To recognize the human dignity and promote the well-being of all trafficked persons
About PACT-Ottawa

PACT-Ottawa was formed in 2004, following an educational workshop in Ottawa called "Trafficking in Women and Children: A Lucrative Multinational Business. What is Our Response?" Since then, PACT-Ottawa has been working to prevent the trafficking of persons and to increase the protection of victims through education, advocacy, networking and support services.

PACT-Ottawa conducts a wide variety of education and public awareness initiatives at the local and national levels, including presentations to school and faith groups, media interviews and commentaries, public events, and an extensive campaign targeting the ground transport industry. We monitor and influence legislative and policy developments relating to human trafficking, through our participation in parliamentary committees, conferences and workshops across Canada. As cofounder of the Ottawa Coalition to End Human Trafficking (OCEHT), PACT-Ottawa assists in promoting human trafficking awareness and networking among social service providers in our community, helping to ensure that these services are well adapted to the particular needs of trafficked persons.

PACT-Ottawa is a non-partisan, secular organization whose membership includes professional educators, public servants, social service practitioners, members of faith groups and students, dedicated to the eradication of modern day slavery in all its forms. PACT-Ottawa is a member of the Canadian Council for Refugees, the Chrysalis Anti-human Trafficking Network, the Coalition for an Ontario Task Force and the Committee Against the Sexual Exploitation of Children.

PACT-Ottawa is managed by a Board of Governors elected by its members, and is structured as a collection of committees responsible for each of the organization’s major initiatives. An open members’ meeting is held monthly at Ottawa’s Bronson Centre. PACT-Ottawa is a non-profit corporation under the Corporations Act of Ontario.

PACT-Ottawa
211 Bronson Ave. #230
Ottawa, ON
K1R 6H5

www.pact-ottawa.org
info@pact-ottawa.org

Our Vision:
To network with other groups to prevent the trafficking of persons and increase the protection of victims.

Our Mission:
To recognize the human dignity and promote the well-being of all trafficked persons.

Our Goals:
To prevent human trafficking and to protect trafficked persons.

Our Tools:
Education, support services, networking and advocacy.
Message from the Chair

What a year of transition for PACT-Ottawa!

In 2017, the Board reluctantly accepted the resignation of Nikki Lewandowski as Chair. Nikki had committed a great deal of time and energy to the organization in her 6 years on the Board. She was key to developing a 5-year strategic plan, was involved in important initiatives such as Project Impact and the Truck Stop campaign and participated in the annual Freedom Relay and End Slavery Day events. As the new Chair of the Board, I was pleased when she agreed to stay on in a new position of Past Chair for one year to enable a smooth transition. I speak on behalf of the Board when I thank Nikki for her dedication and contribution to PACT-Ottawa.

In May of 2017, not only did I become the new Chair, but we welcomed four additional new Board members. Melissa Cernigoy, Tacha Lehouillier, Pawel Mazurek and Rosanna Carreon all joined the existing team of Emily Miller and Pauline Gagne to create a new dynamic group with a broad perspective on the issue of Human Trafficking. Carolyn Botting joined the Board later in 2017. Throughout our first year we were able to continue work outlined in the Strategic Plan such as developing a Social Media Strategy, revisiting and revising our organizational structure and redefining our relationship with our partners at the Ottawa Coalition to End Human Trafficking. We look forward to building upon this work in the upcoming year.

As the new Chair and a Professional who came to the Board with direct experience working with young victims of human trafficking I was happy to be able to expand the PACT profile by speaking publicly at events like the Women’s March Ottawa and A21 March hosted by My Church. I was invited to attend the new Governor General’s Award ceremony in Commemoration of the Person’s Case and I travelled to Sault Ste Marie to support the PACT Grandmother’s annual Bridge Walk event to bring awareness to the issue of Human Trafficking. Based on my past work history and connection to the Child Welfare system, I was able to use the work of PACT Ottawa to advocate with the Ministry of Community and Social Services to have exploitation included in their new Serious Occurrence Reporting policies for children in care. It was a busy first year as I and the new Board came together to advance the goals of PACT.

Human Trafficking affects far too many vulnerable young people in Canada and beyond and I look forward to continuing the work of PACT-Ottawa to bring further awareness to this important issue. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank all of the volunteers, members and associates who support the work of PACT. Without you, none of this would be possible.

Sincerely,
Terrilee Kelford
Chair,
PACT-Ottawa

Picture from the A21 event hosted by MyChurch in 2017.
A Word of Thanks

PACT-Ottawa would like to express its deepest gratitude to all the individuals that have contributed their time, efforts and energy into the organization over this past year. The contributions of each individual person go a long way in furthering the work that PACT does, the involvement of each person is inspiration to others to act and no task goes unnoticed.

Interested in Becoming a Member?

One way that individuals make a commitment to end human trafficking is to join PACT-Ottawa as a member. Membership fees assist PACT in following its Mission and making a difference to end human trafficking. Members are invited and encouraged to participate in monthly meetings and the Annual General Meeting. Other benefits include:
- Monthly updates on the organization’s activities, projects and events;
- Voting privileges at the Annual General Meeting;
- A voice when the membership makes decisions about the undertakings of PACT;
- Access to resources included in PACT Ottawa’s library;
- Personal and professional development through leadership and training opportunities;
- Gratification of being involved with and contributing to an organization dedicated to raising awareness and educating interested groups and individuals about human trafficking.

Anyone that would like to become a member is welcome! To register, visit www.pact-ottawa.org/members.html.
For more information:
volunteer@pact-ottawa.org

Membership Coordinator:
Nikki Lewandowski
Volunteering for PACT

Volunteers are the backbone of the organization, from the Board of Governors to those that assist with events. Since PACT-Ottawa’s funding is very limited, the contributions made by volunteers allow PACT to work towards its goals. Every hour donated by a volunteer brings PACT that much closer to preventing human trafficking. Dozens of individuals contribute thousands of hours over the course of a year.

These individuals are dedicated and enthusiastic about getting involved with the organization because they know their contributions are appreciated, valued, and most importantly, will make an impact in combating human trafficking. There are many ways that one can get involved with PACT, with various levels of commitment and responsibility. Every area of PACT has volunteering opportunities. Some of these positions include:

- Media Coordinator
- Social Media Coordinator
- Resource Coordinator
- Event assistants
- Fundraisers
- Researchers
- Presenters

Another way that individuals contribute to the organization is through committee work. PACT has a number of sub-committees that are leading research, providing legislative recommendations and/or developing educational materials in areas of human trafficking which are often overlooked such as labour trafficking and organ trafficking. PACT is a respected voice on the topic of legislation for human trafficking.

PACT is also a desired organization for students to complete internships. Students from across Ontario contact the organization because they are passionate about the issue of human trafficking and are impressed with the work carried out by PACT.

Finally, PACT is always open to new opportunities to get individuals involved. If there is an area of interest or a gap to fill, new volunteers are welcome to put their name and suggestion forward. If you are passionate about combating human trafficking and would like to get involved, please email volunteer@pact-ottawa.org.

For more information: volunteer@pact-ottawa.org

**Volunteer Coordinator:**
Emily Miller
2017-2018 Highlights!

Internal Development

This year the Board of Governors experienced a lot of turnover and vacancies not only at the board level, but across other positions in the organization. We hope a restructuring of the organization and sub-committees will stabilize and enhance the activities we can achieve in 2018.

Communications and Website

The PACT-Ottawa website ownership moved from one of the founding members to PACT itself in late 2017. The site continues to be updated to reflect the work of our volunteers.

The development of a Social Media Policy in 2017 will enable us to expand our online presence and provide more content to the public in 2018.

Look for upcoming volunteer opportunities in these areas!

For more information:
communications@pact-ottawa.org
web@pact-ottawa.org

Director of Communications & Web Coordinator:
Mike Redan

Policy and Legal Affairs Committee

The Policy and Legal Affairs Committee has done some research work this year in line with the Strategic Plan. Two members took the lead to coordinate this group, Caitlyn Banks and Amy Dillon. Much research was done in 2017. The group is now looking at how to use this research in a more active role going forward.

Caitlyn resigned from her position in February because of new commitments that now prevent her from putting in the time needed to continue in this leadership role. Amy is also unable to assume that role alone.

Going forward, a first step would be to publish an overview of the research done this year indicating an issue and what is known about how to address it. A next step, after that, would be to get help on how to take the issue to a policy statement, once we have the research documented and the issue clear.

One of the needs of the PLAC is to get someone from PACT-Ottawa to help them move from research and recommendations to a policy statement by connecting them to people who know how to write a policy statement and could provide them with direction. In this way, a minimum effort on someone's part could help the PLAC have an impact with its research and contribute to the struggle against human trafficking.
Recruitment for a new member in the leadership role will be done in the near future.

**PLAC Coordinators:**
Caitlyn Banks and Amy Dillon

For more information or to indicate your interest in this committee:
plac@pact-ottawa.org

**PACT Discussion Group**
Over the course of the past year, the group has engaged in monthly discussions spanning a variety of topics, both directly and indirectly, pertaining to human trafficking.

The main themes that were discussed this past year included:

- The marked disproportion in the demographics of human trafficking victims in the U.S. and Canada who are LGBTQ youth. Despite comprising 19% of those interviewed for the article "One in Five Homeless Youth is a Human Trafficking Victim," the number of LGBTQ youth who indicated they were victims of trafficking made up 36% of the total number of those trafficked.

- The Philanthropy News Digest article also raised the notion of "survival sex." The Group discussed whether survival sex should be considered a form of human trafficking?

- The Ontario Anti-Human Trafficking Act that was passed in May 2017, was also a topic of discussion. It was agreed that this measure, in conjunction with the Ontario government's announcement to invest $72 million in a Strategy to Fight Human Trafficking (June 2016), along with the appointment of an anti-human trafficking director, is a very good step in the right direction.

- In particular, it was considered that these represent creative changes to the law, as they now serve to benefit victims more than the previous legislation - it's considered a positive step that the bill will enable victims to sue their traffickers, rather than have to go through the trauma of reliving their experience in a courtroom.

- One outstanding question the group had was why the restraining order limit was selected to be 3 years (though, it is acknowledged this can be extended multiple times). However, was consideration given to extending this period to something longer, such as 5 years?

- The article "Does 'human trafficking' need a new definition?" by the Institute for Strategic Studies, the group discussed whether the term 'human trafficking' is more reflective of the (Western) society that created it, rather than the actual issue itself. Have we created this term 'human trafficking' based solely upon our understanding of it? Due to elements such as privilege within much of Western society, this makes it easy to disregard
realities like basic calls for survival in other parts the world (e.g. the global south). It is crucial that the enormous distinctions between our society and others around the world is clearly appreciated and understood.

- In the article "Anatomy of a Surrogacy," by Alison Motluk, the group discussion focused around the issue of paid surrogacy and, in particular, the notion of "consent" within the context of this transaction, and the extent to which human rights can be in jeopardy of becoming compromised. While not the case all of the time, the fact that poverty is often the motivation for many women to engage in paid surrogacy had to be acknowledged.

- Another issue that came up in several meetings was the drawing of comparisons between Canadian and U.S. policies for combating human trafficking. So during our most recent meeting, we discussed the article "Special Report: Advocates want to see American strategies implemented in Canada to combat human trafficking." Among the considerations during this discussion, however, were the notable distinctions between the political landscapes of both countries e.g. with regard to policies towards prostitution, migrants, and of course Canada's Indigenous population.

The Discussion Group looks forward to another fruitful year of analyzing a range of human trafficking-related articles, and sharing our thoughts and opinions in an open and friendly forum.

PACT Discussion Group Coordinator: Taylor Heaven

Events

During the past year, the PACT Ottawa Events Team lost its director who has moved out of the Ottawa area. The Team has been struggling to reorganise its structure and have one of its members take on the leadership role.

An effort was made by the Team helped by Board members to plan and hold the Freedom Relay, unfortunately we were not able to get it done for 2017.

In December PACT once again held an event in observation of the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. This year, we presented the film “Human Trafficking Canada” followed by a fire side discussion with a person with lived experience. An information table was set up, so that people could get the more recent statistics and bring info home for further research and reading. The posters that were created by a Student placement were print and shown for the first time at this event. The attendees had the chance to network and mingle.

During the year the Events team has been placed under the responsibility of the Internal Affairs Officer because of the need for so many volunteers to plan these events. We will evaluate this experience and
make further decisions in the year to come.

The Events Team sincerely thanks everyone who attended these events and all the people who donated their time and resources to make things run so smoothly. As always, the team welcomes new members who want to be involved in event planning and execution, and can email events@pact-ottawa.org to learn more about this opportunity.

**Events Coordinator:**
Emily Miller

**PACT Nookimis (Grandmothers)**

Kii-ga-do-waak Nookimisuk - Grandmothers Council Against Human Trafficking.

Here are some of the Highlights of our work in the north:

The idea for a 3 day Grandmothers Gathering Against Human Trafficking grew from the 2016 Bridge Walk. Many 2016 bridge walkers asked if there could be an event in 2017 that also included guest speakers knowledgeable on human trafficking – an event that would draw together professionals and volunteers working in all sectors of society – especially social justice - as well as college and university students, and interested members of the general public.

A proposal was written and submitted to various governmental funding bodies. Through the support and encouragement of MP Terry Sheehan (Sault Ste. Marie), the proposal made it into the hands of INAC’s (Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada) Geraldine Cullingham. Geraldine Cullingham ultimately supported the Proposal, with a budget of $10,000. The 3 day gathering took place in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, October 5, 6th, 7th, 2017.

Guest speakers included renowned Indigenous activist Diane Redsky. Redsky is from Winnipeg, Manitoba and is active in the issue of human trafficking.– She is the Project Director of the Human Trafficking Task Force at the Canadian Women’s Foundation and is a past recipient of Governor General’s Award for her work with Indigenous women. She is the Executive Director of Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre Inc.

Crelene Duck, Victim Services Algoma was a featured speaker as well.

We were also honoured to have Dr. Sheila Smith from The United Nations as a keynote speaker. Dr. smith works on Human Trafficking at the international level. She participated in the 2016 Bridge Walk as well as the 2017 Walk Against Human Trafficking on Oct. 7th, 2017.

Dr. Smith shared insight into Human trafficking on a global scale, where she has been working to combat and educate countries about this horrific crime. Dr. Smith was formerly with PACT Ottawa, and was instrumental in the development of the PACT Nokomis Grandmothers.

Two key note speakers, Shelley Knott and Collin Graham, ONWA (Ontario Native Women’s Association) offered attendees a comprehensive history and update on the work of MMIW (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls). They’re keynote address was powerful and moving, and came just prior to the MMIW hearings in Thunder Bay, Ontario.
The Grandmothers Gathering was supported by a committee of organizations, vested in the work of anti-human trafficking. Several organizations came together to support the Grandmothers Gathering including:

- ONWA – Ontario Native Women’s Association
- MNO – Metis Nation of Ontario
- Nimkii - Nimkii-Naabkawagan Family Crisis Shelter.
- Batchewana First Nation.
- IFC – Indian Friendship Centre
- INAC - Geraldine Cullingham - Senior Officer, Social Programs - Education and Social Programs Directorate. Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
- PACT Ottawa.

Marly Day and Isabelle Meawasige continued the work of the grandmothers, sharing knowledge and advocating for women and girls, especially as it relates to safety and human trafficking. The grandmothers continue to come together as a council and advisory group – to share knowledge and teachings and work on decisions on how to support indigenous women and girls. Ceremony and Indigenous teachings are instrumental in the work that they do.

Donna Pangowish and Allison Recollet work along the North Shore of L. Huron, including Manitoulin Island. Donna and Allison are from Wikwemikong First Nation, and these two grandmothers support women who are going through the court system, especially as it relates to violence against women and girls. They further travel to POW WOW’s and are vigilante as predatory behavior towards young girls can happen at these gatherings.

Marly Day and Isabelle Meawasige made several presentations and have been invited all across the province to speak to groups both small and large - academic institutions, POW WOW’s, the Play, ‘The River Speaks’ where Marly played the role of ‘The Thunderbird Woman’. This advocacy work has become part of their daily lives. Teachings and traditional work is part of what Isabelle and Marly take on as part of who they are – as Anishinaabe women.

Marly Day has been invited to speak to teachers and staff at an upcoming PD day at the Huron-Superior Catholic District School Board, Sault Ste. Marie on the issue of human trafficking.

Isabelle Meawasige has been invited to serve as part of an Elders’ Council in February, 2018 at a Conference in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, which she has accepted.

In late October, 2017, Isabelle was in Nappanee, Kingston and Toronto Ontario speaking at local schools, and working to educate grandmothers about getting involved in the work to fight against human trafficking.

In November, 2017, Marly Day, Isabelle Meawisge and Lynne Brown travelled to Orangeville, Ontario to participate in a three day retreat at The Ecology Retreat Centre, Hockley Valley. The theme of the retreat was ‘Righting Relations’ and was a deep dive into issues surrounding all ethnicities, including the black community, Muslim community, Indigenous community, refugees and much more.

The Grandmothers Council continues to work together and have attended several events, including most recently, The Anishinabek Health Conference held in Sault Ste. Marie, Jan.23-25th, 2018.
The Grandmothers conduct ceremonies several times a year in their respective communities.

Marly Day began working as an elder at the Urban Aboriginal School (ADSB) – Algoma District School Board - in 2017. Marly Day attends Hope Alliance meetings at the Gore Street Neighbourhood Resource Centre (Sault Ste. Marie) on a monthly basis. Marly represents the Grandmothers Council on that committee. Hope Alliance is a committee made up of various organizations within Algoma District working on social justice issues, including combatting violence against women as well as human trafficking.

**Objective:**
To support women and community partners in working together to develop and implement a community action plan that addresses the issue of trafficking of women and girls for sexual exploitation including its root causes.

The Grandmothers Council is currently working with The Missanabie Cree First Nation on an event to be held on the annual anti-human trafficking day. Feb. 22nd, 2018, marked the first ever provincial day set aside to focus on the crime of human trafficking.

**Head Grandmother:**
Isabelle Meawasige

**Lead Grandmother:**
Marly (Marlene) Day

**Treasurer:**
Donna Grenier

**Secretary:**
Lynne Brown

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**Education**

The central goal of the Public Education arm of PACT-Ottawa is the ongoing education of its members and the general public regarding contemporary slavery and human trafficking.

This year the Speakers Bureau (SB) has increased its outreach and has created many new and interesting partnerships. SB has worked with the RCMP, CPO and AlterEgo Creative solutions to showcase the play Chelsea’s Choice in Ottawa. Six presentations in 2 high schools and 3 public presentations were delivered. We have also partnered with the OCDSB and Voice Found to bring awareness to high schools in the area, with the JPIC Office at SPU to give awareness at the university, with a social worker in Lanark County and a teacher at John Abbott College to do awareness in those areas. With the OCEHT we have presented at the Ottawa Teachers Symposium again this year.

We have continued to offer the Project Impact sessions in High Schools, Colleges and Universities. We have also been invited to give awareness to Lutheran Parishes, Women’s groups, a group of Lions, a group of interpreters, a religious Congregation leadership Team and a group of Associates in Sudbury ON. SB has accepted to be part of a Francophone Consultative Committee on Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation, to see what services are available in French and to prepare awareness materials. SB has continued our partnership with the Comité Réseau d’Ottawa, a group of Francophone frontline workers and has continued to give education at the members meeting.

SB has welcomed a student placement from the Michaëlle-Jean Centre for Global and Community Engagement.
This has been a very good experience for the student and for SB. Six posters have been created, 3 in each of the official languages.

SB has continued to work with the PACT Nookimis to support them in their work (see report above).

We have given 22 presentations of which 2 were in French, have organised 9 presentations of Chelsea’s Choice, have staffed tables at 5 events and done interviews, some in French and some in English. We have thus reached almost 3000 people directly through our public awareness, and many more through the articles written and the programs viewed because of our interviews.

Sarah Beggs has left the Coordinator position in July and was replaced by Tess Porter in January.

As we go forward we see SB expanding and touching a wider population through our various partnerships and with the PACT Nookimis. We will continue the youth awareness using the findings from Project ImPACT, the latest statistics available and the presentations of other forms of HT. We are exploring other possibilities for future collaboration…

To invite a member of the SB to give a presentation, please contact: education@pact-ottawa.org.

Many thanks to all who have participated in the SB! Your work has made this outreach and expansion possible.

For more information:
education@pact-ottawa.org

**Director of Education:**
Pauline Gagne

**Education Coordinator:**
Tess Porter

### Ottawa Coalition to End Human Trafficking (OCEHT)

The mandate of OCEHT is to meet the resource and support needs of trafficked persons, and to provide training on human trafficking to service providers. Originally a sub-committee of PACT, OCEHT became a separate organization in 2014. It is led by a Chair and Vice Chair. The OCEHT is composed of members, observing members, network members, volunteers, survivors, and is supported by the work of 10 committees. The OCEHT is action-driven and victim-centered, determined to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those affected by trafficking through service improvement and partnership development.

The OCEHT and PACT continue to review the relationship between the two organizations and have decided that although maintaining a close working relationship is desired, PACT no longer needs to sit in the position of Vice-Chair for the OCEHT. We continue to partner on grants, events and public education opportunities, but work together as partners as opposed to a unified entity.

In 2017/2018 PACT and the OCEHT were able to partner on grant applications, student placements and educational workshops. We continue to look for ways to work together and other community partners to further our mutual goals.

**For more information about the OCEHT:**
info@endhumantrafficking.ca

**Chair OCEHT**
Zaneta Miranbigi
# Finance

## Income statement FY2018 (unaudited)

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## Balance sheet - at Mar 31 2018 (unaudited)

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<td>Liabilities and Equity</td>
<td>$58 300,41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about the Financial Statement contact:

**Treasurer**

Tacha Lahouillier

PACT-Ottawa
PACT–Ottawa Board of Governors 2017-2018

Terrilee Kelford
Chairperson

Pauline Gagne
Vice-Chairperson
External Affairs Officer &
Director of Speakers Bureau

Tacha Lahouillier
Treasurer

Pawel Mazurek
Board Member

Emily Miller
Internal Affairs Officer

Rosanna Carreon
Board Member

Melissa Cernigoy
Secretary

Nikki Lewandoski
Past-Chairperson

Carolyn Botting
Board Member (Dec. 2017 – May 2018)