

LNN



L E G A L N E T W O R K N E W S

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In this issue of LNN:

- find out what you said;
- learn about CAMR in 20 questions;
- take a “sneak peek” at a new on-line resource;
- note upcoming events;
- discover two new faces; and
- join us in saying “Thank you.”

What you said

Over the summer months, we invited Legal Network members to participate in two surveys. One of them aimed to get feedback on our past year’s activities while the other solicited input on our draft strategic plan for the next 5 years.

Here are just three highlights from these surveys:

- Our series of five updated info sheets on the criminalization of HIV transmission was among the most popular resources.
- 80 percent of respondents described our “CAMR Campaign” tools and publications as easy to use and reported that they greatly helped them in getting involved and showing their support for fixing Canada’s law on supplying lower-cost medicines to developing countries (and on that note, see the next point).
- 90 percent of respondents expressed interest in attending a proposed three-day learning institute comprised of workshops and panels on legal issues with hands-on advocacy training. Many of you greatly enjoyed the educational opportunities we’ve provided in the past — many members were eager for the Legal Network to provide more hands-on educational opportunities.

CAMR in 20 Questions

We're very pleased to offer a comprehensive and plain-language explanation of our current campaign to streamline Canada's Access to Medicines Regime (CAMR). Read our "Q & A" (questions and answers) at www.aidslaw.ca/camr to find out how to help save thousands of people with HIV in developing countries! Join thousands of Canadians in pushing parliamentarians to do the right thing. E-mail Lindsey Amèrica-Simms at lsimms@aidslaw.ca for more information and to obtain postcards, sample letters to MPs and Senators, and resource materials.

Take a "Sneak Peek"

As a member of the Legal Network, you are getting an advance look at AIDSLEX, our newest internet resource. This on-line database of materials — over 2,000 and counting — will be publicly launched next month, but you can look at it now at www.aidslex.org. We especially encourage you to explore the "Ask The Experts" area where our first guest, Justice Edwin Cameron of the South African Constitutional Court, provides us with his insights on the controversial topic of criminalization.

Heads-up for Toronto, Thunder Bay and Ottawa

The Legal Network is participating in a number of upcoming events. Look for us in Toronto (Residents Without Borders on September 22 or 23), Thunder Bay (workshops for community organizations and legal workshops, Opening Doors Conference, October 7 to 9) and Ottawa (Canadian Conference on International Health, October 25 to 28).

Two new faces

There were two staff changes at the Legal Network during the summer. Both departing staff members left us to pursue their studies. We say "Thank you and good luck" to outgoing Administrative Assistant Gilleen Witkowski and former Outreach and Development Coordinator Eowynne Feeney.

Gilleen is succeeded by Diana Lee who impresses us with her attention to detail, English/French bilingualism, poised demeanour and friendly disposition — just the kind of person we appreciate having at our "front door" (including on-line and via telephone).

Lindsey Amèrica-Simms steps into Eowynne's shoes as our new Outreach Coordinator. Lindsey holds an Honours B.A. from the University of Guelph, majoring in International Development. She has an impressive background in marketing and event planning. In addition, she volunteers with the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) and

carried out fundraising and awareness-raising within the University of Guelph student body for the cause of HIV/AIDS. Lindsey also speaks French and has worked as a community wellness facilitator in Fort Smith, NWT.

Thank you

The Legal Network wishes to thank our very dynamic interns who worked in our office this past summer: Milton Castelen, Sandra Dughman, Katrina Peddle and Celeste Shankman.

Finally — but certainly not least — we want to extend our appreciation to a trio of new volunteers who are helping us with our campaigns and events: Joni Brunton, Alia Sunderji and Kendra Kleiner, as well as our ongoing AIDSLEX volunteer, Alec Khachatryan.

If you no longer wish to receive any messages from the Legal Network, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

About the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network (www.aidslaw.ca) promotes the human rights of people living with and vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, in Canada and internationally, through research, legal and policy analysis, education, and community mobilization. The Legal Network is Canada's leading advocacy organization working on the legal and human rights issues raised by HIV/AIDS.

Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
1240 Bay Street, Suite 600
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5C 3A5
Telephone: +1 416 595-1666
Fax: +1 416 595-0094
E-mail: info@aidslaw.ca
Website: www.aidslaw.ca

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