Justice for All, Everywhere.

*Pro bono graphic design provided by: Shannon Rutledge.*
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Message from the Chair and Executive Director</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCIJ’s Vision and Mission</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Importance of CCIJ’s Work</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 Activities and Achievements</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards for CCIJ in 2010</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCIJ in the News</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCIJ’s Supporters</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Summary</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Message from the Chair and Executive Director

Human rights defenders, journalists, labour organizers, academics and ordinary people around the world continue to be subjected to torture, rape and murder because of their work, beliefs, and personal backgrounds. We think of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Côte d’Ivoire, Burma, China, Iran, Syria and Colombia, to name just a few.

At the same time, justice is now integral in the response to international atrocities in a way that was not possible even a decade ago. A variety of justice options emerge in post-conflict peacebuilding, and even as part of the response to on-going abuses. Cases against high level perpetrators before the International Criminal Court, trials in the affected country and in other countries to which those responsible have fled, truth and reconciliation commissions and traditional forms of justice are being implemented or are under discussion in Rwanda, DRC, Uganda, Bosnia, Argentina, Peru, Indonesia and other countries on every continent.

The Canadian Centre for International Justice (CCIJ) – Centre canadien pour la justice internationale (CCJI) is proud to be working closely with organizations around the world as part of this emerging system of international justice. At the close of our third year of staffed operations, the relevance of our work is clear. By the end of 2010 CCIJ was pursing remedies in Canada and internationally for more than 40 clients, intervening to offer legal analysis in criminal and civil cases for war crimes and torture, supporting a class action suit against a Canadian mining company, making progress with an important law reform bill before Parliament, receiving many media requests, offering training to the Canadian legal community, and organizing numerous educational events led by committed volunteers across the country.

CCIJ’s contribution is made possible because our specialized and dedicated staff is supported by an ever-growing Canadian network of people affected by human rights abuses, community leaders, and experts in law, health, communications and international affairs. We are also fortunate to be able to effectively double our budget annually through pro bono contributions of legal work, translation and design.

This report of CCIJ’s activities in 2010 is dedicated to all those who continue to stand up for peace, human rights and justice around the world. It is your efforts we seek to support, and your courage and dedication that inspires all those involved with CCIJ.

Alex Neve
Chair, Board of Directors

Jayne Stoyles
Executive Director
The Canadian Centre for International Justice (CCIJ) – Centre canadien pour la justice internationale (CCJI) works with survivors of genocide, war crimes and other human rights atrocities to seek legal remedies and to help bring alleged perpetrators to justice in Canadian courts and abroad. There is no other organization in Canada with this mandate.

CCIJ envisions a world in which survivors of torture, genocide and other atrocities have legal recourse that helps to meet their needs for acknowledgement, truth and reparation.

Our ultimate goal is a world in which all people live without fear of massive human rights abuses. The creation of effective mechanisms to hold individuals accountable for human rights abuses is a very recent international phenomenon, and CCIJ is on the cutting edge of this important movement.

“Our ultimate goal is a world in which all people live without fear of massive human rights abuses.”
The Importance of CCIJ’s Work

CCIJ is part of a global justice movement working to end impunity by ensuring that those responsible for massive violations of human rights are held accountable in Canadian courts and abroad. The International Criminal Court is now operating in The Hague, seeking to prosecute the highest level perpetrators of mass atrocities.

It is premised on the idea of ‘complementarity’ - that national courts have a fundamental role to play. Ideally this means prosecutions in the country in which the crimes occurred, and when this is not possible or when the national system is overburdened as it is for example in Rwanda, it also includes countries like Canada with no direct connection to the crimes.

The possibility of a criminal prosecution in any country around the world would be a powerful deterrent to those contemplating committing serious human rights violations. This would serve the interests of all nations, particularly in our increasingly globalized world. Every year, more countries take up this challenge by ratifying the International Criminal Court treaty, modifying national laws to allow war crimes trials, and initiating domestic war crimes cases. Hundreds of indictments have been issued to date, some against heads of state, by more than 40 countries.

On the individual level, CCIJ’s clients consistently indicate how important it is to have the opportunity to pursue justice as part of their healing process. While the concept of what constitutes justice is unique to each person, there is considerable consistency of intention: to have acknowledgement of what occurred, condemnation of the acts by a court of law, and the opportunity to help ensure that others do not suffer the same traumatic experiences.

In Canada, an estimated one million people are said to have experienced torture and war trauma. At the same time, government figures indicate that as many as 2000 alleged war criminals and human rights abusers are living in Canada, often in the same communities as their former victims.

Justice is not only relevant to survivors who bring a particular case, but to survivors of atrocities everywhere.
2010 Activities and Achievements

Information and Support for Survivors

CCIJ works to ensure that the many survivors of human rights abuses living in Canada are aware of the options for redress that may arise from their experiences. These options include judicial and quasi-judicial remedies before international and regional courts, tribunals and human rights bodies, criminal and civil trials in Canada and in other countries, compensation funds, and various types of recognition.

CCIJ’s materials about what can lead to a remedy – and how to seek help – are available in 14 languages. In 2010 these were circulated through the offices of settlement agencies, torture treatment centres, community associations and medical facilities, through Community Legal Education Ontario, the Canadian Council for Refugees network, the CCIJ website, and at many events and meetings.

Last year CCIJ handled several contacts every month from people seeking to discuss their own experiences and the possibility of a remedy. For many of these individuals, CCIJ was able to open a file, and then researched the international and domestic options that could be available, conducted investigations in to the strength of evidence, looked in to the whereabouts of alleged perpetrators, and provided information to survivors and their family members about the steps that would be involved in the pursuit of justice.

As CCIJ works with its clients, the need for many other types of support arises. In 2010 this included practical help with employment, housing and finances, and in finding psychological and physical health care. CCIJ not only recommends services but actively assists clients in accessing them.
The Pursuit of Legal Remedies

If a client is interested in pursuing redress, CCIJ provides expertise and support throughout the process. This does not always involve a case in court. For example, one of our clients is the victim of sexual violence at the hands of a very high level government official during a time of widespread human rights abuses in her country of origin in the Middle East. No legal remedy exists because that official is now deceased and because of barriers in Canadian law. In 2010, CCIJ worked with this client to assess and pursue various options to receive compensation for the dramatic events she lived through and the long-term impact on her life. While pressing her country of origin for compensation with the help of Canadian government officials, the client also decided it was time to make her story public in Canada, and the CCIJ team is facilitating that process.

Our casework in 2010 included many situations in which the survivors are in the country where the abuses took place and an alleged perpetrator is known to be in Canada. Many of these are in the investigative stage, and CCIJ is communicating with diaspora communities in Canada, victims groups and NGOs in the country of origin, and officials of Canada’s War Crimes Program as we proceed.

The public criminal war crimes case in which CCIJ was involved in 2010 is that of Désiré Munyaneza, convicted and sentenced the year before by the Quebec Superior Court for his involvement in the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Munyaneza is appealing his conviction and life sentence for genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, and CCIJ has submitted a motion to intervene as a ‘friend of the court’ along with Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights. We are seeking to provide analysis of key international law issues.
In 2010 CCIJ also participated in the filing of a class action civil lawsuit against a Canadian corporation. **Anvil Mining** is being sued by the survivors of a massacre in the **Democratic Republic of Congo** (DRC) in 2004. The lawsuit alleges that Anvil provided vehicles and airplane transportation that helped Congolese soldiers carry out extra-judicial executions, torture, rapes, illegal detentions and looting after an uprising in a port town critical to Anvil’s mining operations. The plaintiff, the Canadian Association against Impunity, represents Congolese citizens affected by the massacre, with CCIJ and partner organizations in Canada, the DRC and the UK as Board members. CCIJ brought in the law firm of Johnson & Trudel and together we provided the international team with analysis of the legal basis for the lawsuit in Canada, and assisted with legal research, drafting documents, and organizing a press briefing on the day the papers were served on Anvil. Johnson & Trudel also traveled to DRC to meet with witnesses and survivors.

CCIJ’s roster of cases currently serves **46 individuals from 19 countries**. This represents an increase of 20 clients in 2010.

“As survivors, we need a resource and support centre to help us to see that we can take back some power, we can do something about our own cases and help other people as well, by bringing abusers to book for what they’ve done. This professional advice and support has to be free of charge to make it work. The CCIJ staff is very professional and has the interests of the survivors at heart, and the way they treat me and involve me may be what has meant most of all.”

A CCIJ client from Sub-Saharan Africa
Law Reform & Policy Work

To serve our clients better, we must strengthen Canadian law and policy. In 2010 CCIJ continued to advocate for an amendment to the State Immunity Act (SIA) to allow victims of human rights abuses with a connection to Canada the right to sue those responsible. Following the re-introduction of a private member’s bill (Bill-C-483) in 2010, CCIJ worked closely with all federal political parties to provide education to MPs and Senators about the implications of the bill and the international legal issues it raises.

Equally important is CCIJ’s engagement in strategic litigation, choosing cases in which to intervene as a ‘friend of the court’ on issues with implications for survivors of torture in Canada and that will serve as international legal precedents. In 2010 CCIJ completed its intervention in the most high profile of these, the case being brought by the son of Zahra Kazemi against Iran and three Iranian officials. Zahra was a Canadian photojournalist born in Iran, who was tortured to death after taking pictures of protesters near a prison in Tehran. CCIJ provided legal analysis to the court about the status of international law on the issue of state immunity, hoping to support Stephan Kazemi as he pursues his last hope for justice, and also to open Canadian civil courts to other survivors living in Canada when it is not possible for them to seek justice elsewhere.

Other policy work in 2010 included:

- Seeking to increase the amount of federal funding for the national War Crimes Program and the allocation for criminal prosecutions.
- Seeking a strong and positive role for Canada in the International Criminal Court Review Conference held in Kampala, Uganda in July.
- Working on gender protocols to help ensure that Canada’s War Crimes Program has a gender perspective at all stages of its investigations and prosecutions.
Legal Training and Education

Increasing the capacity of Canadian legal professionals to serve survivors of torture is an important component of CCIJ’s services. In 2010 we combined structured education and training opportunities on international justice issues with informal presentations in classrooms and at conferences. We also used communication tools to reach legal and academic audiences across the country.

A new two-day Continuing Legal Education course on international justice issues is an exciting CCIJ training initiative launched in 2010. The course provides a comprehensive overview of the legal processes through which individuals can be held civilly and criminally accountable in Canada and abroad for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity and torture. It was held in Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal and attended by a total of approximately 150 lawyers, journalists, law students, civil servants, NGO representatives and other professionals.

CCIJ also organizes opportunities for high profile guests to speak to audiences of legal professionals and others interested in human rights issues. In 2010 CCIJ co-hosted a discussion with Georges Kapiamba, Vice-president of the Association Africaine de Défense des Droits de l’Homme in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) about combating impunity in DRC and the needs of victims. We also co-hosted CCIJ Honorary Council member Judge Philippe Kirsch, the Canadian diplomat who recently finished his tenure as the first President of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and who offered reflections on the successes of the ICC to date and the challenges facing the Court. Both events were held at the University of Ottawa with university partners, and were very well attended events with lively discussions.
Talks by CCIJ staff and legal volunteers at bar association and law society events and for faculties of law reached an estimated additional 25 judges, 150 lawyers, 85 academics and 400 law students.

Increasing the quality of legal services to torture survivors also means facilitating collaboration and the sharing of information amongst practitioners in this area. Throughout 2010, CCIJ continued to draw together legal experts working on civil cases for torture and other atrocities to coordinate case strategies and ensure that lawyers have the chance to build on the research and successful approaches of other legal professionals.

Finally, CCIJ’s legal internships serve the goal of helping to create future Canadian legal professionals who are skilled in this area of practice, while increasing our capacity to serve our clients in the short term. In 2010 we supervised legal research projects by six part-time legal interns and ten students in campus groups. The resulting research informed CCIJ’s legal interventions and supported the work of lawyers and academics in our network in Canada and internationally. CCIJ also had two interns from the Human Rights Program at Carleton University who assisted with communications and outreach.

"Interning at CCIJ was a tremendously rewarding experience; the knowledge and skills that I received furthered not only my personal interest in transitional justice issues, but played an integral role in my decision to pursue law school. The friendly, cooperative and encouraging atmosphere was especially supportive of my academic, intellectual and personal growth."

Ayesha Kumararatne, a CCIJ intern from the Human Rights Program at Carleton who is now a law student at the University of Ottawa.
Training Front-Line Workers and Public Education

In 2010 CCIJ continued to raise the level of awareness of many organizations and front-line workers serving Canada’s immigrant and refugee populations about the legal options that may be available to their clients. This was primarily undertaken through presentations at conferences and events attended by settlement workers and members of communities affected by atrocities. The most important annual opportunity is the consultations of the Canadian Council for Refugees; in June CCIJ offered a presentation entitled “Helping Torture Survivors Seek Justice” at the Ottawa consultation.

CCIJ provided many public education opportunities during 2010 through numerous events organized across the country by our national network, including film screenings, panel discussions and offering speakers for conferences.

CCIJ’s participation in Toronto’s Nuit Blanche in October, through the Fragments and Sightings installations, aimed at generating awareness of the number of survivors of atrocities living in Canada, and of their perspectives on the need for justice. The work of artists Julie Stewart, Diane Misaljevic and Allan Kosmajac provided a wonderful opportunity for survivor communities from countries across Latin America, Africa and Asia to share their stories with other Canadians by offering objects and testimonials for the Fragments exhibit in Lamport Stadium. The Sightings installation in several prominent subway stations was chosen to open Nuit Blanche one week in advance, and hundreds of thousands of people would have viewed these artistic installations.
In the context of the annual Ottawa World Refugee Week in June 2010, CCIJ organized a “Voices for Justice” event at the National Library & Archives that brought together local artists, actors and activists to speak to the meaning of justice from their personal perspectives. The keynote speaker was Monia Mazigh who read a passage from her book *Hope and Despair: My Struggle to free my Husband, Maher Arar*.

In October, CCIJ co-hosted a special discussion of Canadian mining operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and options for accountability. Coinciding with the filing in Montreal of a class action suit against Anvil Mining alleging its involvement in a massacre in the DRC, the panel included experts from partner organizations in the UK and Canada, along with the lawyer in the Anvil case, and featured video footage of DRC colleagues. The event informed government, NGO and academic experts on corporate accountability of the details of the Anvil case.

“I only want to tell you how CCIJ and the Nuit Blanche changed my life. The CCIJ Toronto group and all of your amazing ideas helped me to find the light again. Now I know that there are amazing people working for justice, and this for me is the most important thing that gave me peace in my heart.”

One of the contributors to and volunteers for the Fragments project, from South America.
The Canadian Centre for International Justice was very honoured this year to have its Executive Director, Jayne Stoyles, receive two prestigious human rights awards. The first was the 2010 Walter S. Tarnopolsky Human Rights Award which recognizes outstanding contributions to international and domestic human rights. Recipients are selected jointly by the Canadian Bar Association, the International Commission of Jurists (Canada), the Canadian Association of Law Teachers, and the Canadian Superior Court Judges Association. The award was presented at a meeting of the Canadian Judges’ Forum in August, during the annual conference of the Canadian Bar Association. Ms. Stoyles then gave the Tarnopolsky address at the Annual Meeting of ICJ Canada.

The second honour was the Human Rights Award of the Lord Reading Law Society. The Society, which is the collective voice of Jewish jurists of Quebec, is dedicated to the furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. It describes this award as “one of the Society’s highest honours ...represent[ing] the core of the Society’s mission. It is presented to an individual who has demonstrated a sustained contribution to, or has been influential in, the advancement of human rights and fundamental freedoms.” Ms. Stoyles gave the Annual Human Rights Lecture at a Lord Reading Law Society dinner in Montreal in December.
CCIJ in the News

CCIJ offered media interviews and issued press releases, media backgrounders, opinion pieces and feature articles to raise awareness of the relevance of international criminal law in Canada, through print, radio and TV outlets.

Our work with the media in 2010 – all of which received coverage – centred around the most important international justice developments in Canada during the year, including: the Munyaneza and Kazemi cases; the introduction of the State Immunity Act amendment; Canada’s role at the ICC Review Conference; our work with the US Center for Constitutional Rights on a case they filed against a psychologist implicated in torture in Guantanamo Bay; and events such as Nuit Blanche in Toronto and the Walter S. Tarnopolsky Award.
As an example, the introduction of a case against a Canadian mining company alleging involvement in human rights abuses in the Democratic Republic of Congo resulted in coverage by the following sources: BBC News; Canadian Press; CBC News; CBC World at Six (radio); The Montreal Gazette; Radio-Canada (online); Maclean's; La Presse; and The Tyee. Many secondary sources and blogs then picked up these articles. CCIJ was also featured in a legal magazine called The Precedent.

“I am still indebted for the time you took to help me when I was covering peace and justice issues.”

Ottawa Citizen Reporter
CCIJ’s Supporters

The CCIJ Board of Directors and staff team are very proud of the accomplishments in 2010, made possible through generous grants from Ashoka Canada, the Law Foundation of Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation, the Tides Canada Foundation, the Funding Network-Toronto Fund of the Tides Canada Foundation, Maher Arar as a major donor, and many generous individual donors. CCIJ’s own revenue-generating activities, including training courses and honorariums for speaking engagements and mentoring, supplemented these grants and donations.

Significant annual in-kind contributions are also made by Amnesty International Canada, which provides office space in its beautiful heritage building in Ottawa and covers a significant amount of CCIJ’s overhead. We are equally grateful to the many lawyers, academics, translators and graphic designers who work on a pro bono basis to support CCIJ’s mission. In 2010 more than $200,000 in legal services was provided for free to our clients and for strategic litigation cases. Instructors for all of our courses, including professors, lawyers and government representatives, taught without remuneration. All of our translation and design work was also provided free of charge.

Each of CCIJ’s supporters makes a unique contribution to our shared vision of a world in which human rights abusers know they will be held accountable for their actions, and survivors have access to redress. We offer our sincere thanks to all of you, and look forward to continuing to work together in the years ahead.

“\textit{I am proud to be associated with CCIJ and with the important work they do on behalf of survivors and victims of international crime. No other organization in Canada fulfills this specific mission and few do as much as the CCIJ for the advancement of international human rights in the legislative and judicial arenas and in civil society. I am especially impressed by the dedication of the staff and their ability to maximize the impact of their available resources.}”

Dr. François J. Larocque, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, University of Ottawa
Financial Summary

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  as at December 31, 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Net Assets</td>
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SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Revenue: $440,426

Expenditure: $442,137