

Family Violence Prevention

CLIA is a member of the steering committee of the Justice Options project. Phase 4 of this project began in July 2003. A Planning Group made up of survivors of violence, victim advocates and government representatives came together to design and make recommendations for the implementation of a domestic violence treatment option court process for PEI. Recommendations were presented to the provincial government in December 2004. To view the recommendations and for information on the project please visit the website at: <http://www.isn.net/~tha/justiceoptions>

CLIA is represented on the Premier's Action Committee for the Prevention of Family Violence. The key priorities of the current strategy focus on:

- awareness, education and training
- partnerships and coordination
- service delivery
- policy, legislation and legal issues

CLIA is also involved in a sub-committee looking at all the court orders (criminal and civil) that affect a victim of family violence. Currently it seems there is confusion over obtaining orders, enforcing orders, the penalties for breaching orders and varying orders. There is also a perceived lack of enforcement by police.

Victims of Crime

CLIA is active on the Victim Services Advisory Committee. Last year the committee undertook a victim satisfaction survey, a study of restitution and victim fine surcharge and a study on the memory of trauma and its implications for the criminal justice system. Last year CLIA distributed:

- 424 copies of *Islanders Guide to the Victims of Family Violence Act* (English) and 19 French
- 400 copies of *A Guide for Witnesses* (English) and 20 French
- 675 copies of *Information for Victims of Youth Crime* (English) and 250 French

Crime Prevention

CLIA continues to be involved in crime prevention activities:

- We completed financial administration of the PEI Crime Prevention Association and agreed to take on the second phase of the Leadership Project
- We supported the planning and holding of a successful Atlantic Crime Prevention Conference in Charlottetown
- We maintained our membership on the Atlantic Coordinating Committee for Crime Prevention and Community Safety
- We are represented on the PEI Joint Management Committee, Community Mobilization Program of the National Crime Prevention Strategy
- We are part of the Canadian Forum for Crime Prevention, a national initiative focused on promoting Canadian research into evidence-based approaches to crime prevention

Projects

Informing the Community About Youth Justice

Project objectives were defined under three components: partnership development, education, and promotion.

The primary effort was directed to forming and strengthening partnerships with new or targeted individuals and groups. These include:

- The Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI's Aboriginal Justice Program
- The PEI Department of Education Elementary School consultants, including the Elementary Standing Committee on Curriculum
- The PEI Department of Education French Language consultant in Social Studies for Intermediate and Senior High schools
- The Holland College Graphic Design Program

Four teaching modules on the YCJA have been developed and approved by the PEI Department of Education and the Department of Justice Canada. They will be piloted in the provincial curriculum for Grade 6 in both the English and French programs.

The Youth Justice *Activity Booklet* has been developed, translated and the English version printed. CLIA, graphic design students (youth), Department of Justice and youth in classrooms have all had input into the activity booklet.

- The Justdy Game was updated and field-tested with youth
- *The YCJA: A Legal Guide for Youth and Their Families* has been revised. 500 English and 200 French were printed
- *Information for Victims of Youth Crime* has been revised
- The Community Justice Forum Video has been edited down to a 7 minute version for use in classroom presentations

Two workshops were held with the Aboriginal community - one with each Band on PEI. Presentations were done with the PEI Association of School Trustees, Elementary Standing Committee on Curriculum Development and PEI Addiction Services Youth program staff. We also provided sessions to 5 Alternative Education programs and 8 classes of Intermediate and Senior High students.

Displays of youth justice materials were set up in several locations. Over 4000 people had the opportunity to look at and take the materials. The University of Prince Edward Island requested additional collector's cards for use by all incoming foreign students.

Family Law Information Sessions

CLIA hired two coordinators to complete this project. We received notice of funding in late December and the project had to be completed by March 31st. Building on work completed last year in the pilot phase, we provided six legal information sessions: three in each of Charlottetown and Summerside. The *Frequently Asked Questions* were revised and distributed in a package that included room for notes. The FAQs were translated into French as part of the project. These will be available on the web site in both Official Languages, together with a Glossary.

Four local lawyers provided legal information. Emphasis was placed on alternative methods of solving family law issues, such as mediation and collaborative family law practice. As a supplement and tool for the presenters, the sessions were enhanced by PowerPoint presentations of the *Frequently Asked Questions*, answers, keywords, definitions, lists, diagrams, pictures, and reference material.

Evaluation questionnaires were distributed in each session. The responses provided affirmation that the legal information sessions were appreciated and needed. The following ratings are all on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being excellent.

- handouts were given an average rating of 4.25
- presentations were given an average rating of 4.15
- instructors' approach to teaching was given an average rating of 4.35
- instructors' responses to questions was given an average rating of 4.55
- the video was given an average rating of 3.25

Financial Information

Revenue:	
Core funding	\$101,839
Programs	\$ 85,614
Total	\$187,453

Expenses	
Core	\$110,919
Programs	\$ 83,058
Total	\$193,977

Excess (deficiency) (\$ 6,524)

The Government of PEI provides generous in-kind support to CLIA through the Office of the Attorney General.

To obtain a copy of the audited financial statements please contact CLIA.

Community Legal Information Association of Prince Edward Island



Annual Report 2004-2005

Board of Directors

President:	John Hennessey		
Vice President:	Beti Andric		
Secretary:	Clea Ward		
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Members:	Susan Carruthers	Jill Lightwood	Twila Whalen
	Brian Curley	Gordie McConnell	Dave Thibeau
	Joan Flemming	Pat Malone	
	Linda Gaudet	Janice Smith	

CLIA Staff

Executive Director:	Ann Sherman	Angela Rose Jordan
Executive Assistant:	Maisie Smith	Maria MacDonald
Program Assistant:	Donna Langille	
Office Assistant:	Noreen MacInnis	

Project Staff

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CLIA is funded by:

Justice Canada
Law Foundation of Prince Edward Island
Law Society of Prince Edward Island

Project funding was received from:

Justice Canada

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President's Report

This report comes at the conclusion of the 20th year of service by CLIA staff and volunteers to the Island Community. The continuing ability of CLIA to avoid motions of non-confidence and being voted off the Island is testament not only to the good work we do, but also to the need of Islanders for quality legal information.

A highlight of the past year was the 20th anniversary celebrations held in January 2005, at the Haviland Club where founding and past board members and staff reminded us that the reasons for CLIA's first coming into being are as prominent today as then. Moreover, we were reminded that an organization which was once viewed with a touch of skepticism is now seen as an integral part of our free and democratic society.

A further significant development for CLIA will be the completion of a Personnel Policy Manual developed through the considerable efforts of our Personnel Committee. We are confident that this Manual will provide clear guidelines for staff and the board in employment matters, as well as provide a vehicle for orienteering new staff and ensuring consistency of approach.

Financial resources continue to be a challenge for CLIA, although a recent annual planning workshop attended by board and staff provided those present with the comforting message that we do what we do very well, and we do not want to mess too much with success. Nevertheless, resources need to be found to maintain and attract qualified staff. As well, the challenge of the Internet as the recently emerged method of information sharing will require that we give more attention to that medium in preparing and disseminating legal information.

As I graduate to the position of past president, I thank the CLIA staff and members of the Board for making my term as President both pleasant and rewarding.

Respectfully submitted,
John W. Hennessey, Q.C.

Cover photo: Lawyers Shannon Farrell and Maria MacDonald chat before one of the family law information sessions.

Executive Director's Report

2005 marks the 20th year that CLIA has been in operation in Prince Edward Island. I am very proud of what we've accomplished and how much we've grown since our early days on the third floor of the Old Customs House on Great George Street. As I sit writing this on my (relatively) new Pentium 4, I can't help but think nostalgically about the Tandy 1000 I started off with in 1985.

At our celebration in January, Doris Worth, an original board member, had the honour of cutting our birthday cake. Phil Arbing and Julie Devon Dodd were present (between them they were the moving force behind the establishment of CLIA); founding executive director, Beverly Mills Stetson, came to celebrate and be thanked for the fine work she did in establishing CLIA and ensuring that we had a solid foundation on which to build. There have been other milestones this year:

- For the first time we have a partner in the Aboriginal community tasked with providing public legal education and information to Aboriginal people. We look forward to a productive collaboration with the Aboriginal Justice Program.
- We have completed the first youth justice module that will become part of a school curriculum in Canada. The grade 5/6 youth justice module is being piloted in the Island schools this fall.
- We have taken on phase II of the Leadership Project completed by the Crime Prevention Association of PEI. The publications developed as part of this project are resources that will assist communities in responding to a variety of local issues including criminal activity and they complement many of the materials developed as part of our youth justice project.
- The new Personnel Policy Manual developed by the Personnel Committee will provide clear guidelines for staff and the board in employment matters and provide a vehicle for orientating new staff and ensuring consistency on employment matters in future.
- We have begun to develop a succession plan for CLIA, recognizing that long-term staff will be moving on within the next few years.

As always, the work of CLIA would not happen without the dedication of staff, project employees, board and volunteers. Thank you to Donna Langille and Maisie Smith, my two full-time colleagues; Noreen McInnis, our part-time assistant; Angela Rose Jordan and Maria MacDonald who worked on the family law information sessions; and everyone else who assisted us in our work, especially the local lawyers who have helped us in so many ways over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Sherman

Core Programs Toll-free Legal Information Line

Last year we received 2,079 telephone inquiry calls (3,099 separate questions) including 92 e-mail inquiries.

- 1386 of the callers were women. 1151 were from Queens County, 343 from Prince County and 151 from Kings County. 420 calls were from outside the province and/or the country.
- 1693 inquiries were about family matters and 673 were referred to the lawyer referral service or we recommended they speak to a lawyer.
- 302 of the inquiries were about wills and estates, health care directives or information about the financial and legal implications of moving into a nursing home.

Lawyer Referral Service

There were 1,140 calls to the lawyer referral service last year. Changes in the way family law legal aid is being delivered continues to impact the number of callers seeking referrals for family matters. The addition of the Family Support Orders Program lawyers to the Legal Aid office has increased the number of people who can access legal aid for family matters. We are still experiencing a dearth of lawyers willing to take family law cases, but this year we added a category for collaborative family law lawyers.

- 564 referrals were in the area of family law
- 501 were from men
- 145 were in other areas of civil law
- 639 from women
- 56 involved criminal law

Web Site / Resource Centre

We have continued work on the new website and are looking forward to launching our "new look" soon. We had 4578 visitors to the web site.

- 61.5% from Canada
- 34.5% from the U.S.
- 0.7% from the UK; 0.5% from France and 0.3% from Norway

Publications

The following publications were revised or produced last year:

- What Seniors Need to Know:
 - Moving to a Nursing Home*
 - Health Care Decisions*
 - Powers of Attorney and the Role of the Public Trustee*
 - Wills and Estates*
- Young Single Parents information kit
10 pamphlets revised
- Family law publications revised
 - Going through Separation and Divorce*
 - Islanders' Guide to the Family Law Act*
 - Custody and Access*
 - Support: What You Need to Know*
- *Islanders Guide to Alternative Measures (revised)*
- *Faire son testament*
- *Testaments et successions: information à l'intention des exécuteurs testamentaires*
- *Testaments et successions: information à l'intention des administrateurs*
- *Cahier de travail pour faire son testament*
- *Aller en cour : déroulement d'un procès au civil*
- *Aller en cour : déroulement d'un procès au criminel*

Just under 95,000 pieces of written information were distributed by CLIA last year. These included publications produced by CLIA and publications produced elsewhere that we distributed. Our publications are available in public libraries, Access PEI Centres, through our community partners and from CLIA. We also put together packages of child support and family law information for the Child Support Guidelines Offices. Last year, for example, we distributed:

- 1136 Making Your Will
- 791 Divorce Law Questions and Answers
- 301 Divorce Kits
- 320 Going to Court... pamphlets
- 208 Young Single Parents kits

The Youth Justice project also distributed materials which included:

- 5881 youth collector cards in English
- 1651 youth collector cards in French
- 401 *Know Your Rights* (Justice for Children and Youth)
- 251 *Connais tes droits* (Justice for Children and Youth)

Acting as Resource to the Community/Speakers Bureau

CLIA staff act as a resource to the community. This includes providing legal information and education to community organizations, project advisory committees and others; providing speakers on various topics on request; and putting together displays and packages of legal information for workshops and conferences. Last year we organized:

- Four presentations to the Women's Addiction Rehabilitation Program
- Six displays at Law Day celebrations, Chamber of Commerce Business Mixer, Summerside Tax Centre, Teachers Federation Conference, Law Teachers Workshop, and Summer Institute at UIPEI
- 10 interviews/presentations on CBC Radio

Intermediary and other training

- Annual Law Teachers Workshop about the Supreme Court of Canada and the PEI Human Rights Act
- Voluntary Sector organizations on PIPEDA
- Rape and Sexual Assault Crisis Centre volunteer training
- Two presentations to Holland College students about discrimination and harassment and legislation relating to human services (*Mental Health Act, Consent to Treatment and Health Care Decisions Act, Human Rights Act*, proposed Act dealing with Guardianship issues.)