

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network



WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network is one of the world's leading advocacy organizations working exclusively on HIV/AIDS-related legal and human rights issues.

Our vision is of a world in which

- the human rights of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS are respected, protected and fulfilled; and
- laws and policies provide for rights-based HIV prevention, care, treatment and support for people living with HIV/AIDS.

TURNING RESEARCH INTO ACTION

Since 1992, we have promoted the human rights of people living with or vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, in Canada and internationally.

We're committed to turning evidence-based research on HIV/AIDS-related issues into action that is firmly grounded in sound legal analysis and human rights principles.

OUR WORK

- **researches and analyzes** legal and human rights issues important to people and communities affected by HIV/AIDS;
- **informs, educates and mobilizes** individuals, organizations and communities to act on these issues; and
- **challenges governments** to fulfill their human rights obligations and implement laws and policies based on sound legal and scientific standards.

FIGHTING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

We fight HIV/AIDS by fighting for the human rights of

- **People living with HIV/AIDS** who suffer from discrimination based on HIV status, unjust criminalization of HIV transmission and exposure, and undue immigration restrictions;
- **Women and girls** who are denied equality under the law, adequate protection from violence, property and inheritance rights, education, information, and essential HIV/AIDS and reproductive health services;
- **Sex workers, men who have sex with men, and other marginalized people** whose very lives are criminalized, and who are arbitrarily arrested, detained, emotionally and physically abused, and denied equal access to health care, housing and employment;
- **Aboriginal people** whose marginalization and impoverishment is caused by and results in racial discrimination and inadequate access to basic HIV/AIDS services and programs, such as confidential HIV testing with pre- and post-test counselling;

- **Prisoners** who have limited or no access to HIV prevention, treatment and care services, such as needle exchange programs; and
- **People who use drugs** who are subjected to unwarranted arrest and imprisonment for low-level offences, denied access to safe injection facilities, opioid substitution treatment and other harm reduction services, and often excluded from antiretroviral treatment for HIV.

For more information on these and other issues related to HIV/AIDS and human rights, please visit our website at www.aidslaw.ca.

WORKING BEYOND BORDERS

HIV/AIDS knows no borders — so neither do we.

We reach out to people across Canada and around the world, whether we're

- testifying as expert witnesses at parliamentary committee hearings;
- addressing United Nations meetings in Geneva and New York;
- conducting a workshop for front-line AIDS organizations in Alberta;
- demanding the release of an AIDS activist in Beijing; or
- developing model laws on HIV/AIDS for African and former Soviet countries.

We work together with organizations of people living with or vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, professional associations, lawyers, academics, government officials, and journalists, among others, to

- publish internationally recognized legal research and analysis of domestic and international HIV/AIDS-related human rights developments;

- spearhead advocacy for laws and policies that respect, protect and fulfill the human rights of people living with or vulnerable to HIV/AIDS;
- provide technical assistance and support on AIDS-related legal and human rights questions to front-line AIDS workers and law- and policy-makers; and
- promote greater involvement of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in the development of HIV laws, policies and programs.

To find out more about our work, both in Canada and internationally, we invite you to read our annual report, available on-line at www.aidslaw.ca/annualreport or by e-mailing your postal address to info@aidslaw.ca.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Join us

Over 200 organizations and individuals in Canada and around the world support our work as members of the Legal Network. To find out more about membership and its benefits, please visit www.aidslaw.ca/joinus.

Make a donation

Our work is funded in part by donations from individuals and organizations. To find out how you can support legal and policy research and advocacy on HIV/AIDS and human rights, please visit www.aidslaw.ca/donate.

Contact us

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“IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE HIV/AIDS CRISIS BE UNDERSTOOD IN HUMAN RIGHTS TERMS. THE LEGAL NETWORK HAS BEEN A GLOBAL LEADER IN ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PROTECTING, RESPECTING AND FULFILLING THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE AFFECTED BY AND LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS.”

—Stephen Lewis, former United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa