



CANADIAN NETWORK
FOR THE PREVENTION OF
ELDER ABUSE

Annual Report



2019-2020

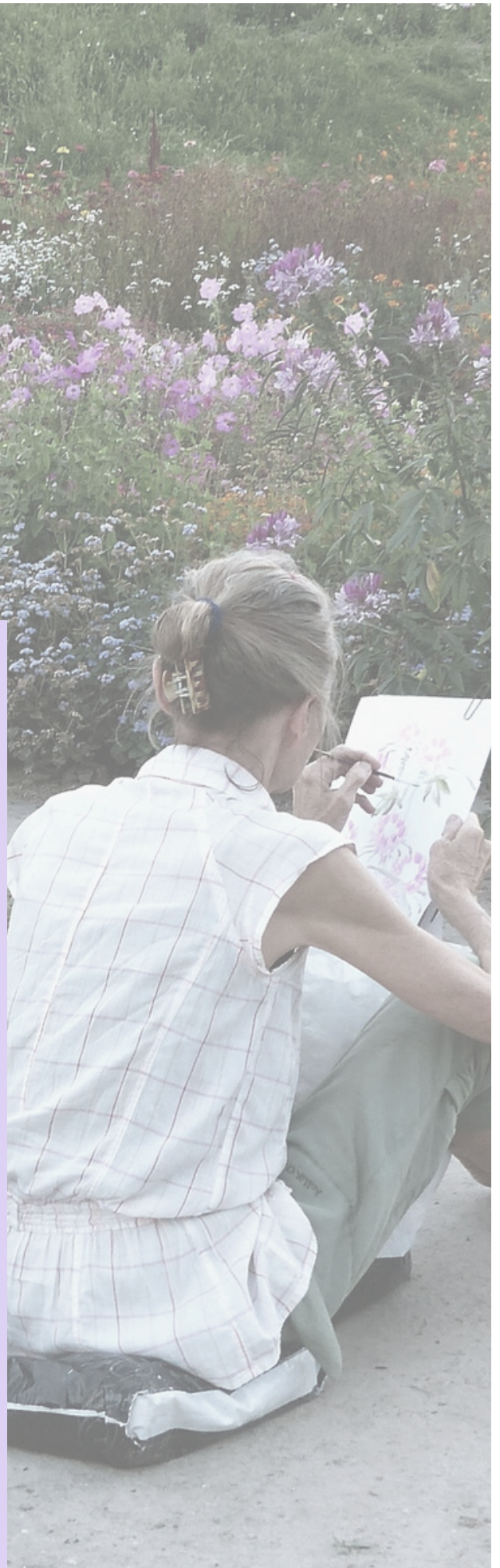




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FOREWORD

By Dr. Gloria Gutman



Anniversaries provide an opportunity for reflection and celebration. On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of CNPEA it is important to recognize how far we have come since the early years of the 1980s when we first started to hear about “granny bashing”. It was Elizabeth Bristowe [1], from the BC Ministry of Health’s Long Term Care Division, who first drew my attention to elder abuse. She had heard about it via radio phone-in shows in Victoria and Vancouver – people calling up and describing their plight and asking to whom they might turn for help. My answer was “call the LTC section of your local health unit”, for which I was admonished because at the time, the health units had no designated personnel or much in the way of advice or resources to offer. They/we also had no idea of the prevalence of the problem. Was it just a handful? I couldn’t imagine people being mean to old people verbally let alone physically harming them. We now know elder abuse and neglect are insidious and pervasive occurrences that take place world-wide and know no social class or geographic barriers. We now have international agreement that there are five main types of what is termed more broadly “elder maltreatment”. This umbrella term includes physical, psychological, sexual and financial abuse as well as neglect.

The field of elder abuse – as a research and a practice area and a topic for advocacy was held back for many years because of lack of agreement on definitions and hence numbers documenting prevalence and incidence.

It was only when we were able to put some numbers to the issue that in this country (and elsewhere) it gained the political visibility that led to funding and media campaigns and widespread awareness raising – the key elements for gaining support at the population level and among various levels of government which, in turn, resulted in programs being developed and implemented to address the issue. In Canada, under the leadership of Lynn McDonald and the NICE project, a consensus conference was held in 2010 and I recall at the time saying “even if we get these wrong, at least Canadian researchers will be counting the same thing”. I’m not sure we are there yet, but it is a goal worth striving for.

Canada has a rich history of contributions to elder abuse prevention and mitigation, research and education – including the first and to my knowledge only university Chair in Elder Abuse, at the University of Sherbrooke, held by Marie Beaulieu. Many of these contributions are documented in publications referenced on the CNPEA website or contained in its archives. CNPEA is an important resource for all of us in Canada who work in the area of elder abuse and our face to the international elder abuse community. I urge all of you to join with me in celebrating its achievements to date and in contributing to its sustainability as a focal point and bridge within Canada and outside its borders.

*Gloria M. Gutman, PhD, OBC, CM
Immediate Past-President, International Network for
Prevention of Elder Abuse*

2019-2020 THE YEAR OF RESILIENCE



It's no exaggeration to say that the past twelve months have felt like a roller coaster ride. 2019 was a rather remarkable year for us, on many levels. Yet, as the year ended, we were preparing for our 20th anniversary under the looming threat of funding insecurity. Then, Covid-19 hit, changing everything for us all. In a matter of weeks, all our priorities shifted. Our virtual nature and remote-connected team allowed us to weather the storm with only mild disruptions, thankfully. In the Spring, a very promising prospect with the Minister of Women and Gender Equality, provided us with much-needed interim funding and the possibility of a large, long-term project. We are on pins and needles and hope to be able to share some good news before the end of the year

Here we are, six months later, with new opportunities, new plans, and renewed energy to rise to the challenge and tackle the issues that emerged out of the pandemic.

COVID-19 tested our institutions, our operations, our collective emotions. It altered the way we socialize and relate to each other. It also revealed systemic flaws, particularly in relation to aging and older adults. Ageism finally was exposed for all to see. A few months later, loud, united voices arose, demanding system changes against racism, intolerance and inequity in our communities. For all of us, 2020 has been a time of reckoning, rethinking, and recalibrating.

I choose to see a silver lining: the pandemic confirmed what we have been saying all along. It solidified that the safety, health and well-being of older Canadians requires immediate policy changes and practical coordinated efforts. It also made our mission feel even more vital to a healthy, inclusive, age-friendly Canadian society. The curtain has been pulled, there's a lot of work to be done and we can't wait to get started.

Benedicte Schoepflin
Executive Director, CNPEA

THE YEAR OF CHANGE



As my 3rd year as Board Chair comes to a close, I'm reflecting on all of the changes that we've seen in 2019–2020. As an organization, this was Year 1 of our 2019–2024 Strategic Plan, the culmination of our Access to Justice project, and our 20th Anniversary. Last fall we expected that this would be a busier year with more activity, but no one could have anticipated just how many changes we would see!

Our established pan-Canadian, virtual presence placed us in an optimal position this Spring, when many of the unexpected changes began. Working from home, virtual meetings, and online file sharing were not at all learning curves, and I'm grateful for the vision of our founders and my predecessors; their work to create a network that spanned our country provided a strong foundation that the pandemic could not shake.

All of our Board members experienced changes to their lives, and I would like to thank them for their continued work with the CNPEA this year, as their priorities and responsibilities shifted rapidly (sometimes from one day to the next!). Their knowledge and expertise helped us stay connected and

informed, and I appreciate the work that they do and will continue doing for older Canadians in their regions and nation-wide.

Discussions about supporting older Canadians have become louder across Canada, calling for more changes, more focus, more work to decrease the challenges older adults face. The CNPEA has been involved in many of the conversations this year, strengthening and expanding our network to welcome newer voices and supporters.

COVID-19 has given us all the opportunity to reflect on our current support systems for older Canadians, to see the gaps in real time and on a grand scale, and to envision what changes we want to see. There is no doubt that we will see long term changes from our experiences in the last year, and the CNPEA is ready. We're ready to join our voices with the people and organizations across Canada saying that older Canadians deserve better, and to join in the work that it will take to get there.

Kathy Majowski
Board Chair, CNPEA

CNPEA at a glance

16

Board members

8

Committees

6

Provinces &
Territories
represented on
the Board

960

Estimated
volunteer
hours in
2019-2020

10

resources
published
in 2019 - 2020

579

Members

11.5%

Membership
growth this year

13

Provinces & territories
represented among
members

MEET THE BOARD



Kathy Majowski, Chair



Andrew Elinesky, Treasurer



Meghan Derkach, Secretary



Left to right, top to bottom: Pam Burns (AB), Marta Hajek (ON), Kelly Heisz (NL), Sandra Hirst (AB), Yogeeta Jhodhan (ON), Jean Kozak (BC), Denise Lemire (ON), Lisa Manuel (ON), Wanda Roberts (NWT), Kate Schroeder (MB), Liz Sharma (AB), Chelsea Skanes (ON), Weigho Zhang (ON)

THE HUB KEY DATA SEP 2019-2020

126

RESOURCES ADDED
TO CNPEA.CA

389

RESOURCES
DOWNLOADED/MONTH

+ 20.8%

17K

USERS PER YEAR

+ 23.6%

50K

PAGEVIEWS

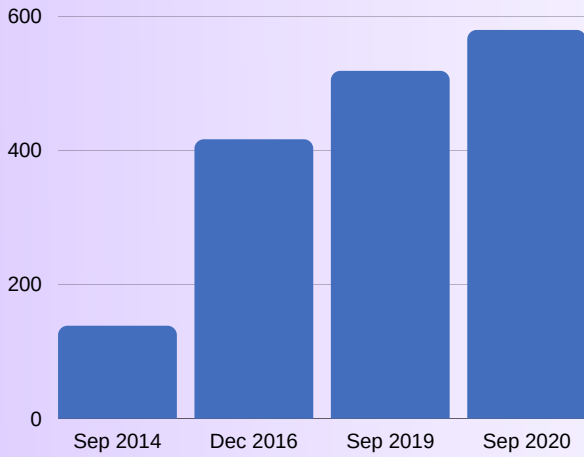
+ 16.2%

56K

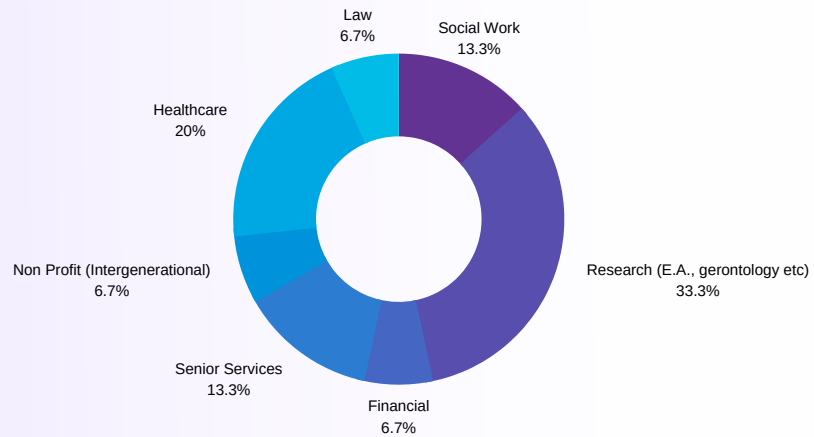
TOTAL DOWNLOADS
THIS YEAR

Our key analytics are on a consistent upward trajectory. On average, 389 different resources are downloaded each month. In total this year, over 56,000 downloads were triggered by site visitors. June 2020 was, of course, the busiest time of the year. During the month of Intergenerational Day and World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, visits to our site tripled, a clear sign that our social awareness campaigns and topical webinars are having an impact.

MEMBERSHIP

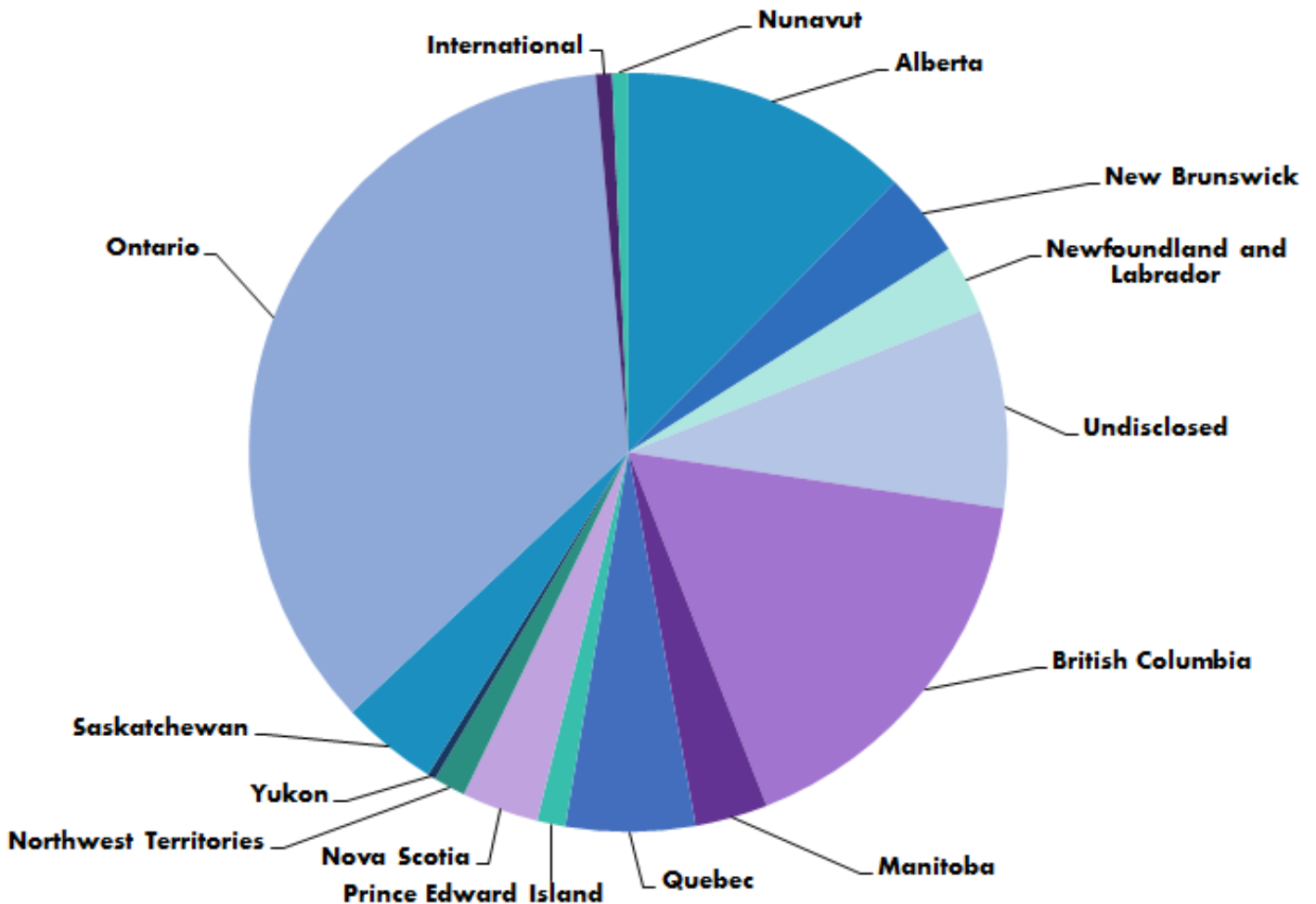


GROWTH OVERTIME



SECTORS REPRESENTED

Regions Represented



S O C I A L M E D I A

As in-person interactions decreased sharply, social media became more crucial for us. Our social media accounts have always been a great platform to connect and share our work. We also use them to highlight relevant news, initiatives and studies connected to abuse prevention, healthy aging, intergenerational programs etc. Social media came in handy this year to disseminate COVID-related updates, surveys and supports that were constantly evolving.

Many organizations and senior-serving groups ventured on socials for the first time to join or throw virtual events, en lieu of in-person events. That is why we created a social media campaign guide as a support tool for our #UprootElderAbuse WEAAD campaign. We were happy to get positive feedback on it. Growing audiences, and a solid base of supporters and promotional partners led to increased engagements, particularly during special events such as Financial Literacy Month, Pink Shirt Day, Intergenerational Day and, of course, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.



401

Facebook likes

+51%



2,042

Twitter followers

+18%

STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW

Year One Report

This has been a year of extraordinary changes and activity at the CNPEA. When we implemented our Strategic Plan in September 2019, we couldn't imagine where this last year would take us.



We're grateful to our Board members and the work that they're doing for older adults in their regions, and the Strategic Plan Review committee recognizes that many of us have seen increased demands in our jobs and families, and changes to our daily routines and levels of concern. To respond to the changes that our Board members faced in their personal and professional lives, the Communications, Policy, and Anniversary committees became temporarily inactive, and the Sustainability committee recruited additional Board members to assist in the development of a funding application for a large project.

This Strategic Plan Review Report for Year One will take into account the unprecedented year and provide suggestions for adaptation of the original Strategic Plan to address the ongoing changes.

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Achieved

- Communication with members enhanced
- Increased publication of regular newsletters and special edition updates

Planning Ahead

- Finalizing Communication Plan
- Development of a standardized member survey, to measure annual changes

ORGANIZATIONAL POLICY MAKING

Policies Created and Reviewed

- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Letter of Support Policy
- Media Relations Policy
- Nominations and Election of Directors

FUNDRAISING & SUSTAINABILITY

Total Submitted Proposals (Under Consideration by Funders)

- +/- \$1,000,000

Planning Ahead

- Development of sustainability indicators, to measure annually
- Create report on feasibility of a paid membership structure
- Finalizing communication framework for donor relations

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE & DISSEMINATION

Campaigns

- Anti-Bullying
 - Blog post, fact sheet and social media campaign

WEAAD

- 3 webinars, social media campaign

Website Views

↑ 16.2%

Facebook Engagements

↑ 51%

Twitter Followers

↑ 18.3%

Webinars

Pan-Canadian and International Audience

Registration: 1,773
Attendance: 1,383

Uploaded: 650 views

Membership to CNPEA

↑ 11.5%

Successful Completion of the A2J Project

Resources Developed in 2019-20

Literature Review: 1
Research Snapshot: 1
Learning Briefs: 4
Factsheets: 3

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Organization completed the third and final year of the Access to Justice project in 2019/2020 fiscal year. And with the completion of the project, the stability of the CNPEA's financial position is, naturally, not as firm as when the Organization is in the middle of project financing. Luckily, donations were higher than in the prior year which helped us prepare for the end of our project funding to a small extent.

Since the end of the fiscal year we have found some interim project funding that has allowed us to continue with our mission and to use our small reserves to fund our ongoing work and cover our overhead costs.

The search for permanent funding is ongoing for the Board of Directors and our Sustainability Committee as they both continue to seek further granting opportunities in addition to the never-ending search for funding for our continued operations.

I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully ask members to try to think of us when they select their donation recipients and we thank all of you who have thought of us in their giving especially in times such as these. Your thoughts and donations are greatly appreciated, and we always do our best to ensure that these funds are wisely and efficiently spent.

Lastly, I would like to thank our bookkeeper Meredith Burney, for her continued dedication and support. And, I would be remiss if I didn't thank Benedicte Schoepflin for all of the wonderful work and endless energy that she brings to the CNPEA.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrew Elinesky – Treasurer

**CANADIAN NETWORK FOR THE
PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT
March 31, 2020
(Unaudited)**

CANADIAN NETWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE

INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
For the year ended March 31, 2020
(Unaudited)

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ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISORS

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INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To: **The Minister of Justice and the Attorney General of Canada**

We have reviewed the accompanying statement of revenue and expenses for the project entitled "*Increasing Access to Justice for Older Adult Victims of Sexual Assault: A Capacity Building Approach*" of Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse for the year ended March 31, 2020 as required by Section #9 of the Project Funding Agreement (the "Agreement") with the the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of revenue an expenses in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and with the provisions of the Agreement referred to above, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the statement of revenue an expenses that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying statement of revenue an expenses based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of the statement of revenue an expenses in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on the statement of revenue an expenses.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the statement of revenue an expenses does not present fairly, in all material respects, the revenue and expenses for the project entitled "*Increasing Access to Justice for Older Adult Victims of Sexual Assault: A Capacity Building Approach*" of Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse for the year ended March 31, 2020 in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and with the provisions of the Agreement referred to above.

REID HURST NAGY INC.
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

VANCOUVER, B.C.
JULY 7, 2020

CANADIAN NETWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

For the year ended March 31, 2020

(Unaudited)

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
REVENUES		
Grant revenue	67,500	67,500
Interest	28	12
	67,528	67,512
EXPENSES		
Contract service	39,936	39,936
Evaluation	7,380	7,290
IT web design	808	1,198
Professional fee	1,914	2,719
Research and development	18,057	15,525
Telephone	840	788
Travel and accommodation	-	262
Webinar	5,438	4,976
	74,373	72,694
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	(6,845)	(5,182)

Approved on behalf of the Board:


_____, Director

The accompanying note is an integral part of these financial statements

CANADIAN NETWORK FOR THE PREVENTION OF ELDER ABUSE

NOTE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

March 31, 2020

(Unaudited)

1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Canadian Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse was incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act of May 10, 2000 as a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from Income tax under paragraph 149(1)(l) of the Income Tax Act. Effective April 1, 2017, the organization met the requirements for charitable registration under the Income Tax Act.

CNPEA is an organization operating programs to increase Canadian society's ability to recognize and prevent mistreatment of older adults so they can be free from abuse, neglect, and exploitation in later life.

HIGHLIGHTS

The past 12 months kept us busy,
here is a summary of our activities.

Increasing Access to Justice for Older Adult Victims of Sexual Assault: A Capacity Building Approach. (2017–2020)

This three-year project came to an end in March 2020. The goals of the A2J project were:

1. To increase public awareness about sexual assault of older adults through information and resources
2. To increase the capacity of service providers to support or assist older adult victims of sexual assault through information provided in six webinars.
3. To identify service gaps and opportunities for developing new policies and services through several reports.

We are happy to report that the project met its expected goals and outcomes. Over the course of 3 years, CNPEA delivered 6 webinars, featuring Canadian and international researchers and prevention and intervention specialists. Each provided varied perspectives on the current state of access to justice for older victims, how to build bridges between Health and Justice, and how to provide trauma-informed care and response when supporting older survivors. At the time of reporting, the webinars have been viewed over 1,000 times (live and streamed).

Thanks to the thorough work of project researchers, Dr. Myrna Dawson and Dr. Amy Peirone, and the attentive support and input of our Advisory Committee, CNPEA developed 15 resources ranging from Literature Reviews to Research Snapshots, Learning Briefs and Fact Sheets. These are available on Hub, along with other 30 other project-related resources.

The materials developed:

- **offer plain language summaries of key resources and strategies for increasing access to justice for older victims of sexual assault,**
- **summarize key studies,**
- **lay out recommendations for research, policy, and practice and**
- **promote approaches for primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.**

Over 3 years, A2J Project resources alone were downloaded nearly 10, 000 times. Evaluator Ben Kadel provided a final analysis of perceived news skills, information, and awareness. It is based on responses to an online survey shared with participants to the project webinars. Response rates were consistent across the webinars and across all three years of the project:

- 76% of surveyed participants agreed that the webinar helped them understand the unique needs of older adults.
- 74% felt that the webinar provided them with new information and resources.
- 70% felt that the information was directly applicable to their work.

Evaluation also revealed that the messaging around the project reached far beyond the limits of our existing audience and fostered long-lasting interest in participants.

As the MeToo movement swept across the world, conversations about prevention of sexual assault and access to justice for victims were taking place in the media, in schools, and in work places. We were proud to carve out space for older victims who are often left out of the picture altogether. We are thankful that our funder, the Justice Canada Victims Fund supported our project and understood the importance of including older people to get a fuller picture, and improve prevention and justice responses for older victims of sexual assault, in the community and in long term care.

We are grateful to the CNPEA Board members, project committee members, advisory committee members, webinar participants, and supporters who helped us carry out this project from its inception. We are richer from the relationships and collaborations that emerged out of this project, and hope to nurture them further in the future.

20th ANNIVERSARY

2020 marks the 20th anniversary of CNPEA. An idea shared by a small group of visionary people became a real network, with members in all but one Territory, an ever-expanding pan-Canadian online hub, and a growing public profile. By late 2019, 14,000+ visitors had visited our site and triggered more than 73,000 downloads of various tools and resources. CNPEA was accredited to join the UN's Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing. We also spoke in front of the House of Commons about obstacles to the well-being for older women, and multiplied our media efforts to make elder abuse awareness a point of focus. In 2020, our plans for year-long celebrations and events –starting with a monthly blog series to shine a light on various stakeholders across the country– were somewhat derailed by the emerging pandemic and the many disruptions it brought. We still have a few months left and hope to revise and resume our anniversary plans.

SOCIAL CAMPAIGNS AND COLLABORATIONS

Older Adults and Bullying

On February 26, Pink Shirt Day, CNPEA and A&O Support Services for Older Adults (Manitoba) teamed up for a campaign about Older Adults and Bullying. Bullying awareness and prevention activities have been traditionally aimed at younger generations, even though the behaviours occur across the life course. With #PinkShirtDayForAll, A&O and CNPEA decided to expand the focus to include older adults. The online campaign was paired with a national press release and interviews across various media. Our social campaign garnered 10,000 views on February 26 and generated participation from all over the country. Along with the campaign, we developed a factsheet that highlights the causes, manifestations and impacts of bullying, along with strategies for prevention, and support services across Canada.



WEAAD 2020

CNPEA and EAPO partnered up to create a social campaign for the **15th anniversary of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**. The theme for this year was *Uproot Elder Abuse, Plant a Seed for Change*. Canadians were encouraged to plant a seedling, a flower or a tree in real life, and to join our campaign on social media with the hashtag #UprootElderAbuse. We deliberately chose a dual activity (aka “planting and posting”) to allow people to be part of a communal effort and get a little bit of health-boosting nature time, while staying safe and distanced.

This was our most successful campaign to date. The campaign garnered close to 78,000 views on Twitter and engaged families, senior-serving agencies, law enforcement teams, health care professionals and more. True to the vision of Elizabeth Podnieks, founder of WEAAD, people of all ages and horizons came together to celebrate and honour older adults, and to raise awareness of ageism and elder abuse in their communities, during a particularly challenging year.

During the month of June, CNPEA and EAPO also hosted several webinars, culminating in a live pan-Canadian discussion about *Social Inclusion Under Covid*, featuring the Honourable Deb Schulte, and a panel of experts including: Devora Greenspon, a senior resident in long term care, Dr. Samir K. Sinha (Sinai Health System), Laura Tamblyn Watts, CanAge CEO, and many more. All in all, over 1,235 participants attended our live webinars. They are now all available online on cnpea.ca.



OUTREACH AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

House of Commons' Standing Committee for Industry, Science and Technology

Presentation on scams and frauds affecting older adults in Canada

Media

Radio interviews re: Senior Bullying campaign and WEAAD x3

Magazine features and interviews x 3

- SAGE (National Association of Federal Retirees magazine) – Covid Scams and Frauds
- Renaissance (Retired Teachers of Ontario magazine)– Elder Abuse (signs, responses, statistics)
- MacLean's – Covid Scams and Frauds, how to stay safe. (Publication: Oct 2020)

Zoomer TV – Elder Abuse in the Chinese Community

Cable Public Affairs Channel (CPAC) – Covid 19, social isolation and consequences

Events and Conferences

- *Let's Talk*, EngAGEment series, Toronto (Toronto Council on Aging)
- *Diverse Voices* Conference, Edmonton
- Manitoba Gerontology Nursing Association Conference, Winnipeg

TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY

- Our anniversary year generated an increase in gifts. Individual donors contributed close to \$4,000 in donations and [our anniversary donation page](#) is still active until the end of the year.
- In June 2020, **HelpAge** publicly announced an anniversary gift of \$2,500 to CNPEA to help support our mission.
- A few weeks later, long-time supporter **Dr. Gloria Gutman** established a **legacy fund** with the Vancouver Foundation to benefit the network in the long term (more on that on page 25).

- Over the course of the last 12 months, we applied for several grants which did not come through. In the Spring, we received \$30,000 from Women and Gender Equality to develop an implementation plan for a large multi-year project. We anticipate to hear back before the end of the year.

Like many in the not-for-profit world, we constantly face the dilemma of choosing to allocate time and energy toward our actual mission vs. toward development and fundraising (which enables us to keep the lights on to pursue our mission).

The growing support of donors enables us to consolidate the path towards sustainability through diversified income streams. The creation of a legacy fund for CNPEA offers some certainty and relief from the pressure of unpredictable changes in other revenue streams. It represents a chance at perennity, which we do not take for granted. The end of this year and the start of 2021 will involve the development of a robust development plan to expand donor acquisition and stewardship.

GLORIA GUTMAN FUND FOR ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

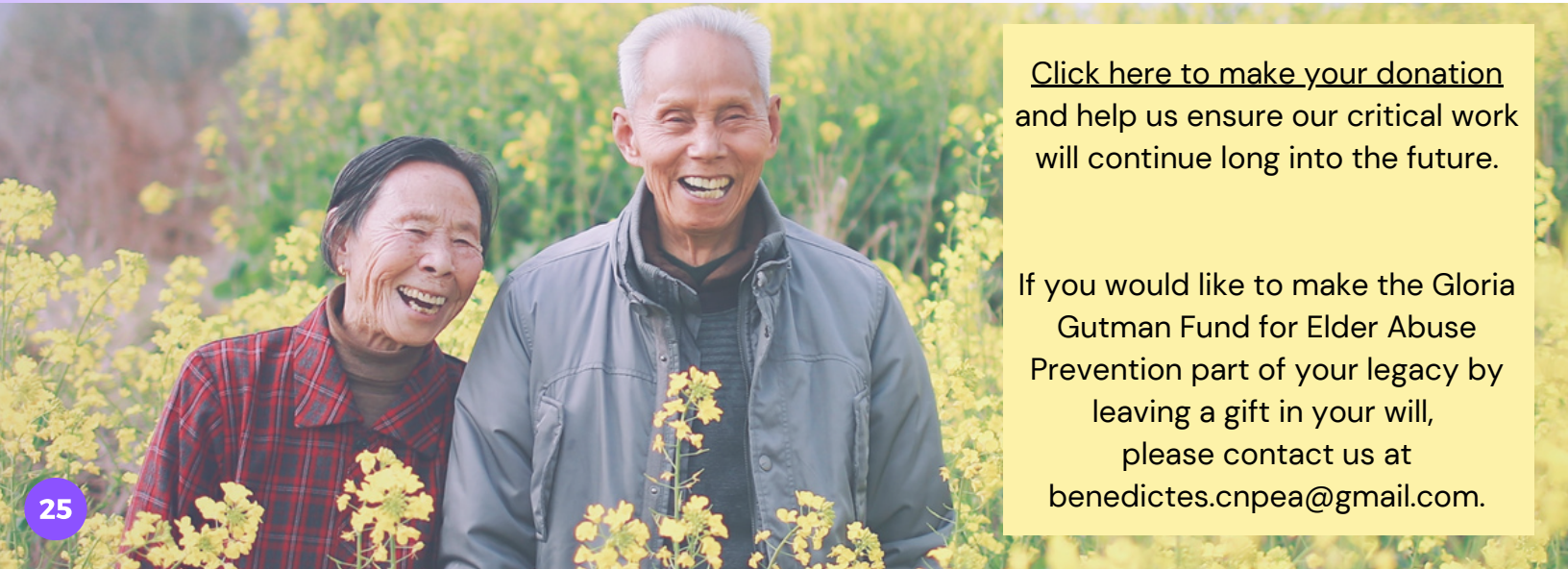
The Gloria Gutman Fund for Elder Abuse Prevention was established this summer at the Vancouver Foundation by Gloria Gutman, for the 20th anniversary of CNPEA. The fund's aim is to foster the sustainability and growth of CNPEA, so it can continue to raise awareness, inform, train, and improve capacity for elder abuse prevention and intervention in Canada.

The Gloria Gutman Fund will provide steady income and enable us to advance our mission over the long-term. In years where donations are down or government funding is reduced, income from our fund will still arrive. And because Vancouver Foundation administers the fund, we know it will be invested wisely and expertly managed.

Dr. Gutman has been a life-long advocate for the health, safety, and well-being of older adults. Her career has focused on age-friendly

hospitals and communities, LGBT aging, seniors and emergency preparedness, health promotion, and elder abuse prevention, among other topics, with particular attention towards older adults in marginalized groups.

Dr. Gutman developed the Gerontology Research Centre and Department of Gerontology at Simon Fraser University (SFU) and was Director of both from 1982–2005. She has held a number of high-profile roles including: President Canadian Association on Gerontology, President International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics, and President International Network for Prevention of Elder Abuse. Awards for her exceptional work and dedication to older people's well-being include the Order of British Columbia, Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and Order of Canada, the country's highest civilian honour.



[Click here to make your donation](#) and help us ensure our critical work will continue long into the future.

If you would like to make the Gloria Gutman Fund for Elder Abuse Prevention part of your legacy by leaving a gift in your will, please contact us at benedictes.cnpea@gmail.com.

2020 SLATE OF CANDIDATES

Claire Checkland

Claire is a passionate, results-oriented health advocate with 20 years of experience in government and stakeholder relations and policy analysis for national not-for-profit health organizations including the Canadian AIDS Society, Canadian Cancer Society and the Mental Health Commission of Canada. She is currently the Executive Director of the Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health where she has helped the organization achieve sustainability and grow their membership to more than 2,000 individuals and organizations. Claire has a successful track record engaging varied stakeholders in progress towards common health and social goals and has an ability to identify and implement new, innovative approaches to organizational priority issues. She is adept at facilitating the establishment of sustained, meaningful relationships with community, stakeholders and government officials. Claire has an undergraduate-honours degree in Psychology as well as a Diploma of Social Sciences. She lives in Stittsville, Ontario with her husband and two sons.

Michele Markham

Michele Markham is a Registered Social Worker with the Alberta College of Social Workers and holds a Bachelor Degree in Human Service Administration. For the past six years she has worked at Sage Seniors Association in Edmonton as the Manager of the Seniors' Safe House, a shelter for older adults needing safety from abuse. Michele participates on the management committee of the Seniors Protection Partnership, is a member of the Diverse Voices conference planning committee and co-chair of the Elder Abuse Consultation Team. In addition to working at Sage, Michele is a member of the MacEwan University School of Social Work Advisory Council, is a Public Member of the Mental Health Review Panel, and is past Chair of the Board of Directors of the George Spady Society.

In addition to working in the field of social work for nearly 30 years, she has more than 20 years of experience with Board Governance and has facilitated numerous board development workshops as part of the Board Development program with the Alberta Government.

Greg Noseworthy

Born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Greg Noseworthy has always taken an approach to understanding and addressing senior and elder issues within NL. While at law school and preparing for his eventual call to the Bar of Newfoundland and Labrador, Greg directed his energy to seniors issues within the law. Since then he has maintained a focussed law practice in senior issues, primarily by preventing elder abuse in the legal and non-legal worlds. This also includes his full-time work with a non-profit access to justice group that allows him to work with retired groups, 50+ clubs, and other senior and elder focussed organisations across Newfoundland and Labrador. Even as 28 year old Greg is quick to note that everyone in society focus on this issue as it is the only form of discrimination, prejudice, and abuse that affects all persons regardless of race, religion, sexuality, or other characteristics. With this mindset, Greg continues to actively participate in all opportunities to prevent elder abuse. This includes working with Seniors NL, the NL Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, and participating in government reviews of the provincial Adult Protection Act, among other committees and organisations. As a young man in one of the oldest provinces in the country, Greg recognises the needs of an aging population. Whether it be the physical, mental, emotional, financial, or other unique needs of the elder population, Greg has consistently geared his career to finding ways to make "golden years" truly golden.

Peter Holman

Peter is a retired Senior who has returned to his birthplace after a career of 40 years in the financial industry. He is very interested in the well-being of Seniors and passionate about Seniors' issues, community advancement/development and he has 6 years of experience dealing with Seniors' issues, with particular attention to Social Inclusion, Social Participation, Intergenerational Relationships and Violence Prevention.

Peter sits on the Board of the P.E.I. Seniors Secretariat; is a Member of the National Age-friendly Reference Group with the Public Health Agency of Canada; and of the Premier's Action Committee on Family Violence Prevention. Peter is also a Board Member at Notre Dame Place, Summerside (Canadian Mental Health Association); East Prince Seniors Initiative and Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Atlantic Innovation Fund). Peter is also the Co-Chair of the Age-friendly Cities Committee for the City of Summerside.

Suzette Montreuil

Suzette is currently the executive director of the NWT Seniors' Society, based in Yellowknife but serving older adults across the NWT. Under her leadership, the NWTSS has led research on living income for seniors and lobbied for a Seniors' Strategy as the population 60+ is the fastest growing segment of the NWT. Her work includes doing two day workshops called Creating Safe Communities for Older Adults. It is based on the It's Not Right program developed by the Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children at the UWO. She has facilitated this workshop in 9 different NWT communities and offered shorter versions on request. This included the translation of It's Not Right into SAHTÚOŦ'JNE YATJ by working with local elders who spoke the language.

Suzette also coordinates the work of the NWT Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. This includes conference calls to review group activity and discuss any new initiatives. NWTSS was awarded funding by New Horizons for Seniors program for a national level project called Collaborating for Inclusion of Older Adults. This four-year project has allowed the hiring of community facilitators in 10 communities in the NWT with the aim of decreasing social isolation of elders at risk through community activities that gather elders. Prior to this, Suzette worked as an occupational therapist for 30 years including doing travel clinics in the NWT and Nunavut.

Gabrielle Kirk

Gabrielle is the coordinator of an Elder Abuse Response Program in Southern Alberta. She has been in this role for 4 years and is incredibly passionate about protecting the rights and dignity of older adults. Gabrielle has developed a community response model where community agencies come together and develop the best approaches to elder abuse situations. She is also on the Seniors and Continuing Care Provincial Advisory Council for Alberta to advise Alberta Health Services on service delivery, policy and program design for province-wide seniors and continuing care health system. Gabrielle was a healthcare aide for several years, which motivated her to pursue a bachelor's degree in Public Health through the University of Lethbridge. She is now working on her master's degree in Public Health through the University of Saskatchewan. She resides on a farm near Fort Macleod, Alberta, with her partner Michael where they raise sheep and rabbits.

BOARD RECOGNITION

We wish to express our deepest thanks to departing Board members Elizabeth Sharma and Wanda Roberts. Over the past few years Wanda and Elizabeth have contributed in turn to the Communications committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Nominations Committee and Policy Committee. Their team spirit, dedicated efforts and astute contributions are deeply appreciated. Our team wishes them the best and looks forward to collaborating again in the future.

Thank you for your support



We wish to acknowledge the contributions and support of the many people who worked tirelessly on the project and activities mentioned within:

- Our **Board of Directors** whose time, energy, and wise advice help steer our organization on a daily basis. Words do not do justice to your commitment to this Network.
- All involved in the Access to Justice project: **Dr. Myrna Dawson, Dr. Amy Peirone, Ben Kadel, and Advisory Committee members:** Kristal LeBlanc, Wendy Verhoek-Oftedahl, Mona Gregory, Lucie Fortin, Raeann Rideout, Joan Braun, Bernice Sewell, Dr. Cathy Carter-Snell, and Krista James.
- Our **colleagues** from P/T and local elder abuse networks, our **community partners** and **members**. This Network's strength lies in your active involvement and collaborative spirit.

We also wish to thank:

The **Justice Canada Victims Fund**, for funding our work over the past three years and allowing us to delve into a meaningful project and to explore new avenues to improve the lives and safety of older Canadians.

HelpAge and our individual donors for recognizing the value of our work and actively supporting it with your gifts.

And, last but not least, **Gloria Gutman**, for her vision and her dedication to lift CNPEA up and guarantee our longevity through the Gloria Gutman Fund for Elder Abuse Prevention.



CANADIAN NETWORK *for*
the **PREVENTION** *of* **ELDER ABUSE**

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du **MAUVAIS TRAITEMENT** *des* **AÎNÉS**

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