



ANNUAL REPORT
RAPPORT ANNUEL
2019-2020

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*Move Beyond Bars. Create Second Chances.
Voir au-delà des barreaux : Donner une deuxième chance.*

St. Leonard's Société St-Léonard *Society of Canada du Canada*

St. Leonard's Society of Canada is a membership-based, charitable organization dedicated to community safety.

La Société St-Léonard du Canada est un organisme de bienfaisance constitué de membres et voué à la sécurité de la collectivité.

MISSION

The mission of SLSC is to promote a humane and informed justice policy and responsible leadership to foster safe communities. It:

- i) endorses evidence-based approaches to criminal and social justice;*
- ii) conducts research and develops policy;*
- iii) supports its member affiliates; and*
- iv) advances collaborative relationships and communication among individuals and organizations dedicated to social justice.*

La mission de la SSLC est de promouvoir la formulation de politiques éclairées et compatissantes en matière de justice et un leadership responsable qui contribueront à des collectivités plus sûres. La Société:

- i) endosse les approches de justice pénale et sociale reposant sur des données concluantes;*
- ii) œuvre dans les domaines de la recherche et de l'élaboration des politiques;*
- iii) offre un soutien à ses membres affiliés;*
- iv) s'applique à créer des liens de collaboration et de communication entre les personnes et les organismes voués à la justice sociale.*

VISION

SLSC strives to be a leading learning organization, respected by peers and the community at large for researching and promoting "what works" in community corrections and other areas of social justice.

La SSLC aspire à être une organisation chef de file en matière d'apprentissage, une organisation qui soit respectée par ses pairs et la population dans son ensemble pour ses activités de recherche et de promotion des approches efficaces dans le domaine des services correctionnels communautaires et d'autres secteurs de la justice sociale.

VALUES | VALEURS

Social Responsibility

We believe in acting ethically and effectively to address the needs of the community and its members as we pursue our vision. We will promote socially responsible conduct throughout the justice system.

Integrity

We believe in acting with consistency, honesty, fairness and respect. We are accountable and our operations will be transparent and evaluated.

Vision

We believe in the power of vision to inspire, encourage learning and creativity in realizing our mission. As leaders, we believe our vision will be a rallying call for others to join our quest for safe communities. We will work closely with our members, volunteers and partners to effect system-wide change.

Commitment

We believe that action must be sustained by determined and enthusiastic dedication in order to achieve positive social change. Long-term commitment and an appreciation of our history are integral to our progress.

Human Worth

We believe in the inherent worth and potential of all individuals.

Responsabilité sociale

Nous croyons qu'il nous faut chercher à réaliser notre vision tout en respectant les principes de l'éthique et en agissant de manière efficace pour répondre aux besoins de la collectivité et de ceux et celles qui la composent. Nous militerons en faveur de comportements socialement responsables dans le système de justice tout entier.

Intégrité

Nous croyons qu'il nous faut faire preuve de cohérence, d'honnêteté, d'équité et de respect. Nous sommes imputables et nos opérations seront transparentes et assujetties à une évaluation.

Vision

Nous croyons en la force qui découle d'une vision qui soit source d'inspiration, qui incite à l'apprentissage et à la créativité dans les moyens de réaliser notre mission. En tant que chefs de file, nous croyons que notre vision incitera d'autres gens à se joindre à nous en vue d'assurer la sécurité des collectivités. Nous collaborerons de près avec nos membres, nos bénévoles et nos partenaires en vue de contribuer au changement dans l'ensemble du système.

Engagement

Nous croyons que pour provoquer des changements sociaux positifs, l'action doit s'appuyer sur une détermination et un enthousiasme à toute épreuve. L'engagement à long terme et une appréciation de notre histoire font partie intégrante de notre avancement.

Dignité humaine

Nous croyons en la valeur et au potentiel intrinsèques de toute personne.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear members,

I hope this report finds you safe, in the comfort a loving home and settled into the new COVID-19 reality. I am writing from my home in Newfoundland and Labrador, and wishing we were all together in Ottawa for our AGM as we had originally planned.

Our year began with meetings in beautiful North Vancouver. We gathered as a Society to celebrate the 40th anniversary of St. Leonard's Society of North Vancouver. We were treated to a wonderful time during our stay on the West Coast—Mike Horne's band playing, Stu's cooking, Merrikay's Luxton Award and honouring John Braithwaite with the Braithwaite Award. This proved timely, as Mr. Braithwaite received this honour shortly before his passing. We were also pleased to honour the recipients of SLSC's other awards: Alan Steele (Libby) and Lisa Bayne (Gallagher), as well as earlier in the year presenting the Cody Award to joint recipients, the Gibson and Lansdale Neighbourhood Association and the Stinson Community Association.

I was honoured to be elected President during our Incoming Board meeting. I thank Monica Ross, Past President, for her support and guidance during my first year. The Society is well served by a committed and talented Board of Directors. Thank you to Anne, Becky, Christopher, Darrell, Erneida, Jim, Kelly, Merris, and Monica for your generous donations of time and talent. I thank you for contributing to our monthly Zoom Board meetings, taking the time to travel for our in-person meetings, and for the excellent work you do on our Committees.

Our Society is a diverse network of affiliates, who together serve communities with a wide range of social justice services in health, addictions, and justice involved youth and adults within the community corrections field. We are bonded in a shared belief in the core values of SLSC: social responsibility, integrity, vision, commitment, and human worth.

Our Network welcomed back St. Leonard's Community Services London and Region as an Affiliate member. We are excited to engage past members and strengthen our Network. This past year saw the retiring of John Clinton after 39 years as Executive Director of The St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton. John will be missed at our gatherings and we wish him a happy retirement with Maggie. Finally, we also grieved the loss of St. Leonard's Home Trenton's team member, Chris Little, who will be missed greatly.

Our Society is expertly guided by our Executive Director, Anita Desai. We are grateful for Anita's talents and leadership, for her love of research and policy, and her ability to bring people together. To the dedicated and committed team—Anita, Danielle, and David—thank you. We thank you for advancing the mission, vision, and values of SLSC, for your creative fundraisers and the engagement of our members. Your response to COVID-19 was fast and effective, thank you.

Our Society is a network of affiliate members and individuals who envision a better Canada, for all Canadians. Congratulations on a year of growth. We look forward to our next year—and a vaccine!

The very best,

Catherine Ann Kelly
President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In most annual reports, it becomes habitual to talk about how a year started rather than how it ended; however, given that “unprecedented” is the word most frequently used to describe the onset of 2020, I will stay on theme and change course for this year. Doing so gives me the chance to end this year’s report on a particularly high note, since SLSC really did have a fantastic year.

SLSC was able to end the year with a ‘final hurrah’, just before the global pandemic of COVID-19 set in and changed our country, our lives, and our concerns for criminal and social justice in a manner which none of us could have predicted. In March 2020, members of the SLSC network came together in Ottawa to celebrate and honour our friend and colleague, John Clinton. After 39 years, John retired as Executive Director of The St.

Leonard’s Society of Hamilton (SLSH) having created a legacy in his community—one that will now have a lasting impression with the newly renamed Clinton House. Joined by friends and long-time St. Leonard’s colleagues, SLSC presented John with the Braithwaite Award for his outstanding achievements, mentorship, and dedication that have both inspired and challenged the Society. By the end of March, we knew just how fortunate we were to have been able to convene this opportunity as the landscape shifted across our country at the onset of a global pandemic.

We ended the year as many other workplaces did, by prioritizing the health and well being of our team and our community through moving to remote operations. We recognize there will be many who do not have that option and will have to rise in the face of imminent challenges to meet the unique needs their community – including the dedicated staff of SLSC affiliates. Those who have served time in Canada’s Federal institutions understand better than most how to manage having their movements and liberties restricted. I am confident that many of the clients who reside in Community-based Residential Facilities will assist the staff and their peers to weather the sea change in their respective communities.

While our team is missing being away from our ‘home’ in the Bronson Centre, we have remained engaged with each other virtually and moved quickly to generate a plan to keep our priorities on track. I am incredibly grateful to Director of Operations, David Whiteley, especially for his exceptional foresight last year to establish remote access for SLSC’s database “in case we needed it”, and for his important contributions to SLSC throughout the year. Danielle Kouri, SLSC’s Research and Policy Assistant, deserves an immense amount of recognition. Danielle puts on many ‘hats’ throughout the year to step up and make sure that no matter what SLSC takes on—board meetings, AGM, research projects—they are done with absolute efficiency, and whenever possible, a little panache. I would like to sincerely thank these two amazing people for going above and beyond throughout the year (let’s not forget the Holiday Campaign fundraiser...) to ensure that SLSC’s activities and operations are a success.

SLSC also benefitted from the support provided throughout the year from summer student Fayth Star, uOttawa Master’s placement student Amanda Sararas, and uOttawa pro bono law students Janelle Douthwright and Diane Hwang. We could not have achieved so much of what we did in the past year without their efforts—including drafting this year’s policies on the effects of long-term incarceration, the impact of criminal records, and a legal brief on the incarceration of aging/elderly people.

SLSC’s general operations are going strong thanks to the amazing support of its Executive Committee Chaired by President, Catherine Ann Kelly, and supported by Past President Monica Ross, Treasurer Darrell Rowe, and



Secretary Anne Murphy. I am grateful to each of them for their guidance and special care for SLSC. I continue to be inspired by and grateful for SLSC's Board of Directors who are a group of dedicated volunteers that are always ready to 'show up' for our organization. The level of engagement from each of them throughout the year is truly remarkable, whether to support committees, plan for meetings, and take time away from their homes and loved ones to further the mission of SLSC. They are a wonderful group of individuals and we always seem to find great ways to enjoy our time together—whether from our respective computer screens or in person.

The highlight of our in-person meetings this past year was without a doubt our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in beautiful North Vancouver, BC. With the cooperation of the exceptional weather, it was an absolute treat to come together as a network and celebrate St. Leonard's Society of North Vancouver's 40th Anniversary, in conjunction with a very successful AGM. The 2019 AGM focused on board training, giving an opportunity to strengthen elements of SLSC's governance structure. The facilitated discussions among members for our policy workshop, as always, gave us a solid workplan for the year. The Policy Committee was able to pass four new/updated SLSC policies this past June: *Right to Housing*; *Peer Mentoring*; *Research Ethics*; and *Capital Punishment* and have four more on the roster for next year's AGM.

SLSC's long-time funding partner Public Safety Canada has continued to support our organization through a Policy Development Contribution Program (PDCP) grant to inform a national strategy for life-sentenced people in Canada, as well as through its Grants Program to National Voluntary Organizations. Their support has been critical to SLSC's efforts toward achieving our membership goals and fulfilling our mission, while completing projects which advance both.

This year's opportunity to undertake another PDCP project, *Life(r)'s Work: Supporting a Modernized Strategy for Life Sentenced People in Canada*, built on last year's project which produced a revised Lifer Resource Strategy (LRS) to support our goal of seeing a renewed investment in peer 'in-reach' for lifers. This year, SLSC collaborated with Catherine Brooke, Tracey Cortes, and Michel Gagnon, Executive Directors of St. Leonard's House Windsor, House of Hope, and Maison Cross Roads, respectively, to produce a training curriculum informed by the revised LRS. The final product is one we are all incredibly proud of and will be available in both Official Languages (with translation being done by former In-Reach Worker and LRS co-author, Michel Dunn) by Summer 2020. I am incredibly excited by the prospects that these two new resources create, and look forward to continuing efforts with partners at Public Safety and Correctional Service of Canada to see them implemented at Federal institutions.

As we wind down 2019-20 and look to the unknowns of the upcoming year, many of us at SLSC will reflect on memories and draw strength from our time together as a network – the pride in the resources we have pulled together for life-sentenced people in Canada; the joy of watching Mike Horne, ED of St. Leonard's North Vancouver and his bandmates entertain the crowd at SLSNV's 40th anniversary; the quality time with our colleagues from across Canada to discuss and debate SLSC's approach to important issues related to criminal and social justice; and of course, the quality time together to just enjoy each other's company and friendship over group meals and social events. Bringing together our network is a reminder that we are not alone in our passion and our work. As we face new measures like "self-isolation" and "physical distancing", I'll take my appreciation of that with me into the challenging year ahead, and hope others will as well.

Anita Desai
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

Centomo, Merris
Cutler, Christopher
de Guzman, Erneida
Howse, Rebecca
Kelly, Catherine Ann

Murphy, Anne
Murphy, Jim
Nolan, Kelly
Ross, Monica
Rowe, Darrell

MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT

We would like to thank the many individuals and organizations whose generous support over the past year as members or donors helped us to carry out our mission and goals.

Allan, Cindy
Arbeau, Jamie
Belanger, Bernard
Benard, Holly
Blakely, Lorraine
Blakely, Randy
Braithwaite, Lorraine
Brooke, Catherine
Carter, Warren
Castro, Jake
Centomo, Merris
Chou, Norma
Clinton, John
Cowie, Leslie
Cutler, Christopher
Dauns, Paulah
de Guzman, Erneida
Desai, Anita
Diggon, Stuart
Gagnon, Michel
Gall, Don
Gardner, Erin
Grealis, Siobhan

Gurian, Bernard
Haines, Susan
Harris, David
Horne, Michael
House of Hope
Howse, Rebecca
Huxley, Christopher
Innocente, Jennifer
Jackson, Natasha
Jesseman, Rebecca
Kelly, Catherine
Kouri, Danielle
Le Roch, Nathalie
Madon, Perviz
Maison Cross Roads
Marconato, Vince
Mezon, Darcie
Murphy, Anne
Murphy, Jim
Muskiluke, Aloise
Nolan, Kelly
Rogers, Glenn
Ross, Monica

ADHÉSION ET SOUTIEN

Nous désirons remercier les nombreux organismes et individus dont l'aide généreuse offerte l'année dernière comme membre ou donateur nous a permis de poursuivre notre mission et la réalisation de nos objectifs.

Rowe, Darrell
Rushlow, Shawn
Rushton, Ronald & Deborah
Shahrokh, Rezanah
Shoniker, Lynn
Snelgrove, Chris
Snelgrove, Merrikay
Speck, Wayne
St. Leonard's Home Trenton
St. Leonard's Society of North
Vancouver
St. Leonard's Society of
Peterborough
St. Leonard's Society of Sudbury
Stein, Nancy
Tamburri, Sarah
Teal, Brenda
Veresh, Tim
Weese, Carolyn
White, Elizabeth
Wong, Adeline
Yurkovic, Karen

Funding for SLSC is gratefully acknowledged from Public Safety Canada and Employment and Social Development Canada.

Merci à Sécurité publique Canada et Emploi et Développement social Canada pour subventionner les activités de la SSLC.

DID YOU KNOW...?

- *St. Leonard's affiliates cumulatively offer over 20 different kinds of services and programs (e.g. employment programs, peer mentoring support programs, interpersonal/life skills, trauma-informed care, social reintegration programs)*
- *In addition to community-based CSC programs for federally sentenced men, various St. Leonard's affiliates also provide services for youth, women, and families of sentenced individuals*
- *SLSC affiliate agencies operate 15 Community-based Residential Facilities and 4 out of 9 Affiliates operate second-stage housing facilities*

SAVIEZ-VOUS QUE...?

- *Les organismes affiliés à la SSLC offrent plus que 20 services divers (p.-e. emploi, mentorat par les pairs, aptitudes interpersonnelles et préparation à la vie active, soins tenant compte des traumatismes, réinsertion sociale)*
- *Au-delà des programmes pour les délinquants de sexe masculin sous responsabilité fédérale, divers organismes affiliés à la SSLC offrent également des services pour les jeunes, les femmes et les familles des délinquants*
- *Les organismes affiliés à la SSLC gèrent 15 CRCs et 4 parmi les 9 organismes affiliés gèrent des maisons d'hébergement de deuxième étape*

*St. Leonard's Society
of Canada*  *Société St-Léonard
du Canada*
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2019–2020

Staff and Placement Students | Équipe et stagiaires

Anita Desai

Janelle Douthwright

Danielle Kouri

Diane Hwang

Amanda Sararas

Fayth Star

David Whiteley

Affiliate Members | Organismes Affiliés

House of Hope (Ottawa)

Maison Cross Roads (Montréal)

St. Leonard's Community Services

London & Region

St. Leonard's Home Trenton

St. Leonard's House Windsor

St. Leonard's Society of North

Vancouver

St. Leonard's Society of Peterborough

St. Leonard's Society of Sudbury

The St. Leonard's Society of Hamilton

*SLSC welcomes the return of St. Leonard's Community Services
London & Region as an affiliate in October 2019.*

*Audited Financial Statements available on request
États financiers vérifiés disponibles sur demande*

*registered charitable organization – organisme de bienfaisance reconnu
#12894 6829 RR0001*