

# Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

Annual Report 2015-2016



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Centre for Forensic  
Behavioural Science  
and Justice Studies

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# Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

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**Annual Report 2015-16**

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## **Message from the Director**

Welcome to the Annual Report of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies (the Centre). Having been approved by University Council on May 19, 2011, 2015-16 marked the fourth full year of operation as a University Centre. In my view, the Centre has established itself on the University of Saskatchewan campus as an active and fully operational Centre with a diverse collection of programs and activities either completed or under way. Below are some of the highlights from 2015-16 and a look at possibilities for the future.

The Centre is delighted to maintain its working relationship with its three key partners in the justice community: the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) along with its local facility the Regional Psychiatric Centre, the RCMP F Division (Saskatchewan), and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Corrections and Policing Division. A new player on the scene is the Community Safety Knowledge Alliance (CSKA), which was created with the assistance of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, is based in Saskatoon, and has begun to refer research projects to the Centre that focus on Saskatchewan justice issues, particularly in the north.

The content of this Annual Report describes in some detail a listing of ongoing and completed projects. I would like to highlight a few of them that were approaching completion at year's end and I believe represent some of the Centre's important justice-related work. We have been working closely with the Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) to conduct a process review of an Aboriginal healing lodge, Buffalo Sage Wellness House, which is operated by the Native Counselling Services of Alberta by means of a Section 81 agreement with CSC. Our evaluation report was favourable and we have since been advised that CSC is now planning to double the facility's capacity.

Our most substantial project in 2015-16 was a detachment planning process, which was conducted for the RCMP F Division (Saskatchewan). It involved the collection and analysis of diverse sets of data (crime, coverage, quality of life, and community assets) and use of a geographic information system (GIS) to assist the RCMP to determine the ideal location of RCMP detachments throughout Saskatchewan. The report was submitted to the RCMP, which is now undertaking its internal review of detachments in Saskatchewan. A review of parallel crime victimization data sets was completed for the RCMP and Saskatchewan Justice that offered a snapshot of (victim reported) crime in Saskatchewan in 2014. Plans are underway to repeat the exercise in 2016-17 in order to track trends over time.

A number of projects commanded much of the Centre's staff time over the last year. Dr. Lisa Jewell, our Research Officer, devoted the first part of the year to finishing off the RCMP detachment review described above and then became immersed in an initial phase of a project designed to assess the application of Justice Canada's Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision program to young offenders under the responsibility of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice. This first phase investigated the types of mental health, education, and employment programs available to IRCS youth who are reintegrating into

communities in northern Saskatchewan, the strengths and challenges associated with the delivery of these programs to IRCS youth in northern Saskatchewan, and how technology may be used to increase the youth's access to the programming they require in these communities. Dr. Krista Mathias, our post-doctoral fellow, assumed a lead role in our ongoing initiative to conduct an evaluation of Saskatoon's Mental Health Strategy (MHS), a specialized court for accused persons with mental health issues. The study aims to determine the potential impact of the MHS by examining court and health records of its participants. She was assisted by Courtney Florchinger, who conducted her Honour's Thesis in psychology, by surveying professionals' observations and comments about the MHS, as part of the larger evaluation exercise. With the assistance of graduate student, Amy Pilon, the Forensic Centre also completed a report for Public Safety Canada, which examined the use of a common risk/need assessment instrument (LS/CMI) with offenders convicted of Driving While Impaired (DWI) offences.

The Centre's engagement with the voluntary sector is represented most strongly by continued new contracts with the Saskatoon Rotary Club and its Restorative Action Program (RAP) that it operates in both local school boards in Saskatoon, with independent counsellors placed in Saskatoon high schools. That program is now expanding into Alberta and the Centre will assist with its implementation there. Carolyn Camman, a former employee and now consultant to the Forensic Centre, continues to spearhead this initiative. Another former employee and current consultant to the Forensic Centre, Dr. Chad Nilson, continues working with the Centre extending his earlier work on the Hub Model, which has since been applied to many jurisdictions across Canada, by investigating technological solutions to offering Hubs in remote northern communities in Saskatchewan. Their continued association speaks to their commitment to important issues of justice and wellbeing which the Centre has tackled and the Centre's confidence in them as applied researchers and evaluators.

The formal signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between the University of Saskatchewan (CFBSJS), the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, and the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) to establish the Predictive Analytics Laboratory (PAL) in the new SPS building in Saskatoon was an important event that occurred in 2015-16. This agreement allows for the creation of a highly sophisticated and highly secure computer laboratory to collate and analyze large collections of data from various sources, including policy agencies, social services and health-related organizations. The purpose of the PAL is to conduct research that will facilitate police operations and contribute to crime prevention in Saskatchewan and ultimately beyond. The first project that has been sanctioned by the three partners is a study on missing persons in Saskatchewan. The Centre is fortunate to have Dr. Daniel Anvari, from the Department of Mathematics, as a part-time staff member and the lead representative of the Centre in the PAL. The official opening of the PAL generated considerable media attention, both for the Laboratory and the Centre.

The Centre's core programs (Faculty Research Grants, Student Research Awards, and Graduate Student Scholarships) continued through 2015-16, with 3 graduate student scholarships being awarded, 4 new graduate student research projects supported and 4 faculty proposals being funded (pages 17-19). In all, over \$104,500 was awarded to faculty and students in 9 different departments and colleges. I wish to extend my congratulations to all

recipients and my sincere gratitude to all of the adjudicators that sat on the respective approval committees.

A couple of key events were sponsored by the Centre in the past year. The Centre hosted a Public Forum at the University of Saskatchewan entitled, *Mental Health and the Justice System: Saskatchewan Responds*, featuring a number of local experts. The event was broadcast live on the Internet and then posted on the Centre's website. The Centre also provided financial support to the fourteenth biennial *Custody & Caring Conference*, which was offered by the College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan.

The fifteenth edition of the *Biennial Symposium on Violence and Aggression (V&A)* was held in June, 2014. With the low cost setting and contributions from the Correctional Service of Canada, Saskatchewan Justice, the Saskatoon Police Service, and SSHRC, it was able to remain financially viable and turned a small profit. Delegate feedback was also very supportive and appreciative of the excellent list of speakers who were able to amass for the event. Therefore, planning was conducted throughout 2015-16 for the sixteenth V&A conference to be held in May, 2016. The Centre would like to express its appreciation and offer thanks to the volunteer members of V&A Planning Committee, who represented various Centre partners and committed many hours to bring the next edition of the conference to a reality. We are also indebted to Dr. Joanie Crandall, the Centre coordinator, who spearheaded the conference planning activities.

Representing justice-interested faculty members, the Executive Committee forms a key part of the governance structure of the Centre. It also assists the Centre in navigating through existing operational issues and charting its future course. In 2015-16, the relationship between the University of Saskatchewan and the Regional Psychiatric Centre was an important agenda item for the Executive Committee. The conscientious efforts of Executive Committee members played a key role in conveying faculty concerns to senior management of the University and in moving these discussions forward. We would also like to thank their voluntary participation on this committee and welcome Professor Heather Heavin, who is succeeding Professor Glen Luther, as the representative from the College of Law. A special thanks goes to Professor Luther, who was a founding member of the Executive Committee and brought his legal perspective to many of our deliberations, including the creation of the Centre itself.

The Advisory Board members of 2014-15 have continued their advisory role with the Centre through 2015-16. Following the retirement of former Fire Chief Dan Paulsen, we have welcomed new member Morgan Hackl, the new Fire Chief for the City of Saskatoon's Fire and Protective Services. We also welcome Vice Dean Jack Gray, College of Arts and Science Associate, who succeeds Dean Lawrence Martz as the chairperson of the Advisory Board and thank Dean Martz for his leadership and support over the last few years.

As we look to the year ahead, we are actively preparing for a number of interesting and, we hope, important research and evaluation projects. We will continue to look at issues related to crime, social conditions, and crime prevention opportunities in northern Saskatchewan. We will examine the issue of bail, the increasing number of accused persons held in custody and the role of pretrial risk assessment. We will work with CSC to examine the validity of its Accountability, Motivation and Engagement (AME) intake assessment process for offenders

entering its institutions. We plan to work with SPS and the Saskatoon Health Region to determine the feasibility of evaluating Saskatoon's Police and Crisis Team (PACT) program.

We will also strive to enhance the University's participation in community engaged scholarship by strengthening our relationship with our community and justice system stakeholders and extend our relationship with more departments and colleges within the University.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Stephen Wormith'.

J. Stephen Wormith  
Director, Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science & Justice Studies



# Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

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## Who We Are

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies was established at the University of Saskatchewan in 2011 to foster interdisciplinary research, education and community engagement related to crime, justice and corrections. Drawing on a wealth of expertise spread across the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine and Nursing, and in unique partnership with the Correctional Service Canada, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F Division, the Centre is a gateway to information, knowledge and inquiry into the vast and multi-faceted social, justice and health-related issues that impact the criminal justice system and that influence the care, treatment and rehabilitation of offender populations including but not limited to Aboriginal peoples, women and youth.

## *Centre Staff*

The Centre is led by **J. Stephen Wormith**, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology and former Research Chair in Forensic Psychology (1999-2005). Dr. Wormith's research interests pertain to the assessment and treatment of offenders, including particular offender groups such as young offenders, sexual offenders, and gangs. He consults with corrections departments in Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Canada, serves in court as an expert witness on matters of offender assessment and treatment, and conducts training of offender risk assessment in Canada and internationally.

**Joanie Crandall**, B.A. (Hon.), B.Ed, M.A., Ph.D., Centre Coordinator, provides management, research and administrative support for all Centre activities. Prior to joining the Centre in 2014, Joanie worked in instructional design and educational media and as an educator and administrator with Grades K-12 students in both urban and remote (First Nations and Inuit) communities as well as at the college and university level. She is also a facilitator of Instructional Skills Workshops and the Book Review Editor for the Journal of the Canadian Association for Curriculum Studies.

**Lisa Jewell**, B.Sc. (Hon.) Psychology, M.A. and Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology, joined the Centre as a Research Officer in 2013. She has 10 years of experience with research and program evaluation and is a credentialed evaluator through the Canadian Evaluation Society. Lisa has played an integral role in numerous Centre projects including the development of a detachment location planning model, a research study examining Housing First for individuals with concurrent mental disorders, and the development and analysis of a provincial survey assessing crime, safety, and victimization in Saskatchewan.

**Daniel Anvari**, Ph.D., joined the Centre as a half-time Research Officer in March 2015. His Ph.D. is in the area of System Dynamic Modeling and he is a certified project manager. His research experience mostly focuses on predictive data analytics, business intelligence, and computer modeling, particularly applications of Multiple-Criteria Decision Making Algorithms and Fuzzy-Logic based Decision Support Systems. He has experience working for Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), Ontario Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Ministry of Social Services, and private industry in Saskatchewan and Ontario.

**Krista Mathias**, B.A. (Hon.) Criminal Justice and Ph.D. in Health Studies and Gerontology joined the Centre as a Postdoctoral Fellow in May 2015. She is also an Associate Fellow of interRAI. Her Ph.D. research focused on gender-based analysis assessing the influences that predict three outcomes among forensic mental health patients in Ontario including restriction to room (seclusion/confined to room), unaccompanied leaves, and freedom of movement. As a Postdoctoral Fellow, Krista's main research focus falls under the purview of Correctional Services Canada; however, she also supports other Centre projects such as the Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy Court evaluation.

### ***Centre Consultants***

**Carolyn Camman**, B.A. (Hon.) Psychology and Criminology and M.A. in Applied Social Psychology, joined the Centre as a Research Officer for 2013-2015. She has over three years of experience conducting evaluation and applied research in a variety of areas, specializing in working with criminal justice-related organizations in Saskatchewan. Her main interests are in program evaluation and organizational capacity building. In 2015, Carolyn began working as a consultant for the Centre providing evaluation support and expertise for the Restorative Action Program.

**Chad Nilson**, B.S. and M.A. in Criminal Justice and M.S. and Ph.D. in Political Science, joined the Centre as the Inaugural Research Fellow for 2012-2015. As a consultant, he is actively involved in a number of the Centre's research and evaluation activities, including playing a key role in the development of process and output indicators for the Community Mobilization initiative in Prince Albert and the province's Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime strategy. Chad has a diverse history of research, evaluation and program development for federal, provincial and First Nations government.

### ***Centre Members***

Centre members are recruited from faculty and/or other researchers within the University of Saskatchewan community who are actively involved in justice and forensic-related research and practice. Government and community partners are also welcome to hold Centre membership and participate in Centre activities and events, although only University of

Saskatchewan faculty are able to elect members and hold positions on the Centre Executive Committee.

The Centre is proudly comprised of members representing the Departments of Psychology and Sociology (College of Arts and Science), the Colleges of Law, Medicine, and Nursing, the Schools of Public Health and Public Policy, as well as several community members who have current and/or former ties to the University of Saskatchewan. The breadth of its membership is a testament to the vast array of expertise that exists at the University of Saskatchewan and in the community and to the strong potential for meaningful interdisciplinary engagement and collaboration.

### *Executive Committee*

The Centre Executive Committee consists of the Director and faculty representatives elected from and by the Centre's faculty membership. The Executive Committee works with the Director to develop and implement strategies to foster interdisciplinary research, promote public awareness, engage external partners, encourage faculty and student involvement, as well as to approve processes related to internal programs, and oversee Centre budget and finances.

Current Executive Committee members include:

- **Heather Heavin, College of Law.** Professor Heavin is the Associate Dean, Graduate Studies & Research at the College of Law. She graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in 1992 and Bachelor of Laws (Magna cum laude) in 1996. After clerking to Chief Justice Bayda of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, she practiced with the firm of MacPherson Leslie and Tyerman in their Regina office. She completed her Masters of Law at Harvard in 2003 and has been on faculty at the University of Saskatchewan since that time. Heather is an award-winning teacher and is engaged in teaching and researching in the areas of international trade law, business law and dispute resolution, contract law and oil and gas law.
  
- **Arlene Kent-Wilkinson, RN, CPMHN(C) BSN, MN, PhD, College of Nursing.** Dr. Kent-Wilkinson has developed and taught many online courses in forensic nursing and Aboriginal health and has been recognized provincially, nationally and internationally for her work in forensic nursing education. Dr. Kent-Wilkinson and colleagues conducted a province-wide needs assessment of programs and services for mentally disordered offenders in Saskatchewan in late 2012. Currently, she is the Saskatchewan representative on the board of the Canadian Federation of Mental Health Nurses.

- **Tammy Marche, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology, St. Thomas More College.** Dr. Marche is a cognitive developmental psychologist specializing in memory development and is Professor of Psychology at St. Thomas More College, University of Saskatchewan. She holds a PhD in Experimental Psychology from Memorial University of Newfoundland. Her teaching and research fall under the domains of cognitive, developmental, forensic, and educational psychology. Research in her lab focuses on advancing the experimental literature on memory as well as extending this research to more applied settings. She has examined a number of forensic-related issues (e.g., accuracy of children’s testimony), and teaches psychology and law courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels.
  
- **Mansfield Mela, MBBS, FWACP, MRC (Psych), MSc, FRCPC.** Dr. Mela is Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, and forensic psychiatry consultant at the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada. His research focuses on biopsychosocial aspects of forensic mental health, with specific interests in the areas of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, forgiveness, spirituality, and ADHD.

### ***Advisory Board***

Established during 2011-12, the Centre Advisory Board consists of invited University and non-University representatives and is Chaired by the Vice-Dean, Division of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Science, as designate of the Vice-President Research, University of Saskatchewan. The Board provides input and advice on a range of issues fundamental to the long-term viability of the Centre, including but not limited to research and programming initiatives, policies and partnerships.

Board members include:

- **Dr. Olajide Adelugba**, Psychiatrist and Director of Research, Regional Hospital, Regional Psychiatric Centre (Prairies), Correctional Service Canada
- **Dr. Rudy Bowen**, Faculty of Psychiatry, University of Saskatchewan
- **Mr. Morgan Hackl**, Chief, Fire and Protective Services, City of Saskatoon
- **Mr. Eric Michael**, Executive Director, Willow Cree Healing Lodge, Correctional Service Canada
- **Brian Rector**, Ph.D., Executive Director, Research and Evidence-Based Excellence, Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing
- **Mrs. Nina Sahasrabudde**, Superintendent, F Division, Operations Strategy Branch, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- **John Weekes**, Ph.D., Senior Research Manager, Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization, Research Branch, Correctional Service Canada
- **Winona Wheeler**, Ph.D., Department of Indigenous Studies, University of Saskatchewan

## **What We Do**

The Centre seeks to foster and facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration across three domains: *Research and Evaluation*, *Education and Training*, and *Community Engagement*. A summary of Centre activities over the past year within each of these domains is provided below.

### ***Research and Evaluation***

#### **Projects Sponsored by Correctional Service Canada**

##### **Buffalo Sage Wellness House (BSWH) Process Review**

In collaboration with Native Counselling Services of Alberta, the Centre conducted a process review of Buffalo Sage Wellness House, which is a Section 81 healing lodge for federally-sentenced women offenders located in Edmonton, Alberta. The purpose of the study was to improve understanding of Buffalo Sage's structures, programs, processes, and operations. In order to examine these issues, interviews were conducted with 7 staff and 9 current or past residents of Buffalo Sage during a site visit in October, 2014. In addition, a quantitative profile analysis of the 48 offenders who have lived at Buffalo Sage prior to December, 2014 was performed to assess their preliminary outcomes.

##### **Examination of the Validity of Accountability, Motivation, and Engagement Assessed at Intake**

The project, which is currently in initial stages, will examine accountability, motivation and engagement ratings conducted at intake among federal offenders to determine whether they accurately measure constructs they were designed to measure. Where number allow, results will be disaggregated by gender and Aboriginal ancestry. This project will consist of 2 phases. Phase 1 will consist of a correlational analysis of ratings with a variety of variables (institutional charges, program completion, admissions to segregation, etc.). Ratings at Time 1 and Time 2 will be examined to determine the extent to which the tool is dynamic. If adequate resources are available, the second phase of the research will examine offenders' files for behaviours, assessments or written reports providing evidence of the offenders' accountability, motivation and engagement from policy across rating levels.

##### **Other CSC-related Research**

In addition to the above, several other projects were identified as potential opportunities for the Centre and CSC to enhance their research collaboration. Although project details remain preliminary, communication is ongoing and it is expected that more project work with CSC will be undertaken in the next reporting period. It is notable, however, that

several of the faculty and student research awards granted over the past year (see pages 17-19) are in areas that are of relevance to CSC and other correctional agencies. Thus, although these projects are not conducted by the Centre *per se*, they represent additional corrections-related research that is jointly sponsored by CSC and the Centre, and that contributes to the shared goal of supporting research that is of potential benefit to CSC and its programs and services.

### **Projects Sponsored by Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice**

#### **Centre of Responsibility (COR)**

The project evaluated Community Mobilization Prince Albert's Centre of Responsibility including achievements, barriers, and opportunities.

#### **Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime/Community Mobilization Prince Albert**

Research and evaluation support were provided to COR (Centre of Responsibility) and HUB including consultation vis-à-vis analytical considerations and data collection requirements to support subsequent outcomes evaluation. This also included assisting in the development of provincial level indicators for the Province's Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime strategy, and provision of consultation and evaluation support at the community level.

#### **Evaluation of Saskatchewan Community Consultative Groups and Community Police Boards**

This was an evaluation of Saskatchewan's Community Consultative Groups or Community Police Boards to determine achievements, activity, challenges, potential improvements, reporting opportunities, how other jurisdictions are engaging similar groups, impact on police-community relations, and whether they are effectively facilitating community ownership over community safety.

#### **Missing Person Project: Predictive Analytic Laboratory at Saskatoon Police Service**

The main purpose of this project is to set the platform for performing data analysis for the notion of missing persons. In this direction, missing persons are classified in three categories: intentional, unintentional and forced. Lists of causal factors and consequences of each category are given. Also, to fulfil a complete risk analysis, measuring the intensity of an incident based on the subject's whereabouts and situations is explored.

## **Northeast Youth Violence Reduction Partnership**

The project is funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre to develop and evaluate programs and services targeted to high-risk youth in three northern Saskatchewan communities over five years, with the aim of reducing youth offending and creating safer communities. The Centre is responsible for conducting a formative and process evaluation, while the University of Regina will be responsible for conducting the impact evaluation. The Centre and the University of Regina are working together collaboratively on the evaluation.

## **Review of Administration of Justice Charges and Administrative Sanctions in Canada and the United States/Review of Pretrial Risk Assessment and Factors Predicting Pretrial Release Failure**

This was a multi-phased project. Phase I was a critical literature review of the theoretical and historical background to administrative sanctions and identification of pre-trial risk assessment tools/best practices in other jurisdictions. Phase II was the analysis of aggregate statistics to identify broad level trends in the distribution and trajectory of individuals receiving administrative charges in SK in relation to custody counts and other significant factors.

## **Projects Sponsored by Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F Division**

### **SK Crime Survey/RCMP Detachment Planning Project**

During 2014, the Centre undertook a survey to examine Saskatchewan residents' perceptions of crime, feelings of safety and fear, and victimization experiences. To provide insight into the dark figure of crime (i.e., the number of crimes that go unreported), the survey also explored whether respondents had reported any crimes experienced to the police and their reasons for not doing so, where applicable. Analysis of the survey data began in 2014-15 and is ongoing. Results from the survey were presented at several conferences in 2015. This study was funded, in part, by the Ministry of Justice and inspired by the work conducted for the RCMP "F" Division in 2013-14.

The review of the structure and distribution/location of RCMP detachments in Saskatchewan involved establishing a set of criteria that can be used to make evidence-based decisions around service delivery; in particular, where new detachments should be built. The detachment planning model that was developed relies heavily upon geographic information system (GIS) mapping.

## **Tech-Enabled Hubs: A Research and Planning Project**

The tech-enabled Hub project researches the extent to which information and communication technologies can enable small remote Saskatchewan communities to engage in collaborative risk-driven intervention. An action plan for implementing a tech-enabled Hub in Saskatchewan will be created from the research gathered.

## **Other Projects**

### **Mental Health Strategy in the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon Evaluation**

During 2015-16, the Centre continued to follow the development of the Mental Health Strategy (MHS) within the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. The initiative, led by The Honorable Judge Shannon Metivier and with widespread involvement from various government and community partners, seeks to address the need for specialized forensic mental health services in Saskatoon for adults with mental health concerns, cognitive impairments and FASD who have been charged with an offense. In February 2015, the Centre concluded a process evaluation report on the first 9 months of the MHS with information to inform the continued planning and development of the MHS. Involvement during the summer of 2015 included the coding and analysis of data collected during the first full year of the court's operation and the development of data sharing agreements with the Saskatoon Police Service and the Saskatoon Health Region. During 2015-2016, an Honours thesis student from the College of Arts and Science, Courtney Florchinger, conducted a survey among professionals involved in the MHS. A technical report highlighting the results of the survey is currently in development. The project for 2016-17 is to develop and conduct a pre-post outcome evaluation of the initial cohort of the Saskatoon MHS Court and to conduct interviews among professionals, clients and family members of clients involved in the MHS court. Additionally, an impact assessment of the MHS will be conducted. With the support of a student from the College of Law and a Masters student from the College of Nursing, interviews among professionals, clients and family members involved in the MHS court will be conducted in 2016-2017.

### **Identification of Risk Factors for Youth Violence and Gang Involvement: Meta-Analysis/Meta-Synthesis (Phase 2)**

Funded by Public Safety Canada, the Centre, in collaboration with a multi-disciplinary team of researchers, was awarded a contract to conduct a comprehensive review, meta-analysis and meta-synthesis of the available literature on youth violence and youth gang involvement. The aim of the project is to identify the factors that are most strongly associated with delinquency, violent activity, and gang involvement among children and youth 6 to 24 years of age. The comprehensive literature review has been completed. Work on the meta-analysis and meta-synthesis related to the major risk factors associated



with the onset and maintenance of youth violence and youth gang involvement for three age groups of interest: 6-11, 12-17, and 18-24, is ongoing.

### **Impaired Drivers and their Risk of Reoffending**

The Centre was contracted by Public Safety Canada to conduct a literature review on the present state of empirical research on risk assessments of impaired drivers and to examine the predictive accuracy of the Level of Service Inventory-Ontario Revision (LSI-OR) in predicting recidivism among impaired drivers. The data analyzed in this project was provided by Ontario's Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCSCS). The report has been submitted to Public Safety Canada.

### **Intensive Rehabilitative Custody and Supervision Program (IRCS) Jurisdictional Scan**

The project is a jurisdictional scan of the mental health, education, and employment programs available to IRCS youth returning to northern Saskatchewan that will support their community reintegration and explores the possible technologies that may be used to increase their access to any required programming. The jurisdictional scan includes a literature review, interviews with mental health and corrections professionals, and an environmental scan of the programs and technologies available in 30 northern Saskatchewan communities. This project is being completed for Community Safety Knowledge Alliance (CSKA).

### **Restorative Action Program – Literature Review**

In October 2015, the Centre completed an intensive literature review of programs comparable to RAP as well as evaluation methods that have been employed by the programs. The literature review found that RAP's approach, while unique, is consistent with approaches taken elsewhere to issues of conflict within high schools. Several relevant theoretical frameworks were identified as well as some model programs and various future evaluation strategies were identified.

### **Restorative Action Program – Program Monitoring**

The Centre continues to provide program monitoring and database administration support to the Restorative Action Program (RAP). The Centre is currently in the fourth year of data collection. This entails overseeing the use of the data collection system developed by the Centre for RAP and performing the end-of-year analysis and report on RAP's program performance data. This contract also included a provision for additional support to the evaluation planning process for RAP's upcoming outcome evaluation, which presently includes planning for a future database upgrade.

## **Restorative Action Program – Qualitative Outcome Study**

A qualitative outcome study of RAP is currently underway, having begun in September 2015 and which will conclude in September 2016. The evaluation is using the Success Case Method, which identifies exemplary instances of success within a program and explores these as case studies to identify what factors contribute to success. This process generates learning and insights that can be used to inform the program in general and verify that the program's theory is plausible. Presently four program participants have contributed case studies through interviews with the evaluator.

## **Faculty Research Grants**

The Centre offers research development grants to faculty members whose research investigates a topic of crime, justice or corrections from a social science, health science, legal, management or interdisciplinary perspective. During 2015-16, the Centre was pleased to have granted faculty awards for the following projects:

- **Award Recipient:** Prof. Shelley Peacock  
**Award Value:** \$8,492.24  
**Project Title:** Exploring Dementia Care in Corrections: An Integrative Literature Review
  
- **Award Recipient:** Prof. Wanda Wiegers  
**Award Value:** \$4,696.00  
**Project Title:** An Examination of Care Arrangements under Selected Child Welfare Regimes in Canada
  
- **Award Recipient:** Profs. Philip Woods and Cindy Peternelj-Taylor  
**Award Value:** \$7,744.70  
**Project Title:** Correctional Nursing in Canada's Prairie Provinces: Roles, Responsibilities, and Learning Needs
  
- **Award Recipient:** Robert Henry  
**Award Value:** \$9,970.06  
**Project Title:** On the Backs of the Women: Indigenous Women's Perspectives on Street Gangs

## ***Education and Training***

### **Graduate Student Research Awards and Scholarships**

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies provides two types of support for University of Saskatchewan graduate students whose academic and/or research interests pertain to the areas of crime, justice, and corrections. ***Research Awards*** provide project-specific funding to help student researchers cover the direct cost of research activities while ***Scholarships*** provide general educational support for students pursuing graduate studies in an area of relevance to forensic behavioral science and justice studies. Students in receipt of a Centre Scholarship award must fulfill a work commitment of up to 10 hours per week through which they contribute to a variety of ongoing Centre research projects and activities.

Students granted a ***Research Award*** during the 2015-16 year are shown in Table 1:

**Table 1: Research Award Recipients 2015-16**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Program/Dept.</b>	<b>Research Area</b>
Annik Mossiere	\$3,600.00	Psychology, St. Thomas More College	Offender Memories of Violent Crimes: Exploring the Factors Involved in the Experience of Intrusive Memories
Chantal Schafers	\$3,600.00	Psychology	Responsivity Factors and the Treatment Process in an Intimate Partner Violence Group Program
Mark Stobbe	\$4,320.28	Sociology	Pre-custody Incarceration and the System of Law in Canada

Students granted a ***Scholarship*** during 2015-16 for the 2015-16 academic year are listed in Table 2:

**Table 2: Scholarship Recipients 2015-16**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Program/Dept.</b>	<b>Area of Research Interest</b>
Mohammed Abdulai	\$9,000.00	Masters student, Sociology	The Determinants of Cybercrime Victimization among University Students: Case Study of the University of Saskatchewan

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Program/Dept.</b>	<b>Area of Research Interest</b>
Kelsey Brown	\$9,000.00	Masters student, Psychology	Childhood Trauma as a Predictor of Risk for Female Offenders
Robi Wirove	\$9,000.00	Masters student, Psychology	A Gendered Examination of the Not Criminally Responsible Population in Alberta

Students granted a *Scholarship* during 2015-16 for the 2016-17 academic year are listed below:

#### **Scholarship Recipients 2016-17**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Program/Dept.</b>	<b>Area of Research Interest</b>
Mohammed Abdulai	\$18,000	Ph.D. student, Sociology	Cybercrime
Carmen Dell	\$18,000	Masters student, Nursing	Exploring the Experiences of Participants Who Have Accessed the Mental Health Strategy Court in Saskatoon

#### **Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections**

In collaboration with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, the Centre established a Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections at the University of Saskatchewan in 2012. Targeted to senior managers employed in the field of corrections, this two-year applied training program emphasizes advanced knowledge and professional skill development and evidence-based practice in the areas of offender assessment, case management, clinical supervision, program evaluation and research. Program instruction is shared by Senior Clinical Directors from the Ministry of Justice, as Professional Affiliates of the Department of Psychology, as well as Department of Psychology faculty members. During 2015-16, two additional students were enrolled in the program from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice to bring the current total to four.

## **Undergraduate and Graduate Research Training and Supervision**

During 2015-16, the Centre contributed to the training and supervision of several undergraduate students. Keith Barron, an undergraduate student in law, worked on components of the evaluation of the Mental Health Support Strategy (MHS) in the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon (see page 15). Courtney Florchinger conducted her Honour's Thesis in psychology by surveying professionals' observations and comments about the MHS as part of the larger evaluation exercise.

The Centre also contributed to the training and supervision of graduate students. Amy Pilon, a Master's student in applied social psychology, completed both her internship and practicum program requirements with the Centre. Her internship focused on the Buffalo Sage Wellness House (BSWH) Process Review (see page 11) and her practicum addressed Impaired Drivers and their Risk of Reoffending (see page 15). Amy completed her Master's requirements and was then accepted into the Ph.D. program in Applied Social Psychology.

Under the co-supervision of Centre Director, Dr. J.S. Wormith, and Research Officer, Dr. L. Jewell, the students gained experience in hands-on data collection, analysis and research report writing experience and contributed to the successful completion of these projects.

## ***Community Engagement: Fostering Academic and Public Dialogue***

### **Centre Website**

The Centre's website is a key means of further engaging with the local, national and international criminal justice and research communities. Containing information on Centre members' research interests, Centre funding programs, events, past and current projects and reports, local news stories and links to Centre members in the media. The website also features links to videos of the Public Forum on Mental Health and the Justice System: Saskatchewan Responds (further details below). Check out the website at: [www.usask.ca/cfbsjs](http://www.usask.ca/cfbsjs).

### **Violence and Aggression Symposium**

Each year, the University of Saskatchewan, in conjunction with the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada, hosts either the Violence and Aggression Symposium or the International Custody and Caring Conference. These alternating conferences bring together researchers and professionals working in the criminal justice, corrections, and forensic mental health fields, and provide opportunities to explore current theories, research and practice related to the care, treatment and rehabilitation of offenders and issues unique to working in forensic and correctional environments.

The Centre will host the 16<sup>th</sup> biennial Violence and Aggression Symposium May 15-17, 2016. A collaborative effort of the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada, and the University of Saskatchewan, the symposium is targeted to front-line workers, as well as clinicians and other professionals and administrators in criminal justice and forensic mental health. The Symposium translates research and theory into practice and provides an opportunity to highlight excellence and innovation within a variety of correctional and criminal justice environments. The Symposium features Canadian and International experts in the areas of child exploitation, mental health, psychopathy, and radicalization. There will be 4 plenaries and 12 concurrent sessions. Special topics related to Aboriginal issues will also be featured. The Symposium will be sponsored by Correctional Service Canada, Government of Saskatchewan (Ministry of Justice), City of Saskatoon, Saskatoon Police Service, Saskatoon Health Region Foundation, the University of Saskatchewan, U of S College of Nursing, and Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

The Symposium will feature plenary speakers Robert Hare, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Psychology, University of British Columbia, Sgt. (Ret.) Ernie Louttit, Roberta Sinclair, Ph.D., RCMP, Canadian Police Centre for Missing and Exploited Children, Henry J. Steadman, Ph.D., President, Policy Research Associates, USA. Concurrent sessions will feature Kelley Blanchette, Ph.D., Director General, Mental Health, Correctional Service Canada, Corporal Jared Clarke, Investigator, Saskatchewan ICE Unit, Colleen Dell, Ph.D., Professor, Research Chair in Substance Abuse, Department of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan, Adelle Forth, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Carleton University, Holly Graham, R.N., Ph.D., R.D. Psychologist (Provisional), Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Andrew Haag, Forensic Psychologist, Alberta Health Services, Clinical Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry and Sessional Lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of Alberta, Detective Chris Hayduk, Behavioural Assessment Unit, Edmonton Police Service, Dr. Ron Hoffman, Assistant Professor, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Nipissing University, Dr. Debra Jellicoe, Clinical Forensic Psychologist, Forensic Assessment and Community Services (FACS), Alberta Health Services, Glen Luther, Professor, College of Law, University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Mansfield Mela, Professor, College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Rick McEachran, National Project Manager, Preventive Security and Intelligence Division, Security Branch, Correctional Service Canada, Mark Olver, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Saskatchewan, Detective Sergeant Darren Parisien, Investigator, Saskatchewan ICE Unit, Heather Shepard, B.A. (CJ/Soc), Cultural Relations Officer, Regina Police Services, and Yvonne Stys, Research Manager, Operational Research, Research Branch, Correctional Service Canada. It is anticipated that the Symposium will attract 150 Canadian and international delegates.

## Conference Sponsorship – Custody and Caring

On October 7-9, 2015, the 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Custody and Caring Conference on the Nurse's Role in the Criminal Justice System was held in Saskatoon. Chaired by Prof. Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, College of Nursing, the event featured 5 keynote speakers and concurrent and workshop sessions and attracted more than 150 international delegates. The Centre was proud to provide financial sponsorship for this event and to host an exhibitor booth which provided another opportunity for Centre staff and students to highlight recent Centre projects and network with conference speakers and delegates.

## Conference Presentations

During 2015-16, Centre-related research and evaluation activities were presented by Centre staff and students at the following local and national events:

- Camman, C. (2015, October). *Evaluation of a multi-site conflict resolution program for youth in Saskatoon secondary schools*. Presentation for the 35<sup>th</sup> Canadian Congress on Criminal Justice, Regina, SK.
- Jewell, L. M., & Wormith, J. S. (2015, October). *Contextualizing victimization in Saskatchewan: The most common types, perpetrators, and victims of crime according to the SK Crime Survey*. Paper presented at the 35th Canadian Congress on Criminal Justice, Regina, SK.
- Jewell, L. M., Hopfner, S., Myburgh, J-E., & Wormith, J. S. (2015, June). *Understanding the dark figure of crime: An examination of crime reporting behaviour in Saskatchewan*. Paper presented at the 3rd North American Correctional and Criminal Justice Psychology Conference, Ottawa, ON.
- Moore, C., Barron, K., Luther, G., & Wormith, J. S. (2015, October). *Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy Court: An evaluation of therapeutic jurisprudence*. Paper presented at the 35th Canadian Congress on Criminal Justice, Regina, SK.
- Moore, C., Barron, K., Wormith, J. S., Luther, G., & Mela, M. (2015, June). *Saskatoon Mental Health Strategy Court: A formative evaluation*. Paper presented at the 3rd North American Correctional and Criminal Justice Psychology Conference, Ottawa, ON.
- Myburgh, J-E., Jewell, L. M., & Wormith, J. S. (2015, April). *Geographical differences in experiences of victimization and crime reporting: Results from a Saskatchewan-wide survey*. Paper presented at the 29th annual Joseph R. Royce Conference, Edmonton, AB.

- Nilson, C. (2015, October). *The Hub model as collaborative risk-driven intervention in Saskatchewan: An evaluation*. Paper presented at the 35th Canadian Congress on Criminal Justice, Regina, SK.
- Nilson, C., & Hunter, K. (2015, June). *Research findings and future directions for the Hub model of collaborative risk-driven intervention in Saskatchewan*. Paper presented at the 3rd North American Correctional and Criminal Justice Psychology Conference, Ottawa, ON.
- Pilon, A., Jewell, L. M., Wormith, J. S., & Laboucane-Benson, P. (2015, June). *Evaluation of an Aboriginal healing lodge for women offenders*. Paper presented at the 3rd North American Correctional and Criminal Justice Psychology Conference, Ottawa, ON.
- Pilon, A., Jewell, L. M., Wormith, J. S., & Laboucane-Benson, P. (2015, May). *Buffalo Sage Wellness House (BSWH) Section 81 healing lodge process review*. Paper presented at the Sallows Fry Conference, Saskatoon, SK.

#### **Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:**

- Bhutta, M.H., & Wormith, J. S. (2016.) An examination of a risk/needs assessment instrument and its relation to religiosity and recidivism among probationers in a Muslim culture. *Criminal justice and Behavior*, 43, 204-229.
- Dixon, I., Craig, L., & Wormith, J. S. (2015). Guest editorial. Using multiple methods to determine what works with specific offender groups: An introduction to the special issue on Developments in the Rehabilitation of Violent and Sexually Violent Offenders *Journal of Aggression, Conflict and Peace Research*, 7, 201-203.
- Wormith, J. S. Hogg, S. M., & Guzzo, L. (2015). The predictive validity of the LS/CMI with Aboriginal offenders in Canada. *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, 42, 481-508.



## **Public Forum on Mental Health and the Justice System: Saskatchewan Responds**

On November 30, 2015, the Centre hosted the Public Forum on Mental Health and the Justice System: Saskatchewan Responds. The Forum was supported by the University of Saskatchewan College of Arts and Science Conference Fund, College of Law, and College of Nursing, as well as Correctional Service Canada. The panel was composed of the following members: Dr. Fern Stockdale Winder (Working Together for Change: What the Mental Health and Addictions Plan Looks Like in Policing, Justice, and Corrections), Judge S. Metivier (Mental Health Strategy Court [Saskatoon]: Addressing Mental Health Problems that Lead to Criminal Behaviour), and Inspector Mitch Yuzdepski (PACT [Police and Crisis Team]: A Real-Time Collaborative Response to Persons in a Mental Health Crisis), with Dr. Steve Wormith as Moderator. Held on campus and attended by 150 people from the university, and the community, the event was also live-streamed and the video was then placed on the University's YouTube channel; 110 people have viewed the video as of March, 2016.

## Funding

### *Summary of 2015-16 Revenues and Expenditures*

The Centre receives financial support through a second 5-year Memorandum of Agreement with the Correctional Service Canada (2014-2019), a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice (2010-11 to 2019-20), and a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (2012-13 to 2016-17).

The Centre's newest financial partner is the newly established Community Safety Knowledge Alliance (CSKA). The Centre is also supported through various amounts of financial and in-kind support from the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine and Nursing.

The following table summarizes Centre revenues and expenditures associated with its three MOUs over the period April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016.

#### **April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

<b>Balance as of Mar 31, 2015</b>		\$ 223,013
Receipts:		
CSC	\$ 120,000	
SK Justice	\$ 150,000	
RCMP	\$ 75,000	
Total Funds Available		<u>\$ 568,013</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Research Personnel	\$ 209,786	
Admin/Management Support	\$ 49,196	
Centre Operations - non-salary	\$ 16,280	
Graduate Student Research Support	\$ 48,343	
Faculty Research Support	\$ 9,970	
Conference/Workshop Support	\$ 2,500	
University Overhead	\$ 30,060	
Total Expenses		<u>\$ 366,135</u>
<b>Balance as of Mar 31, 2016</b>		<u><u>\$ 201,878</u></u>