justice policy and corrections. From judicial discretion in sentencing to prisoners' wages, NAACJ and its Members were discussing, participating, reaching out and providing perspectives to various offices, departments, levels of government and Parliament.



Catherine Latimer and Susan Haines at Senator Kim Pate's office ceremony on the Hill in Ottawa, April 2017

We were delighted to welcome special guests to our Annual General Meeting and Board of Directors meetings, and took advantage of these opportunities to raise the voices of its Members, to facilitate the exchange of information on areas of shared interest, and to build professional relationships.

Through all of this dialogue, we maintained our focus on human rights and effective corrections, on the capacity of individuals and communities, on the experiences of the most marginalized and vulnerable citizens, and on the value of promoting alternatives to punishment and incarceration. We emphasized peer support, mental health first aid training, restorative processes, conflict resolution, community-based housing and services, and prisoners as experts in correctional reform - and re-emphasized them again.

And at the same time, we created the space for Member organizations to support one another, to enjoy successes and overcome frustrations, and to share and inspire ideas.

I am so privileged to be in this role, and cannot thank the Members, Board of Directors and Executive Committee enough. You continue to surprise, inspire and teach me every single day.

Susan Haines

Highlights & Engagement Events

Meet & Greet with the Minister of Public Safety Canada



NAACJ was absolutely delighted to welcome the Honourable Minister of Public Safety, Ralph Goodale, to its AGM in September 2017.

The Hon. Minister remarked upon his concern for vulnerable populations within the criminal justice system, while Members emphasized the value of in-reach, pre-release planning, community corrections, peer support, community-based residential facilities and the potential to expand

restorative opportunities across the country.

Sincere thanks to Minister Goodale and his staff for joining us!

National Association of Friendship Centres

Former Executive Director of NAACJ Cathy Graham, now the Director of Research & Special Projects at the National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC), introduced herself *and the Friendship Centre Movement* to NAACJ and its Members in September 2017.

Thank you, Cathy, for joining us and sharing your knowledge and experience with us, and encouraging us to build and maintain connections with the Friendship Centres in our communities as part of our commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

“What we need are programs from cradle to grave. Well, even before cradle.”
- Cathy Graham

Reintegrating Well: Improving the Health of Prisoners and Communities

This year’s Annual Policy Forum, a traditional event we co-host with Public Safety Canada’s Crime Prevention and Aboriginal Community Safety Directorate, was another excellent day for the forty individuals who came together to explore how we support health and well-being from intake through to the reintegration process in the community. This included pre-release planning, aging and palliative care, addictions and substance misuse, as well as successful peer support models that improve the health and well-being of individuals who are returning to our communities from federal corrections.



Ivan Zinger, Michel Gagnon, Jarrod Shook, Rebecca Jesseman, Lisha DiGiacchino and Jean-Frédéric Boulais participate on a panel moderated by Catherine Latimer.

We are so grateful for the wisdom, passion and generosity of our guest speakers for contributing to such a successful day. Special thanks go to:

- Jean-Frédéric Boulais & Dr. Ivan Zinger, Office of the Correctional Investigator for Canada
- Brigitte de Blois & Bill Rasmus, Correctional Service of Canada
- Lisha DiGiacchino & Rebecca Jesseman, Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction
- Michel Gagnon, Maison Cross Roads, Société St-Leonard
- Jarrod Shook, Student & Lead Editor, *Journal of Prisoners on Prisons* Vol. 26 No 1 & 2



About 40 participants gathered for the Annual Policy Forum hosted by NAACJ and Public Safety Canada in Ottawa ON, February 2018. The Co-Chairs, Catherine Latimer and Angela Arnet Connidis are front and centre.

National Restorative Justice Symposium

The Church Council on Justice and Corrections (CCJC) and the Collaborative Justice Program (CJP) were ecstatic to win the bid to host this year's National Restorative Justice Symposium (NRJS) on traditional Algonquin territory in Ottawa ON, 19-21 November 2017. The theme, **Global Innovation - Local (R)Evolution**, drew attention to both global and local contributions to the restorative justice movement, in an effort to inspire proponents, leaders, practitioners and citizens to build upon this momentum and create restorative opportunities across sectors, fields and jurisdictions.



By participating on the NRJS 2017 Planning Committee, NAACJ had a unique opportunity to get to know international delegates not only at the Symposium but also at several ancillary events.

Member organization [Circles of Support and Accountability Canada Inc.](#) was officially launched at the Symposium, which also coincided with a [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\) Experts Meeting on RJ](#), hosted by the Department of Justice Canada and the Correctional Service of Canada. NAACJ was humbled to be among such esteemed international guests.

The final report of NRJS 2017, presentations and videos from speakers, photos and more are accessible online at sites.google.com/view/nrjs2017snjr/home.



Members of the NRJS 2017 Planning Committee, 2017

Nelson Mandela Dialogues

The Executive Director was again humbled and privileged to participate in the Canadian Nelson Mandela Dialogues (NMD CAN'17), hosted by the Native Counselling Service of Alberta (NCSA) and the Enoch Cree Nation on Treaty Six territory in Edmonton AB, June 26-30 2017.

About 40 people from across the world came together to “consider institutional transformation; specifically, the possibility of meaningful change in the spaces that perpetuate despair - child welfare, justice and corrections.” The dialogues were an exceptional opportunity to learn about international experiences in truth and reconciliation in order to inspire greater healing and reconciliation across Turtle Island.

The final report video is accessible online here: youtube.com/watch?v=G7gRdDvV6to.



The NMD Can '17 group, with representatives from Argentina, Australia, Cambodia, Canada, Croatia, Germany, Kenya, Rwanda and South Africa.

Correctional Service of Canada

NAACJ's long-standing partnership with the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) continued to evolve, grow and improve this past year, with remarkable progress to improve engagement and communications among our organizations.

The *Joint Community Corrections Working Group* continued its work to improve Warrant Expiry releases and reintegration with the Correctional Operations and Programs Sector, while NAACJ took part in another excellent meeting with members of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) through CSC's Joint Committee on Community Corrections, which is comprised of officials from Public Safety Canada and the Parole Board of Canada. Thanks to everyone at CSC for their support to NAACJ and its Members again this year.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Partners

Public Safety Canada



Staff and Volunteers

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