



St. Leonard's Society of Canada
Société St-Léonard du Canada

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2012-2013



Fostering safer communities.
Contribuer à des collectivités plus sûres.

MISSION

The mission of SLSC is to promote a humane and informed justice policy and responsible leadership to foster safe communities. It:

- i) endorses evidence-based approaches to criminal and social justice;*
- ii) conducts research and develops policy;*
- iii) supports its member affiliates; and*
- iv) advances collaborative relationships and communication among individuals and organizations dedicated to social justice.*

A Word from the Outgoing President



This year saw the release of our research report “Homes for the Hard to House.” Building on work done over the past three years, this report presents a roadmap for the development of housing options for Hard to House vulnerable members of any community across our great nation. Our Research & Policy Advisor Anita Desai has catalogued detailed aspects of how to design and implement a housing program with input from service-providers from ocean to ocean. We are delighted that funding has been authorized by our collaborators at Human Resources and Skills Development Canada to conduct pilot site testing of the findings. Communities who take up the opportunities that will emerge will be better able help persons formerly in conflict with the law become contributing members of the society against whom they have previously offended.

Doug Caldwell, President

A Word From the Executive Director



At the beginning of the 2012/13 year, we learned that government was ending its support of LifeLine®, our award-winning peer service for the life-sentenced. Shortly after, there was good news of commitments by government to research in the field of supported housing and bridging the gaps that criminalize people with mental health illnesses. Legislation continues to be advanced that will make reintegration of sentenced people more difficult; for example, the change to Record Suspension from Pardon and the longer periods of ineligibility. On the other hand, there is increasing coverage of fact-based material in mainstream publications.

Building awareness of the facts and needs in the criminal justice system is a key concern. SLSC has ramped up our social media presence on Facebook, Twitter and our website as part of our commitment to promote effective and humane justice policy. Anita Desai developed two important contributions to the field of facts: Homes for the Hard to House, a model and research report on the effectiveness of and promising practices in second stage housing; and a second, expanded edition of *Towards an Integrated Network, Working Together to Avoiding the Criminalization of People with Mental Health Problems*.

At the celebration of SLH Windsor’s 50 years of service, Senator Romeo Dallaire encouraged us to remember the humanity in all and to stand up for the morally and ethically right position. In times of challenge, these are principles to adopt.

Elizabeth White, Executive Director



Second Stage Housing is and continues to be a top research priority at SLSC. The 2012-13 year saw the completion of the Homes for the ‘Hard to House’ project, which produced two reports: *The H2H Model* and the *Research Report on Developing the H2H Model*. Both documents were circulated nationally and have been well received by stakeholders. SLSC is pleased to continue this work by testing the H2H Model through a pilot project funded by the Government of Canada’s Homelessness

Partnering Strategy into the next year.

Additionally, with the support of the Law Foundation of Ontario, a second edition of SLSC’s *Towards an Integrated Network* was published and allowed us to take a closer look at how Canadians are working to avoid the criminalization of people with mental health problems and illnesses. The focus on policy initiatives included issues pertaining to: mental health, electronic monitoring, and capital punishment. SLSC remains committed to approaching these issues from a humane and informed justice policy. On behalf of SLSC, I’d like to thank all of our staff and placement students who have contributed their efforts towards the research and policy initiatives undertaken over the past year.

**Anita Desai, Research and
Policy Advisor**

ST. LEONARD’S SOCIETIES STATS

	Available Beds	Total Bed Nights	Residential Clients Served	Total Clients Served
House of Hope (Ottawa)	21	7,521	60	110
Maison Cross Roads (Montreal)	59	17,702	115	621
Shelter Nova Scotia	129	40,508	833	1,030
St. Leonard’s Community Services London and Region	44	14,255	206	6,206
St. Leonard’s Home – Trenton	10	N/A	58	58
St. Leonard’s House – Windsor	25	7,866	65	3,065
St. Leonard’s Place – Peel	97	43,310	199	199
St. Leonard’s Society of Hamilton	50	18,431	127	233
St. Leonard’s Society of North Vancouver	9	2,678	38	38
St. Leonard’s Society of Peterborough	18	7,176	42	60
St. Leonard’s Society of Sudbury	20	6,500	18	18
St. Leonard’s Society of Toronto	16	5,073	47	225
SLSC	—	—	—	200
TOTAL	498	171,020	1,808	12,063

SLSC wishes to thank the many donors who supported our work through the past year.

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Public Safety Canada

Correctional Service of Canada

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada

The Law Foundation of Ontario

Audited financial statements available on request



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