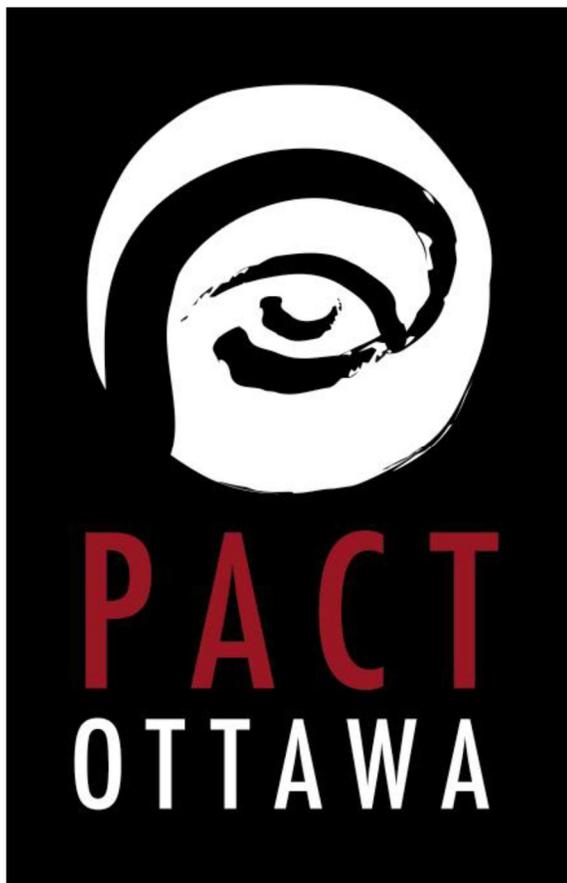


Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking in Humans Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020-2021

2021-06-28



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. 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 collaborates 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 Antihuman 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 regularly 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

Facebook: @pact.ottawa

Twitter: @PACTottawa

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.

A word of thanks

On behalf of PACT-Ottawa, I want to thank each one of you who have contributed in one way or another during this year, which has not been easy because of the pandemic. I deeply appreciate all that you have been to and done for PACT this year. You have gone above and beyond what is normally asked of you and it has helped our organisation continue its mission.

Giving extra volunteer time, when each one's life has been completely changed by a pandemic that doesn't seem to want to leave us, has certainly been a challenge for you. Today I want to personally thank you for this! Together we have kept the organisation going and will continue to do this in the future.

I wish to extend a special thanks to the Board members who have met monthly to make the needed decisions and to support the members' endeavours. I want to thank the members of the social media and PLAC groups who have found creative ways to continue the work.

To each member and volunteer, thank you, thank you, thank you!

Message from the Chair

This year has been quite a challenging one, as COVID-19 continued to keep us confined and limited to online activities.

Many new ideas came out of our members along with new energy! We set up two groups: 1 - the social media group, to ensure that our work of education could continue on the social media platforms and 2 - the Policy and Legal Affairs Committee group was revived with new energy and new plans. Below you will find more information on these two groups.

The online activities also opened us to the possibility of a variety of online sessions and conferences, some local, some national and some international, that we could not have attended had the pandemic not been part of our life. The Board and some of the members have been able to benefit from these conferences and workshops and will be able to use not only this information going forward, but also the networking possibilities that this has opened up to us. It has been a time to learn and to reflect on the issue of human trafficking in a new and broader way.

As the pandemic continued, we have noticed COVID fatigue setting in and the reality of giving extra time online, in a day where many are working at home and online all day and not being able to continue with the volunteer work. This is completely understandable! We hope that, in the "new normal", we will find again the members who have had to leave us because of COVID fatigue. This fatigue has also brought the organisation to a slower pace and has delayed some of the activities we had hoped to do this year.

As I look back at the year, I am proud of what PACT has been able to accomplish in these hard times and hope for a brighter future in the year to come. We do hope to pick-up and resume our activities in a new way this coming year.

Pauline Gagne, sco
Chairperson

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:

Vacant at this time

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.

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.

What happened in 2020-2021

When the pandemic started in March 2020, most people did not anticipate that it will last as long as it has nor did anyone anticipate the various ways it would impact our lives individually and collectively as a community.

Personally, it impacted me in both positive and challenging way. Challenging because it resulted in schools resorting to online schooling, leaving me with more responsibilities. As a single parent, it meant I had to teach my kids, while at the same time go through my lawyer licensing process and fulfil my duties as volunteer coordinator to Pact-Ottawa. This left me struggling to meet up with my responsibilities to Pact-Ottawa and feeling guilty about it because volunteering with Pact-Ottawa is my way of giving back to this city and I find it rewarding.

Positive impact because it made everything online and this helped me take advantage of that opportunity to complete my lawyer licensing process in Ontario through the Law Practice Program at Ryerson University, Toronto wholly online. I am happy to announce that I am now licensed to practice law in Canada. This leaves me a little room to meet up with my responsibilities as volunteer coordinator while job searching.

Hopefully, like me other people found positive things to take away from this pandemic while we keep hoping to return to a 'new normal' as soon as possible.

Volunteer Coordinator:

Adaeze Nnaemezie

Events

COVID has had an undeniable negative impact on events across the country and PACT is no exemption. Over the past year, PACT has taken a pause on hosting events of its own, but has taken this opportunity to highlight and promote existing events. In July 2020, we highlighted the event hosted by [Free Them](#) on World Day Against Human Trafficking. Every year, PACT participates in some way to bring awareness to human trafficking during End Slavery Day on December 2. In December 2020, PACT decided to support the [Dressember](#) initiative through which thousands of advocates bring attention to human trafficking by wearing a dress or tie during the 31 days of December. We brought attention to the "[Because I am Human](#)" Campaign in February 2021, which aims to bring awareness about the realities of migrant trafficking in Canada.

As we move into this new year with a hopeful outlook as vaccines roll out, we hope to plan and organize a mixture of events, starting with virtual events and hopefully progressing to in-person events as circumstances improve. We encourage any members with new or innovative suggestions for events to please reach out to the events coordinator, Chelsey Enriquez, at events@pact-ottawa.org.

Events Coordinator:
Chelsey Enriquez!

2019-2020 Highlights!

PACT welcomed a student placement in January, Florence Bovet, who is doing her Masters degree in Social Worker, in French, at Ottawa University. Florence was with PACT for 3 months and has helped out in many areas. She has written the following message for our annual report:

“Dear PACT members,

I wanted to thank you all for welcoming me into your community, allowing me to learn from your work. Though at-a-distance, I truly had a wonderful experience as a placement student with you. Throughout my time with PACT, I had the opportunity to critically reflect, challenge

pre-conceived notions and grow as a social work student, and for that I am grateful.”

Thank you Florence for your time with us, for the work done and for your presence to our organisation.

Internal Development

The pandemic has made internal development a bit harder this year. We have put into place a social media working group and have revived the PLAC group. You will see below more on what these 2 groups have accomplished, in spite of the pandemic.

The Board has started a reflection on what expertise PACT brings and where we feel we need to put our energies. We are still at the reflection stage and will bring our thoughts to the membership once they are clearer so that together they can be fleshed out. We hope this will happen in the coming year.

Communications and Website

Our online presence has been continued on both our social media platforms, thus providing more content to the public., thanks to Danielle Kennedy who was responsible for of our Social Media platforms until October. We thank Adesola and Leeanne who have taken on the responsibility from Danielle.

The social media group has worked on 2 podcasts that we hope will be launched in the near future. We still need to tweak them a bit. Of the 2 podcasts, one is in French and was done by Florence during her time with us. Thank you Florence!

Social Media Coordinator:
Adesola Anyaegbu

Basic maintenance and updates were performed on the website, as well as managing user email addresses under pact-ottawa.org.

Website Coordinator:
Mike Redan

Policy and Legal Affairs Committee

PLAC has continued to pursue its historical mandate, using the tools of research, advocacy and accountability to ensure the dignity and wellbeing of trafficked persons and those at risk of being trafficked. As a recently restructured committee, PLAC's initial priorities were getting to know our members through regular monthly meetings, sharing our diverse skill sets, creating a common Google drive to facilitate communication and researching mandatory policy and legal documents around the issue of human trafficking.

PLAC's focus this year has been on analyzing the Canadian government's document, *The National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking 2019-2024*. PLAC members realized that the national strategy is a useful tool for comprehending the ways in which governmental priorities are serving those at risk of exploitation and trafficking. We also noted that any information gained regarding anti-trafficking governmental policies, initiatives and expenditures could help identify possible gaps in services. This information could then be used to orient PLAC and PACT-Ottawa's anti-trafficking initiatives in ways that could support governmental efforts.

Using the expertise of PLAC members familiar with governmental proceedings, we opted to file several *Access to Information and Privacy Act (ATIP)* requests. ATIP requests are efficient ways in which the general public can access information from government institutions. These requests are taken very seriously by the government, as it is their mandate to keep concerned citizens informed about policies and to instill public trust and transparency. Once filed, ATIP requests are sent to the appropriate government departments.

Specifically, PLAC will be sending ATIP requests to several government departments, including, Canadian Border Control Services (CBSA), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), Public Safety, Global Affairs, Financial Transactions and Report Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) and the Department of Justice. PLAC's questions are department-specific but in general are focused on understanding the progress of government anti-trafficking strategies, the development and use of multi-sectoral training tools, stakeholder

involvement, global outreach, data collection and online research initiatives. Armed with this information, PLAC will then collaborate with the PACT-board and PACT-Ottawa members on how best to use our tools of education, advocacy and networking to support these governmental anti-trafficking initiatives.

PLAC coordinator:

Vacant

Education

We thank Eileen Kerwin Jones who prepared this education piece for this year's Annual Report, to help us understand the effects of the pandemic on human trafficking.

Human Trafficking in the Time of COVID-19

How has the global pandemic impacted the crime of human trafficking? Has COVID-19 made certain people more vulnerable to being trafficked? If so, who are they, and how are they being exploited? What do we know about persons who were being trafficked before the pandemic? How has COVID-19 affected them? In this current pandemic period, what ought anti-trafficking organizations to do to prevent human trafficking and empower trafficked persons? Undoubtedly, many of us have asked ourselves these questions in the nearly 18 months since the pandemic has reshaped our world and our everyday lives. To provide some answers to these questions, below are some insights into human trafficking in the time of COVID-19.

Global Trends:

The global pandemic has been termed 'the great equalizer.' However, while we all share the same 'COVID storm,' we are not all similarly situated. Understanding the unique contexts of peoples' lives is therefore key to making visible the ways in which systemic inequalities, often at the root of human trafficking, have been heightened by COVID-19. These insights can guide effective anti-trafficking strategies. For example, we know that while travel bans have decreased the crimes of organ trafficking, transplant tourism and transplantation surgeries, other forms of human trafficking, especially online child sex trafficking, have flourished. Moreover, while global efforts to flatten infection rates, such as enforced quarantines, curfews,

lockdowns, travel restrictions and reduced public activities have limited viral spread, they have not inhibited trafficking networks. These necessary public health measures often drive trafficking networks underground, as traffickers adjust their ‘business model’ to the new pandemic normal.

Opportunistic traffickers know that COVID-19 has pushed many marginalized people to breaking points, primarily because of massive job losses. The ILO estimates that as many as 2.7 billion workers (81% of the world’s workforce) have been economically impacted by lockdowns. Traffickers are also keenly aware of the links between poverty and human trafficking. The World Bank states that due to the pandemic, between 40-60 million people are now living in conditions of extreme poverty—particularly those working in the informal economic sectors. For example, in the case of migrant workers, at great risk of exploitation and abuse are the 53 million (mostly women and children) domestic workers. Added to the dismal plight of many migrant workers are reports of increased labor violations by unscrupulous employers who abandon their workers, leaving them unsupported, deprived of passports and wages. Consequently, many migrant workers, especially those caught in the middle of international border closures, are left with little choice but to accept unsafe travel arrangements. Predictably, this renders them easy prey for traffickers. It is reported that in some cases, due to the lack of options, persons who have escaped trafficking situations have returned to their exploiters. Finally, from a gender-sensitive lens, it is increasingly evident that the world’s women have been living through a parallel pandemic. COVID-19 has exacerbated the global pandemic of violence against women. UN Women confirms that all forms of violence against women and children have increased—clearly a worrying indicator for all women and children, and particularly for those who are trafficked. For example, many women and girls are trapped at home with their abusers, while others are forced to flee situations of intimate partner violence, or even faced with ‘sextortion’ by corrupt landlords for failing to meet rent.

“COVID-19 has led to a spike in violence and exposed the pre-existing daily abuse that many women and girls face. Worse still, when essential services were restricted, making them unreachable ... ensuring protection and

securing justice became near unattainable.” Alice Muhairwe, IJM Uganda

Augmenting this ‘perfect trafficking storm’ is that fact that many humanitarian funds have been re-directed from anti-trafficking initiatives to meet urgent pandemic needs. For example, UNHCR reports that because of the pandemic, about 75% of humanitarian operations have been paused. This collateral damage includes the closure of shelters and increased homelessness. Funding cuts have also reduced access to anti-trafficking helplines and hotlines: a limitation further aggravated by the digital divide. In addition, the underfunding of mental health services, counselling, and addiction centres, combined with delays in time-sensitive legal proceedings, compounds existing problems. Overall, a drastic reduction of support services for many trafficked persons has further compromised their already precarious safety and well-being.

It is also important to note that many trafficked persons are more vulnerable to being infected by the virus. Trafficked persons often lack autonomy, leaving them less able to secure their well-being and to prevent contracting COVID-19. They also are less likely to access any health care, should they become ill, or to gain the necessary knowledge about how best to keep themselves healthy. The concept of social distancing—while good in theory—is inherently elitist. Distancing is often not possible within the everyday constraints of many trafficked person’s lives. It is also noteworthy that the “stay at home option to prevent COVID,” as well as lockdowns and quarantine measures can be psychologically triggering for people who have exited a trafficking situation. As one survivor of human trafficking in America explains:

“Survivors are suffering – mental health is suffering – we are having flashbacks of being trapped, of nearly dying, suffocating, of not having food, etc. We need to know that we won’t lose our homes, will have food and will not have to choose between life and income. Do I really have to die? Do I have to feel like I’m being suffocated every time I go out or have to stay in a tiny apartment?” -American HT survivor

As indicated, many anti-trafficking organizations have reported a global increase in child sex trafficking during COVID-19. This crime is undoubtedly aided by several factors: a nefarious online environment where sexual predators capitalize on school closures, children spending more time unsupervised online and the relative invisibility of online trafficking victims. International law enforcement agencies also report an increased demand for online sexual abuse material. It is also important to note that schools are often safe havens for vulnerable children. For example, the UN estimates that school meals are the only reliable source of nutrition for at least 370 million children in our world. Consequently, the pandemic-related reduction in educational support systems means that many children are forced to work in the streets to secure their basic food and income. The worldwide increases in child-sex trafficking are sadly predictable in this synergistic scenario.

The Canadian Context:

Human trafficking continues to be under-reported in official Canadian data. Yet national reports are consistent with the global trends identified above: human trafficking—particularly sex trafficking and labour exploitation- are flourishing in Canada during COVID-19. Human trafficking in Canada has increased due to many factors identified above, including the redirection of funding to pandemic-related services and the consequent interruptions of multiple anti-trafficking support services. Here at home, the closure of schools translates into a reduction of important support networks for many vulnerable Canadian youth.

“Vulnerable people are more vulnerable and more susceptible (if they are not being already being trafficked), to being trafficked.” Canadian HT survivor

PACT-Ottawa is well situated: two-thirds of police-reported human trafficking violations in Canada occur in Ontario and 70% of known human trafficking victims identified by police are under the age of 25, with 28% under the age of 18. The average age of recruitment into sex trafficking is 13 years old, the province said, with women and girls particularly at risk, especially those from Indigenous communities. Children, especially those in care, as well as LGBTQ2S youth, are also targeted. Interestingly, this recent Canadian pandemic data on sex

trafficking is consistent with many of the insights gained from PACT-Ottawa’s 2014 research, *Project Impact*. As with the global data, the increased use of technology during COVID is also connected to the rise in sex trafficking offenses in Canada, especially that of minors.

“Another consequence of the lockdown is that young people have been more online, putting them at risk of online traffickers... While it is still early to get the full picture of how the lockdown has affected online child exploitation, chatter in dark web forums indicate that offenders see the pandemic as an opportunity to commit more offences against children.” -RCMP Spokesperson

The quote above is consistent with data from Alberta that reports a 50% increase in online child exploitation, especially luring and grooming of minors online. Moreover, chatter in dark web forums indicate offenders see the evolving pandemic as an opportunity. The parallel pandemic of violence against women is also a Canadian reality. The face of poverty in Canada is overwhelmingly female, and it is well-known that COVID-19 has disproportionately negatively impacted Canadian women and their children. In particular, the fact that all forms of violence against women and children have increased during the pandemic is a worrying indicator for living conditions of trafficked women and girls. For those coerced into the sex trade, a fall in trafficker’s profit margins can further aggravate already exploitive living conditions. Clearly a gender-sensitive lens is necessary for understanding this increased vulnerability of Canadian girls and women during COVID-19. Ongoing research and advocacy are critical in this domain.

Few Canadians recognize that migrant workers are the backbone of our workforce. Across multiple sectors, including farms, meat processing plants, retail and long-term care homes, migrant workers are living and working in increasingly precarious situations that render them vulnerable both to being trafficked and to becoming COVID+. Often deprived of legal status, equal rights and basic human needs, migrant workers have long suffered recruiter exploitation, poverty wages, unsafe working conditions, along with threats of deportation. Moreover, during the pandemic, many were forced to keep working and were unable to adequately protect themselves. For these vulnerable workers,

compliance is the norm, as speaking up can spell termination, homelessness, and deportation. Sadly, thousands of migrant workers contracted the virus, and many died. For example, Canadian research indicates that at least 1300 farm workers contracted COVID-19, and many experienced limited or no access to health care and benefits. In the last six months, *Members of Migrant Rights Network* have organized over 27 protests across Canada. They have lobbied the government and raised awareness of the plight of these essential workers; they have demanded greater equity, including legal status in Canada. The crisis of migrant workers in Canada presents an important opportunity for PACT-Ottawa to align with other activist groups and create effective strategies that will ensure justice for these essential workers.

“Full immigration status for all is an essential step towards eliminating inequalities in the workplace and necessary for a transition to a just and sustainable economy of care.” We call for a single-tier immigration system, where everyone in Canada has the same rights. All migrants, refugees, students, workers and undocumented people in the country must be regularized and given full immigration status now without exception. All migrants arriving in the future must do so with full and permanent immigration status.” --Migrant Rights Network

Conclusion:

As we (hopefully) head into a post-pandemic world, this brief overview of human trafficking in the time of COVID-19 can guide PACT-Ottawa’s anti-trafficking efforts. In general, the pandemic has reinforced the importance that PACT’s basic principles continue to shape our advocacy and our activism. First and foremost, our analyses and policies need to be survivor-centered and inclusive of the real experiences of trafficked persons. Our work also needs to ensure that the social, economic and political rights of marginalized persons are upheld. Failure to do so often creates the conditions of possibility for trafficking to occur. The pandemic has also reinforced the reasons why our anti-trafficking analyses must be intersectional. That is, they need to remain sensitive to issues of systemic racism, misogyny, gender bias and a history of colonization.

More specifically, due to the increased online sexual exploitation of children, PACT’s efforts to promote critical media literacy for children, parents, and the community at large, cannot be over-emphasized. Podcasts and other forms of creative online education can be effective anti-trafficking strategies. When face-to-face teaching is again possible, it is critical that our education efforts remain at the forefront of our work. Acknowledging the parallel pandemic of violence against women and girls is also critical, as is challenging gender bias, everyday sexism and misogyny in all anti-trafficking strategies. COVID-19 will end at some future point. Sadly, the pandemic of violence against women and girls, often connected to trafficking situations, shows no end date. Comprehending the complex plights of migrant workers in Canada, and working in greater solidarity to promote their social, economic and legal human rights, are important future endeavors. On a positive note, PACT-Ottawa’s work in “*The Truck Stop Campaign*” has indirectly proven vital during the pandemic. Reportedly, truckers, who often have greater flexibility with travel restrictions, have been the “eyes and ears of our roads” and have intervened in trafficking situations.

References

- Act Alberta (The Action Coalition on Human Trafficking Alberta) @<https://www.actalberta.org>
- Amunga, Victoria, “Gender-Based Violence Cases Quintuple in Kenya During Pandemic, Survey Says, (May 27, 2021) @<https://www.voanews.com>
- Bain, Christina et al., “The Evolution of Human Trafficking during the COVID-19 Pandemic,” *Center for the Study of Europe at Boston University, Pardee School of Social Ethics*, (August 13, 2020) @ <https://www.cfr.org/blog/evolution-human-trafficking>
- Baldwin, Derek, “New Supports Created for Survivors of Human Trafficking,” *The Intelligencer* (August 24, 2020) @ <https://www.intelligencer.ca>
- Bobrow, Mary Anne, “COVID-19’s Impact on Human Trafficking,” *MPI* (July 29, 2020), <https://www.mpi.org>
- Gallorini, Marguerit, “Coronavirus pandemic has opened opportunity for human trafficking,” (June 10, 2020) @<https://sexualassaultsupport.ca>
- Global Newswire*, “Labour, Climate, Faith & Indigenous Leaders Call for Immigration Status for All in COVID-19 Recovery During Liberal Cabinet Retreat,” (September 2020) @<https://www.globenewswire.com>
- International Labor Organization*, “COVID-19 and the World of Work: Global Impacts and Policy Recommendations (May 18, 2020) @ ilo.org
- Johnson, Sarah, and Ruth Michaelson, “Violence against Women is a Pandemic says UN Envoy,” *The Guardian Weekly* (21 May 2021), p. 24.
- Krugel, Lauren, “Fighting Human Trafficking ‘More Urgent’ Amid Pandemic,” *The Canadian Press* (April 3, 2021) @ <https://globalnews.ca/news/7737005/paul-brandt-alberta-human-trafficking/>
- Migrant Rights Network*, “Full Immigration Status for All.” (2021) info@migrantrights.ca
- Migrant Rights Network* “Hundreds of groups with over 8 million members call for equal rights and permanent immigration status for migrants amidst COVID-19 recovery,” (September 14, 2020) @ www.MigrantRightsRights.ca

Statistics Canada, "Police-Reported Human Trafficking in Canada, 2009-2018" @www.statscan.gc.ca
 UN WOMEN: "Government of Canada invests \$19 million to reduce human trafficking and support those most impacted," *WAGE* (July 2020) @ <https://www.canada.ca> >
 UN Women, "The Shadow Pandemic: Violence against Women during COVID-19," (2020) @ <https://www.unwomen.org>
 UN WOMEN: Addressing Human Trafficking Trends and Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic," (2020) <https://www.unwomen.org>
 UN Human Rights COVID-19 Position Paper: The Impact and Consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on trafficked and exploited persons (June 2020); <https://www.ohchr.org>
 UN News, "COVID-19 crisis putting human trafficking victims at risk of further exploitation," (May 6, 2020) news.un.org
 UNODC "Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Trafficking in Persons," *Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section, Vienna, 2020* @ <https://www.unodc.org>
 Weisberg, Nicole. "Truckers encouraged to keep watch for human trafficking," *Edmonton News* (March 25, 2021) @ <https://edmonton.ctvnews.ca/truckers-encouraged-to-keep-watch-for-human-trafficking-1.5362347>
 Westlake, David. "Violence: The parallel pandemic to COVID-19," *International Justice Mission* (12 May 2021) @ <https://news.trust.org>

Speakers Bureau has continued to do some awareness online during this year to CEJEP and College students.

We also participate to interviews for articles and wrote articles on Human trafficking.

We have reached some 500 students and many more people through the articles written with our participation.

For more information:
education@pact-ottawa.org

Director of Education:

Pauline Gagne

Education Coordinator:

Vacant

Human Trafficking and the Hospitality Industry:

National Capital Region Initiative

This initiative has been put on hold until the pandemic is over and the hotel industry has started up again. We will keep you posted.

Ottawa Coalition to End Human Trafficking (OCEHT)

The OCEHT and PACT continue to work together and partner on common projects.

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

Chair OCEHT: Garifalia Milousis chair@endhumantrafficking.ca

Finance

Income statement FY2020 (unaudited)

Revenue

Revenue – Administration	\$ 0,00
Revenue – Membership	\$ 381,35
Donations	\$ 62,51
Speaker's bureau	\$ 0,00
Freedom Relay 2016	\$ 0,00
End Slavery Day 2016	\$ 0,00
Project imPACT	\$ 0,00
TruckSTOP project	\$ 0,00
Restricted Funds	\$ 0,00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 0,00
Fundraising Revenue	\$ 0,00
Public Safety Grant	\$ 0,00
Total income	\$ 443,86

Expenses

Membership & Subscriptions	\$ 250,00
Donations Expenses	\$ 0,00
Insurance Expenses	\$ 831,00
Rent	\$ 3 121,20
Bell mobility	\$ 95,60
Office expenses	\$ 0,00
Postage	\$ 0,00
Social/refreshments/gifts	\$ 0,00
Conferences/meetings	\$ 0,00
Freedom Relay 2019	\$ 0,00
PACT AGM	\$ 0,00
End Slavery Day 2019	\$ 0,00
Speaker's Bureau Expenses	\$ 0,00
Promotional material	\$ 0,00
TruckSTOP Project Expenses	\$ 0,00
Retreat Expenses	\$ 0,00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 0,00
Total expenses	\$ 4 297,80

Net surplus (Revenue-Expenses)

(\$ 3 853,94)

Balance sheet - at Mar 31 2020 (unaudited)

Assets

Bank – TD Canada Trust Chequing	\$ 38 224,25
Petty cash	\$ 0,00
Paypal account	\$ 2 410,08
Short-term Investments	\$ 0,00
Accounts receivable	\$ 0,00
HST Receivable	\$ 1 409,94
Cash advances	\$ 0,00
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 1 319,10
Total Assets	\$ 43 363,37

Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 0,00
Outstanding Cheques	\$ 0,00
Deferred revenue	\$ 0,00
Total Liabilities	\$ 0,00

Equity

Accumulated Surplus	\$ 19 953,13
Retained Earnings	\$ 19 368,81
Restricted – Speakers Bureau	\$ 7 835,37
Current Earnings	(\$ 3 793,94)
Total Equity	\$ 43 363,37

Liabilities and Equity

Dieudonne Vuninggoma, Treasurer	Pauline Gagne, Chairperson
------------------------------------	-------------------------------

This year saw no specific revenues or expenses related to funded projects or the like; transactions were comprised of day-to-day business. The primary sources of income are donations, events and member-ship fees. The majority of expenses are related to those same items, as well as operational expenses such as insurances and office rental.

Unaudited financial statements for FY2019-2020 appear above. As in previous years, PACT-Ottawa will seek the approval of its membership for exemption from audit at the Annual General Meeting on June 16, 2020 as income was less than \$100,000.

PACT–Ottawa Board of Governors 2019-2020

Pauline Gagne Chairperson External Affairs Officer & Director of Speakers Bureau	Danielle Kennedy Vice-chairperson (to October)
--	--

Adesola Anyaegbu Secretary Social Media	Dieudonne Vuninggoma Treasurer (to June) Fundraising
--	---

Leeanne Harvey Vice-chairperson (in Oct.) Social Media	Eileen Kerwin Jones Board Member PLAC
---	--

Debbie Palmer Board Member PLAC	Kabahenda Kiggundu Board Members (in September) PLAC
--	---

Louis Karangura (1-yr leave until Feb. 2021, has not come back)
Board Member

Word of thanks to our benefactors

PACT-Ottawa wishes to extend a special thanks to all those who have given donations to our organisation!

We also thank our members and volunteers who have contributed time and effort this year to keep our organisation up and running!

Thank you!