



JES training in El Salvador



JUSTICE  
EDUCATION  
SOCIETY

JUSTICE THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

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# Thank You

to our funders, donors, board members,  
experts, staff, and volunteers  
for another great year!

## OUR FUNDERS



## OUR CHAMPIONS





## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It was a year of major transition and rapid growth for the Justice Education Society (JES). In October 2017, JES saw the departure of its co-founder and Executive Director and the appointment of his successor. Sonia Poulin brings more than two decades of leadership experience leading increasingly complex operations within the justice sector in five different provinces and in both legal traditions, with a commitment to access to justice and human rights at home and abroad. A change in leadership, new management and staff brought new insight and perspectives to the organization leading to transformational change.

The transition and organizational growth led to a foreseeable, and in large part planned for, deficit. We are forecasting a surplus for the coming year. The expansion of international programming brought home to us the need for more robust management systems to carry us forward. Underpinning these changes will be the results of a strategic planning exercise which the organization will undergo in 2018-2019. This is an exciting opportunity for JES to capture the lessons of its past successes and position us for the future.

I can say on behalf of the Board that we look forward enthusiastically to this process.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete Voith".

**Mr. Justice Voith**  
President of the Board



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Taking the lead of an organization co-founded by a legendary and dynamic leader is not your standard leadership transition. No stranger to the work of JES, I have been inspired by our dedicated, passionate and committed team members, experts and volunteers creating major impact at home and abroad. I am proud to have joined the organization in October 2018 at a period of substantial growth, building the foundation for organizational change and setting the stage for the future. It's a journey, not a destination. Together, I look forward to building on our success and many accomplishments, reflecting on the past and defining our capacity to meet the needs of our communities for years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "SPoulin".

**Sonia Poulin**  
Executive Director

Klaus the police dog co-presented to a Grade 6 class from A. J. McLellan Elementary School.



## COMMUNITIES AGAINST SEXUALLY EXPLOITED YOUTH (CASEY)

JES is the lead agency delivering the multi-year CASEY program in Prince George. The program increases community awareness and the community's ability to recognize and prevent child sexual exploitation, and to increase the awareness of the harm caused to children. Through a series of educational presentations and workshops, the program reached over 1000 youth and adults.

## LEGAL CAPABILITY

The BC Ministry of Education has introduced BC's New Curriculum for grades 5 to 12. The new focus for BC teachers is to build skills, help students learn about research and evaluation, foster critical thinking, and learn communication skills.

Our mission to improve legal capability – having the knowledge, skills and understanding required to confidently engage with the law – aligns with the new curriculum. JES has now authored and/or adapted over 200 teaching resources for the New Curriculum. These will be launched on SocialStudiesBC.ca at the BCTF Social Studies Teachers' conference in October 2018. We will also introduce the JES Speakers Bureau, which enables justice professionals to present directly to students and community groups across the province through in-person presentations or by video conferencing.

# Our BC Program

## JUSTICE SYSTEM EDUCATION PROGRAM (JSEP)

This foundational program has introduced over one million people to BC courts. The program is now delivered through six staffed courthouse locations and 13 volunteer locations. During the past year, the program was supported by over 1000 judges, lawyers and sheriffs who donated their time to make presentations to groups.

**6** staffed courthouse locations



& 13 volunteer locations supported by over

**1000**

judges, lawyers and sheriffs

**24** JSEP Workshops

**477**

participants



**750** Court visit sessions

**22,000**

participants



“ *The course helped me understand the experience of separation/divorce*

*The course helped me understand my feelings about separation/divorce*

## PARENTING AFTER SEPARATION COURSES

### In-Person PAS Workshops

JES continues to be contracted by the BC Ministry of Justice to provide in-person PAS workshops in New Westminster and Vancouver. This year, JES delivered the program to 385 participants through 42 sessions.

**90%** of surveyed users said...

- ✔ It helped me understand the impact on the children

### Online PAS

This year, the Ministry of Justice introduced PAS Choice. This enables separating parents who live in the 17 most populated BC communities to either attend in-person workshops or take the JES Online PAS course. Over 4000 participants chose to take Online PAS – a record number. An updated version of the course is in development now and will be launched in the second half of next year.

### PAS Finances

We continued to deliver our in-person PAS Finances workshops as well as the PAS Finances online course. In the new fiscal year, JES will examine how PAS Finances can be delivered to reach more participants.

## NORTHERN NATIVE PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION (NNPLE)

The NNPLE continues to provide culturally-sensitive public legal education outreach programs to communities throughout Northern BC. During the year, JES delivered the program to over 1200 participants — BC youth, Indigenous Peoples, Band members, Elders, teachers, and youth support workers. The NNPLE covers the northern two-thirds of BC from 100 Mile House to the Yukon border and from the Haida Gwaii to the Alberta border.

## MAPPING HER PATH

2017/18 was the final year of Mapping Her Path. We continued to raise awareness of sexual harassment, educating students and supporting early career lawyers, developing mentoring resources and initiating discussion around alternative business models. In partnership with UBC and UVic, delivered eight workshops to law students preparing them for their legal careers. We launched a new website to showcase all the resources (guidebooks, videos and e-newsletters) created to help the retention and advancement of women in the legal profession. We are grateful to the lawyers and legal professionals who contributed their time and energy to making this project a success.

## COURT INFORMATION PROGRAM FOR IMMIGRANTS (CIPI)

Staff and volunteers helped more than 2500 new immigrants at courthouses in Vancouver and Surrey understand and gain confidence in Canada’s justice system, and prepare for court. Front-line services have been provided in Mandarin, Cantonese, Punjabi, Hindi, Spanish, French and Farsi.



CIPI Workshop on Family Law & Domestic Violence for South Asian Women



# Our Digital Program

### ASK JES

The Ask JES Legal Help Service provided on-demand answers to over 6000 public inquiries this year. In March, Ask JES introduced the ability for British Columbians to get answers to their legal questions by text message. Ask JES is available on six websites. In 2019 it will be introduced on the Ministry of Justice’s new court forms.

### LEGAL HELP WEB RESOURCES

This year, over 850,000 British Columbians visited JES created websites to learn more about the law and their legal issues. Top sites included JusticeEducation.ca, FamiliesChange.ca, ProvincialCourt.bc.ca, SupremeCourtBC.ca and SmallClaimsBC.ca. We also began a process to have all JES web resources comply with the new BC PLEI publishing standards.



over  
**850,000**

British Columbians visited a website produced by JES

## FAMILIES CHANGE NORTH

This year, with funding from the Department of Justice Canada, JES will produce FamiliesChange.ca content for each of Canada's Northern Territories. FamiliesChange.ca will become a truly national resource for separating families. Content, available in English and French, will be regionalized to provide correct legal information and to direct users to relevant services available in their community. Site imaging will be modified to reflect the diverse peoples of Canada's North.

FamiliesChange.ca



## PROVINCIAL COURT JUDICIAL APPLICATIONS

JES produced customized software for the BC Provincial Court to accept applications for appointments to the court. Lawyers can apply online, and from there, court staff and the Judicial Council move applications through the hiring process.

## ONLINE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### Legal Aid, Orange County California

The Legal Aid Society of Orange County (LASOC) contracted JES to produce a customized online dispute resolution platform for their small claims court, based on the platform JES produced for SmallClaimsBC.ca. It is live on Legal-Aid.com.

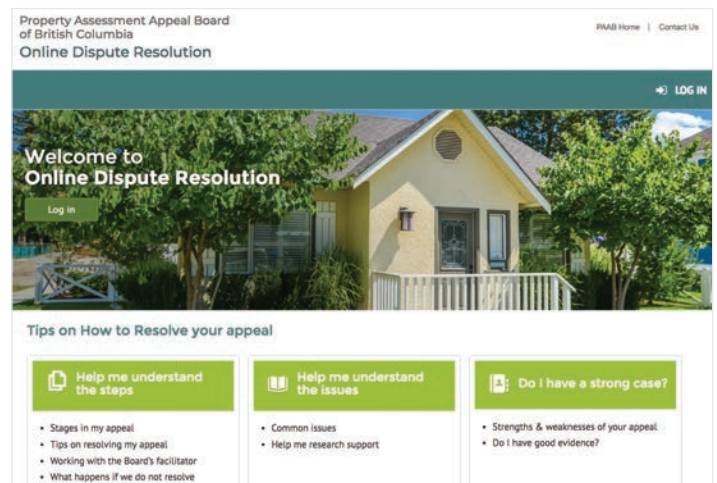
### BC Property Assessment Appeal Board

JES was contracted by the Property Assessment Appeal Board of British Columbia (PAAB) to produce their online dispute resolution platform (ODR) for 2018. PAAB approached JES with detailed application specifications and within 4 months, JES produced the customized ODR platform. Feedback has been extremely positive, PAAB has used the tool to resolve most disputes online, without escalation.

### BC Civil Disputes

In 2013, JES launched Canada's first online dispute resolution (ODR) platform for court. Located on SmallClaimsBC.ca, the application helps users to settle disputes without filing a court claim. The JES ODR platform helped inform development of the Solution Explorer used by the Civil Resolution Tribunal. JES is now working on the development of an improved ODR platform that will be able to support certain matters for Small Claims courts, as well as the BC Supreme Court.

Property Assessment Appeal Board of British Columbia ODR



*Panama Country Representative Carlos Moran with Executive Director Sonia Poulin at an event organised by the Canadian Embassy in Panama.*



## Our International Program

JES International Program continued to grow this year, with five active projects and one project starting shortly, in Central America and the Caribbean. These programs build on our experience working in these areas and our high reputation in partner countries, and expand our work to support access to justice for vulnerable groups and victims of violence, particularly women, indigenous people and the LGBTI community in Central America.

### STRENGTHENING CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS AND EVIDENCE SHARING IN CENTRAL AMERICA - GAC

In the last quarter of 2017, JES closed out one Anti-crime Capacity Building Program (ACCBP) funded project for the Northern Triangle (Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador) and moved swiftly into a new project for the region. This project will run for three years and build on the excellent relationships and results JES has developed with the key judicial institutions in all three countries. The project has a strong focus on capacity building for Criminal Intelligence Analysis, a crucial skill for combating complex international crime and violent gangs that plague local communities and hinder economic

and social growth. The project also builds on the successful protection program training for justice personnel (many police, prosecutors and judges face violent personal threats from their work) developed in the previous project. JES will now bring similar programs to Guatemala and Honduras. The project supports collaboration on regional initiatives to tackle transnational threats in Central America. The new Attorney General in Guatemala, María Consuelo Porrás met with JES staff and was excited for the project's potential to support collaboration against organised crime in the region.



Participant in Major Case Management course presents to the group in Panama City.



## STRENGTHENING ANTI-CRIME CAPACITY IN PANAMA - GAC

Panama is the last country in the region to switch from an inquisitorial to an adversarial justice system. JES works in Panama in this context to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice institutions to investigate and prosecute complex and organized crime.

Our training programs take advantage of the experience and knowledge of our trainees, which fosters collaboration and local ownership, strengthened by the experience provided by the Canadian experts. Both the Head of the Investigative Police in David, Major Teruo Alvia and the Chief Prosecutor of the Homicide Prosecutor's Office in David, Hernan Mora, have proposed that this methodology be extended to the Autonomous University of Chiriqui (UNACHI).

“ The Deputy Lieutenant of the Investigative Police, José Fuentes, with more than 20 years of police experience, said of a recent JES training that it was the first time in his police career that he had received a training of such quality that the acquired knowledge could be put into practice immediately.

Swedish Ambassador Kompass, Attorney General of Guatemala Dr. Porras and the Executive Director of JES Ms. Poulin signing an Memorandum of Understanding for the next phase of the GIJS project.



## GUATEMALA INSTITUTIONAL JUSTICE STRENGTHENING - SIDA

JES conducted an institution-wide diagnostic of the Attorney General's Office in Guatemala on behalf of the Swedish International Development Agency and in August 2018 signed a four-year agreement to implement the project, with a value of approximately USD \$9 million. The Guatemalan Institutional Justice Strengthening (GIJS) project will focus on four principal impact areas: Performance optimization in criminal case management; improved vulnerable victim services; better Indigenous and remote access; and capacity building within the Human Rights and Environmental Crimes offices, with women's empowerment an important cross-cutting theme. GIJS is JES's largest project to date, reflecting the strength of JES's reputation in Guatemala.



Participants work together in Criminal Intelligence Analysis Training, Panama City

Our

# International Program

## BUILDING A TECHNOLOGICAL PLATFORM TO SUPPORT VICTIM SERVICES IN GUATEMALA - GAC

This new project will increase the responsiveness of public institutions to the diverse needs and rights of victims of crime in Guatemala, especially women, Indigenous peoples, and vulnerable populations, through the use of technology. Working with the Government of Guatemala and civil society organizations, the project will create an integrated, innovative approach to victim services that will improve service coordination, access to services, and allow for the national collection of standardized information needed to assess the quality and extent of support received by victims across Guatemala. JES will share our extensive expertise and technological solutions with Guatemalan partners and stakeholders. The tools and mechanism thus developed will put knowledge and information in the hands of citizens more equipped to hold their governments to account, and enable governments and civil society actors to reach victims of crime more quickly, widely, and efficiently.

During its initial phase of implementation (2018), the project has focused on refining context-appropriate plans and building relationships with local partners and stakeholders. As evidence of early efforts, the project team presented the project to the recently appointed Attorney General of Guatemala. Her overwhelmingly enthusiastic response to the project and its objectives has cemented the full support of the Government's highest justice sector official and will surely drive project objectives towards achieving greater support for victims of crime.

## REDUCING IMPUNITY FOR CRIMES OF SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN HONDURAS - GAC

Violence against women, children and LGBTBI people is endemic in Honduras (as in most of Central America) and continues to increase, fed by a cultural, political and religious context in which such behavior is normalized and results in near-total impunity for aggressors. This project, for which final approval is expected shortly, will work holistically with police, prosecutors, judges and civil society to build the capacity of the criminal justice system to respond to sexual and gender based violence from first complaint to trial and sentencing, building practical skills, reducing impunity and re-victimization by the system, and increasing the transparency of the criminal justice system. The project will combine JES's experience and reputation for working within the justice system with its commitment to improving gender equality and protecting vulnerable groups.

## STRENGTHENING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN GUYANA - INL

Funding from the U.S. Department of State allowed JES to build on a successful Canadian funded justice reform project in Guyana, to increase capacity of police, prosecutors, and magistrates in crime scene analysis and processing, investigation, case preparation, legal knowledge, and trial management.

JES supported forensic video analysis units within the police and the Guyana Forensic Science Laboratory. As a result, the evidential value and integrity of video evidence has been enhanced.

Forensic video analysts have extracted over 280 videos from crime scenes and there have been four indictments and eight convictions in cases with video evidence at the Magistrates Court. Another highlight for this past year includes the completion of a state-of-the-art property room at the Criminal Investigation Division in Georgetown.

Public engagement is critical for effective functioning of a criminal justice system. Public Service Announcements developed by JES have had more than 30,000 views on the Guyana Police Force Facebook page, reaching members of the public with important messaging on their role in the justice system.



*GPF Forensic Video Analysts compares images from a crime scene*

“ [A]s a result of the training, to which they (police) were exposed, they have been able to garner new skills and put those skills into practice, especially in the area of video recording – that has been a major breakthrough for the police and solving crimes and in putting the perpetrators before the court.

- Acting Chancellor of the Judiciary, Guyana,  
Justice Cummings-Edwards

*JES expert Jon Forsythe-Erman in the new property room with Sergeant Marcurius*



# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended March 31

	2018 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Grants earned	2,602,608
Donations	101,671
Gaming	90,000
Fees for service	55,842
Interest and other	1,934
	<b>2,852,055</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Salaries and benefits	1,876,330
Contractors	380,037
Travel and accommodation	374,619
Office and other	144,532
Program materials	111,224
Training and development	62,716
Rent	50,053
Advertising	37,010
Equipment purchased for projects	35,285
Professional	29,203
Insurance	11,532
Workshops	11,358
Amortization	10,315
	<b>3,134,214</b>
Excess of revenue (expenses) for the year	<b>(282,159)</b>



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