

NAACJ • ANIJC



Social responsibility
Responsabilité sociale

The National Associations Active in Criminal Justice

**Les Associations nationales
intéressées à la justice criminelle**

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FCM/CSC/PBC/PS Joint Committee on Community Corrections

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Our Mission

NAACJ was founded in 1975 to provide a network of knowledge and support to national voluntary sector organizations working in criminal justice in Canada.

Currently comprised of 21 agencies, NAACJ enhances the capacity of its member organizations to contribute to a **humane, fair, equitable and effective justice system.**

Our Purposes

NAACJ:

- Contributes to the education of its member organizations, partners, government and the public.
- Contributes to the capacity of member organizations to carry out their purposes.
- Provides collective support for actions undertaken by individual Member agencies where feasible.
- Supports the activities of member organizations in the development of policy and practice.
- Promotes the role and importance of the Members in consultation and policy fora with the federal government.

By doing so, NAACJ bolsters its members' ability to serve as catalysts for change relating to their missions of **effective justice responses that uphold and promote human rights.**

Member Organizations

Association des services de réhabilitation sociale du Québec:

Canadian Association of Community Living
 Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
 Canadian Association of Social Workers
 Canadian Bar Association
 Canadian Criminal Justice Association
 Canadian Families and Corrections Network
 Canadian Friends Service Committee,
 Quakers Fostering Justice
 Canadian Psychological Association
 Church Council on Justice and Corrections

Circles of Support and Accountability Canada
 CTI Canadian Training Institute
 Frontier College
 Innocence Canada (formerly AIDWYC)
 John Howard Society of Canada
 Mennonite Central Committee Canada
 Native Counselling Services of Alberta
 Salvation Army
 Seventh Step Society of Canada
 St. Leonard's Society of Canada
 The Centre for Justice Exchange

Strategic Plan 2016-2018 (abridged)

I Raise the Profile of NAACJ & its Members

- Supporting Member Projects
- Sharing Information, e.g. Research, emerging issues & trends, best practices & tools

II Enhance and Expand Internal & External Relationships

- Creating Opportunities for Networking & Dialogue, e.g. Corrections Roundtables with Public Safety Canada, Business Meetings with Justice Canada, Annual meetings with CSC, Parliamentary receptions on the Hill, Teleconferences

III Engage and Educate Members, Partners & the Public

- Coordinating the Annual Joint Workshop with Public Safety Canada
- Participating in FCM/CSC/PBC/PS Canada Joint Committee on Community Corrections meetings
- Engaging on social media

NAACJ & CSC Collaboration

The NAACJ/CSC Joint Community Corrections Working Group develops annual Joint Work Plans to focus our efforts on joint projects. In the last year or so, we have:

- Examined best practices to improve WED releases (i.e. releases at Warrant Expiry that do not benefit from structured gradual release with supervision)
- Explored ways and means to reduce revocations through more effective interventions at suspension
- Enhanced Training for CSC, Parole Board and community-based staff
 - A workshop entitled “We All Live in Community” that was co-developed by the working group has now been integrated into CSC’s Parole Officer Induction Training (POIT) and Parole Officer Continuous Development Training (POCD), in order to better understand our distinct yet interdependent roles in the community.

Key Messages on Community Corrections (1 of 2)

1. Every person who is incarcerated comes from the community, and most will return to the community.
2. Everyone has a vital role in assisting offenders to successfully return to the community, and it is something no one can do alone.
3. A gradual and structured release, including community support, has been shown to be the most effective strategy to ensure public safety for offenders eligible for release.
4. Supportive community programs and services which promote social inclusion assist in the reintegration process.
5. Individuals under community supervision are accountable for their behaviour.

Key Messages on Community Corrections (2 of 2)

6. Collaborative relationships among communities, non-governmental organizations and the government are essential to provide the tools and assistance required to support successful transitions from penitentiary to community.
7. Correctional programs are more effective when they are delivered in a community setting.
8. Access to education, health care and adequate housing ensures long-term benefits for public safety in Canadian communities.
9. Every person is unique; their cultural backgrounds, gender, and individual needs must be addressed in achieving successful reintegration.

What we bring to the Joint Committee

By serving as a conduit to 21 national member agencies, their communities and their knowledge, NAACJ provides members and partners with:

- Access to credible, quality members with front line “lived” knowledge and experience
- On the ground perspectives from agencies that work with people inside and outside of the justice system, across the criminal justice continuum.
- Our entrepreneurial and resourceful history of collaboration and innovation.
- Strong, effective relationships with key partners in the fields of social and criminal justice.

How can NAACJ and its Members support the FCM Joint Committee?

Can we:

- ...Provide resources and facts about justice, corrections and social inclusion?
- ...Debunk myths that exist in your community?
- ...Share research and promising practices to ease Not In My Backyard (NIMBY) issues in your community?
- ...Help leverage contacts and supports around health services, housing, or employment?
- ...Connect you to the service providers and NAACJ Member contacts in your region?

Stay Connected

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