The past year at the Justice Education Society of BC has been one of growth and change.

We focused on streamlining services and reassessing our structure to ensure the work we do for British Columbians continues to be effective and accessible. Each of the JES departments has become stronger and more specialized than ever before, displaying our commitment to using our resources and expertise in the most efficient ways possible.

Our BC Program department saw an impressive revitalization of programs and resources. Our Justice System Education Program hosted over 20,000 students. We welcomed a new three year program funded by the Status of Women Canada called Mapping Her Path, which was created to learn about, collaborate on and pilot initiatives that promote economic prosperity for female lawyers in BC.

The approach to curriculum content within BC schools has undergone a substantial change in recent months, and JES has welcomed the opportunity to provide its inputs to the Ministry of Education, particularly with respect to developing a legal capability framework for law-related education. With generous funding from the Law Foundation, we will be increasing our activities in this area in the coming year, for both the overall curriculum changes and improvements to our own resources to reflect these changes.

The Champions Campaign started in early 2016. This is an exciting fundraising campaign in which multiple Vancouver law firms have committed to providing three years of funding to the Society. With their generous support, we are able to continue providing experiential learning for residents throughout the province.

One major change in the JES structure is the creation of our Digital Program department. This distinction complements the work of the BC Program and International Program, while allowing us to expand the scope of our digital resources across North America. The JES website was completely updated to be more issue-focused and easier to navigate. We welcomed our new “JES” virtual assistant, who guides online users throughout their visit on our JusticeEducation.ca website.

The International Program began an impressive new project called “Combatting Gangs and Criminality in Central America,” in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. The JES team is partnering with government and community organizations to provide crucial technical training to prosecutors and analysts. In August, another new project began in Guyana, working to strengthen the Guyanese criminal justice system.

This year we have had a number of staff changes. We were sad to say goodbye to Kelowna JSEP Coordinator Bonny Lalach. Evelyn Neaman changed her position from International Program Manager to focus on our Guyana and Guatemala projects. A new BC Program Manager, Glenn Dodge, was hired in the fall and brings an impressive background of law and program management both domestically and abroad. We also hired a new International Program manager, Bridget Petherbridge, who brings over 20 years of experience in the criminal justice system.

We could not have done work of this caliber without the skillful dedication and hard work of our Executive Director, management and staff, Board of Directors, and our generous funders, donors, and volunteers. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in bringing JES another year of success and improving access to justice for people across the globe.

Mr. Justice Peter Voith, President of the Board
JES continued its strong tradition of delivering quality programming in British Columbia while developing new and exciting projects that promise to add to the Society’s contributions to BC in the years to come.

The Society recruited and hired a new Director, Glenn Dodge, whose sole focus will be on maintaining and developing the programs underway in the province. Glenn’s background in both Law and Project Management domestically and abroad will be a valuable addition to the BC Program.

**The Justice System Education Program (JSEP)**, also known as the Schools program, has been the cornerstone of JES since its inception in 1989 and continued to perform well in its five locations attended by a Coordinator onsite, including Kelowna, Surrey, Victoria and two Vancouver sites at 222 Main Street and the Law Courts downtown, as well as a number of additional sites served by our Court Education Network. The program welcomed Gail Douglas, our new coordinator in Kelowna.

In an effort to expand the coverage offered by the Schools program despite challenges with funding, JES has embarked on a new venture called the **Volunteer Model** which is funded through an individual donor. A comprehensive structure for this model has been developed and pilots are now implemented in Surrey, with eventual expansion to our other sites and new locations as well.

With the changes currently being undertaken in the provincial curriculum toward a more skills-based model, JES finds itself in a prime position to assist in this development, as its Schools program has promoted experiential learning from the beginning. The Society is also taking this opportunity to review and improve its own resources and service delivery, with the goal of improving the legal capability of those attending its sessions.

**The Northern Native Public Legal Education program**, based in Prince George, welcomed a new Coordinator, Laurel Collins, who revived the program offerings, including the important CourtLinks offering that seeks to provide indigenous youth with exposure to the justice system while making connections with restorative justice and other programs of the indigenous communities. In addition,
Laurel has taken on the responsibility for the Communities Against Sexually Exploited Youth (CASEY) program in the area, developing and hosting a very successful conference of professionals in March. The Court Information Program for Immigrants (CIPI) also experienced a renewal this year with the hiring of Donald Vega and Bernice Ma for the courthouse at 222 Main Street. With its focus on providing information on the justice system to immigrants to make the process more understandable and less intimidating, CIPI has now expanded its language capabilities to include French, Spanish, Hindi, Punjabi, Mandarin and Cantonese.

A new initiative, Mapping Her Path, began in 2015. Examining and seeking to address the reasons why more female lawyers leave private practice than men, the three-year project commenced with a review of how this issue has been dealt with in other jurisdictions as well as a substantial survey of nearly 400 women lawyers in British Columbia. The responses from these women guided the development of a series of pilots that will provide a focus on certain elements of the problem over the remaining two years of the project.

Our Parenting After Separation programs, both in-person and online, as well as courses offered specifically on issues related to finances, continued to meet the demand for such topics in British Columbia, with services offered in a number of Lower Mainland sites and Victoria.

Finally, this year saw the start of the Champions Campaign, which is an exciting new fundraising campaign focused on garnering the support of Vancouver law firms. These new relationships will complement the generous support provided already by the Vancouver and Victoria Bar Associations and BC Crown Counsel Association, as well as the highly successful “Send a Kid to Court” campaign.
Over the past year, the JES Digital Programs has improved legal capability and expanded access to justice by applying digital technologies to provide legal help. In the summer of 2015, JES formally created the Digital Program. This new division supports the work of the JES BC Program and the JES International program, while producing legal information digital resources for agencies across North America.

**Legal Help Services**

JES now provides information on everyday legal issues such as working, driving, housing, family and more. Our Virtual Assistant guides users to the information they need.

Weekdays between 11am and 2pm, users can click Ask JES to chat live or they can call our toll free phone number (1-855- 875-8867). During offline hours, questions are answered by email. JES Legal Help Services provides a new level of assistance on a broad range of everyday legal issues.

**Ask JES**

JES answers legal questions
Weekdays from 11:00am to 2:00pm
Toll Free: 1-855-875-8867
Chat live at www.JusticeEducation.ca

**How to Separate**

This new online course provides a step-by-step guide to separation and divorce in BC. It includes videos, text, and worksheets that guide users through the process and it includes access to a range of BC family law resources and services. The course will be launched in July, with content divided into two sections: Part 1 - Working it Out; Part 2 - Going to Court.
JES has been working with provincial agencies across Canada to introduce FamiliesChange.ca as a new national web resource. For the first time, kids, teens and parents in every province will have access to a series of age-appropriate information about separation and divorce, in both English and French. The national site will launch in the fall of 2016.

Ohio

JES was contracted to produce a municipal court website for Garfield Heights Municipal Court. The site is now live at www.GHMC.org. It features a range of helpful information on matters relating to crime, family, driving and lawsuits. Plus, the site includes a Virtual Assistant to help guide users to the content they need, as well as a series of new legal help videos.

California

The JES Digital Program continue to work on projects for California Courts. With FamiliesChange.ca.gov already live, we are now at work on developing English and Spanish versions of our Parenting After Separation: Finances course. In addition, next year we will be producing a series of new resources for self-representing litigants.

JES developed resources for every Canadian province, as well as California, Ohio, Connecticut, Vermont and Maine. This year, in British Columbia, JES digital resources provided legal help and information for almost 700,000 people.
In Honduras, considerable support is delivered to the newly formed Technical Criminal Investigation Agency (ATIC in Spanish) tasked with tackling the most complex and high profile crimes.

Support provided to ATIC has included training in: Crime Scene Examination; Major Case Management and Investigation; Data Management and Tactical Analysis for Criminal Intelligence Analysts; Extraction and Analysis of Forensic Video and Surveillance techniques.

The project has also supported ATIC with equipment to support units in criminal intelligence analysis, surveillance and video forensic analysis.

**Honduras**

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**Guatemala**

In Guatemala JES has continued to work with the Ministerio Publico and the National Police providing training in Major Case Management and Investigation and Strategic Criminal Intelligence Analysis.

JES has also continued its work with the Judiciary in supporting the roll out of a Justice of the Peace program across the country, a crucial factor in decongesting the courts to allow prompt processing of more serious crime. Equipment to support criminal intelligence analysis and forensic video units has also been donated in Guatemala.

**El Salvador**

In El Salvador, in the face of a deeply concerning increase in violence against members of the Criminal Justice System, JES has partnered with an expert in security and protection to deliver a Prosecutors Protection Program. This has included a detailed survey of the situation in El Salvador with custom-designed training and advice for prosecutors to help them to stay safe. JES is also supporting the Criminal Intelligence Analysis and Cybercrime units in El Salvador with both training and equipment.

The work of this and previous JES projects in the “Northern Triangle” has continued since July 2015 in a new project “Combatting Gangs and Criminality in Central America”, funded by the Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program within the newly named Department of Global Affairs Canada. This $2.1 million project focuses on particular areas for development in each of the three countries.
The project also continues JES’ program of regional seminars. Two seminars will bring together members of the Criminal Intelligence Analysis Units from the three Northern Triangle countries, first to produce strategic plans for management and development and then to promote networking and knowledge sharing within and outside of the region. The project will conclude in June 2017.

In addition to continuing its work in the Northern Triangle, JES also began ACCBP funded projects this year in two new countries of operation, Panama and Guyana.

In Panama, JES is partnering for the first time with the Public Prosecutor’s Office, Police, Judiciary and Forensic Science and Medicine Institute to deliver a project supporting the transition in the country from an inquisitorial to adversarial justice system. The $997,000 project “Strengthening Anti-Crime Capacity in Panama” began in October 2015 and will complete in 2017. The project will begin by training trainers in the provincial centre of David where gang problems are beginning to threaten the stability of Panamanian society and where the transition took place from 2nd September 2015. Having trained personnel in David and the surrounding areas, the project will move to Panama City which is scheduled to transfer to the new system in September 2016. JES will also provide training and equipment in the crucial technique of Forensic Video Analysis.

The project will conclude in June 2017.

In August 2015, JES began the implementation of its second new project “Strengthening the Guyanese Criminal Justice System”. The $750,000 project will develop the capacity of the police, prosecutors and magistrates to identify, collect and work with evidence. The course has worked with Police, Prosecutors and Judges in the capital, Georgetown, training course participants in Major Case Management, Crime Scene Investigation, Oral Trials and Forensic Video Analysis. The project also works with magistrates to improve trial management and reduce backlogs in the court system. The project will be completed in May 2017.

JES International once again extends its thanks to the staff, volunteers and experts who make this work possible as well as to our funder, Global Affairs Canada, for its continued support for justice in the Americas.

La Linea - Dramatic Results

JES’ ongoing work in supporting the criminal justice system in Guatemala produced dramatic results in August 2015. An intercepted telephone conversation was introduced during a court hearing which implicated the President of Guatemala, Otto Perez Molina. This was a huge customs conspiracy known as “La Linea”. It is alleged that high ranking officials in the tax and customs authorities had conspired with the Vice President and President, amongst others, to divert over 40% of the entire country’s customs revenues. “La Linea” or “telephone line” referred to the number any importer could call to arrange, at a price, illegitimately reduced customs duties.

Perez Molina resigned and was then arrested in early September. JES is proud to have supported the Guatemalan justice system in providing training and equipment to develop capacity in wiretap, the key to a case which strikes a significant blow against blatant corruption.
Thank you ...  

- Funders  
- Donors  
- Board members  
- Staff  
- Volunteers  

...for another great year!

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Simplified Financial Statement

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**Excess/Deficit**  
(23,758)