

For immediate release

LEGAL NETWORK PRESIDENT NAMED NATIONAL RECIPIENT OF CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF HEALTH RESEARCH AWARD

Thomas Kerr to accept CIHR Knowledge Translation Award tonight

TORONTO, November 20, 2007 — The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network today congratulated the president of its board of directors, Thomas Kerr, on being awarded the CIHR Knowledge Translation Award by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

The award recognizes an exceptional individual or team involved in a health research project that advances and expands “knowledge translation.” Kerr’s research evaluating Insite, the supervised injection facility in Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside, has contributed significantly to academic, public and government discussions, both nationally and internationally, on the subject of injection drug use and HIV/AIDS.

“Thomas turns groundbreaking research into evidence-based action,” said Richard Elliott, Executive Director of the Legal Network. “His work, dedication and leadership have benefited more people than he or we will ever know. I hope this award will allow him and his colleagues to continue their life-saving work.”

Kerr is currently a research scientist with the Vancouver-based British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS, and an assistant professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia.

Previously, Kerr sat on the Legal Network’s board of directors from 2001 to 2003. From 2003 until the end of 2004, he was Director of Health Policy and Research with the Legal Network. Since then, he has co-authored several articles and served on the editorial board of the *HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Review*, the Legal Network’s flagship journal.

Kerr will receive his award at a ceremony tonight in Ottawa. Further information is available on the CIHR website at www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca.

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.

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