

Family Violence Prevention

The Premier's Action Committee has not met this year. However, CLIA continues to provide assistance, materials and support in the area of family violence through the Child Sexual Abuse Advisory Committee, Victim Services Advisory Committee, our inquiry line and Lawyer Referral Service and through development and distribution of materials in family violence. This year we distributed almost 1500 pieces of information specifically in this area, including 487 copies of our new pamphlet "Court Orders for Your Protection".

Victims of Crime

CLIA co-chairs the Victim Services Advisory Committee, is a Board Member of the NB-PEI Criminal Justice Association and serves on the Child Sexual Abuse Advisory Committee. Last year we printed and distributed a new pamphlet "Court Orders for Your Protection" and also completed a plain-language rewrite of a pamphlet developed by the Child Sexual Abuse Advisory Committee. We distributed:

- 183 Islanders Guide to the Victims of Family Violence Act
- 148 Women, Assault and the Law
- 118 Sexual Assault
- 398 Family Violence Resource Guide
- 487 Court Orders for Your Protection

Crime Prevention

CLIA is involved in crime prevention in many ways. Though much of what we do could be considered crime prevention, last year we specifically did the following:

- Promoted and financially supported the workshop "Developing Local Leadership for Community Safety and Well-being"
- Served on the executive of Atlantic Coordinating Committee on Crime Prevention and Community safety
- Participated as a member of the Canadian Forum for Crime Prevention, a national organization on research in the area of crime prevention.

Projects

Feasibility Study on a Self-Help Centre for Unrepresented Litigants

This project was funded by the Law Foundation and was carried out by Ann Sherman. Ann completed a literature review and consulted with many people who had been unrepresented litigants or who had dealt with unrepresented litigants. She has written a report containing possible models that might work in PEI to provide help to unrepresented or self-represented litigants.

Publications Project

This project was also funded by the Law Foundation and it has allowed us to translate most of our publications, put our publications in PDF so they can be sent electronically and revise outdated publications. We have rewritten the modules for the Association for Newcomers through this funding and we hope to soon revise the Divorce Kit. The latter task has been slow to date due to extended sick leave of the Deputy Registrar and our staffing issues at CLIA. We are hoping to develop a new version of the Divorce Kit for CD soon.

Charities Project

This project was funded by Canada Revenue Agency through the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia. LISNS contracted CLIA to offer 3 workshops in PEI on completing the Charities Tax Return, Form T3010A. The workshops were offered to all registered charities and a total of approximately 75 organizations participated. Evaluations were very good though most people would have liked more time for the workshop. The information was presented by Peter Mushkat, a lawyer from the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia.

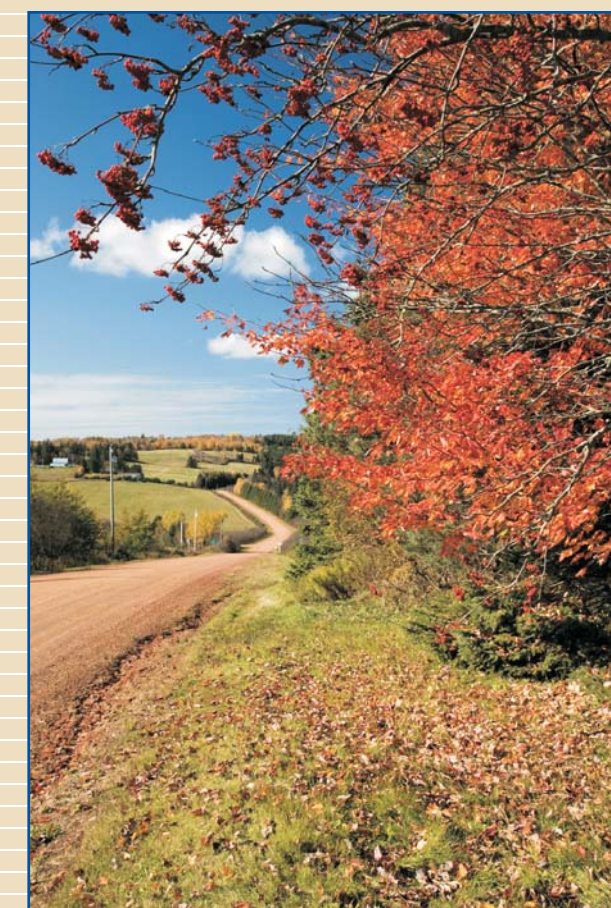
Financial Information

CLIA is funded by the federal Department of Justice Canada, the PEI Law Foundation, the Law Society of PEI and private donations.

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 at 892-0853 or 1-800-240-9798.

Community Legal Information Association of Prince Edward Island



Barrett & MacKay



Annual Report 2007-2008

Board of Directors

President:	Gordie McConnell		
Vice President:	Linda Gaudet		
Past President:	Beti Andric (resigned)		
Secretary:	Olive Bryanton		
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	Annie Boyle	Lori St. Onge	Judy Bayliss
	Crystal Cobb	Jacqueline O'Keefe	Isabelle Dasylyva
	Denis Morin	Mitchell MacLeod (resigned)	

CLIA Staff

Executive Director:	Donna Langille	Office Assistant:	Noreen MacInnis
	David Savoie (resigned)	Project Staff:	Ann Sherman
Program Coordinator:	Kelly Robinson	Bookkeeper:	Emma Fugate
Program Support:	Anne Nicholson		

CLIA is funded by:

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

Generous in-kind support is received from the Government of Prince Edward Island through the Office of the Attorney General

Project Funding was received from

Law Foundation of Prince Edward Island
Canada Revenue Agency via Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia

President's Report

Last year ended with us bidding farewell to our long-time Executive Director, Ann Sherman. This past year that began with a new Executive Director has ended with a different new Executive Director, and with two other new staff. Ann Sherman has returned to do a project. The organization has stood strong in the face of challenges. I wish to thank the Board of Directors and the staff, old and new, for the fantastic job they have done and tremendous support they have provided as we found our feet again.

Our year-end statistics for inquiries, presentations, lawyer referrals and distribution of materials indicate that we did not really slow down much despite the many changes we went through.

We have had some exciting new developments at CLIA, such as

- a new website that is being launched at this AGM
- an ad hoc committee that was formed to recommend updates to our governing documents for the 2009 AGM
- a committee that is looking at our programs and publications for relevance
- acquiring the capacity to deal with French inquiries
- discovery of a website where not-for-profits can buy low-priced computer software
- hopefully, the hiring of a computer student for the summer to help us learn to use the new software.
- a fundraising committee being formed and a plan developed
- a 3 year New Horizons project proposal (we expect word soon on it).

The Board participated in a planning session and this past year's program activities are on target with the plan that was developed to March 31, 2009.

From where I stand, it looks like a positive and promising future awaiting CLIA. We have a fantastic team of Board members and staff who are committed and raring to go!

Respectfully submitted,
Gordon McConnell
President

Executive Director's Report

This has been a year of change for CLIA - a bit difficult and a lot exciting at the same time. Last year ended with a magnificent retirement party for Ann Sherman and an introduction to our new Executive Director, David Savoie. David went on personal leave in July and I was named Acting ED. He subsequently resigned in August and I became Executive Director of CLIA on September 5, 2007. I thank the Board for putting their faith in me to take on this role.

In October we held a planning session to develop a workplan for a two-year funding period. We are in the midst of carrying it out. The plan includes developing a new website, revising our governing documents, developing structure and procedures to assess programs and publications, developing a fundraising plan and committee, increasing CLIA's profile in the community, and others.

We advertised, interviewed and hired a new Program Coordinator, Kelly Robinson. Ann Sherman came back to work on a Law Foundation project researching self-represented litigants. We were fortunate that Anne Nicholson agreed to help us out while we were short-staffed and we have gladly kept her on for 2 days a week since. We hope to find a way to keep her with us even longer.

Another challenge we faced last year was packing up our office for retiling and repainting of our physical space. This was very disruptive, but we managed to remain open for all but two half-days. Now that it's done, our space and our staff have all been renewed and it is wonderful, but it made December and January difficult.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Directors for being so supportive and helpful during the difficult times when we were so short-staffed and for continuing to provide support as we move forward.

Furthermore, I cannot possibly express enough gratitude to the staff who jumped on board and kept me and CLIA afloat while we righted ourselves and got going again. We are very, very lucky to have this team at this time and I want everybody to know that!

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Langille

Core Programs Toll-free Legal Information Line

Last year we received 2231 inquiries from 1902 people via the toll-free line, emails, walk-ins and other methods.

- 1373 callers were women
- 1143 were from Queens County, 320 from Prince, 188 from Kings County, 107 out-of-province and 144 were unknown
- 1399 questions were about family issues
- 154 were about wills, estates and Power of Attorney
- 122 dealt with criminal law

Lawyer Referral Service

There were 1067 calls for lawyer referrals last year and 626 inquiry line callers were given a lawyer referral.

- 528 referrals were in family law
- 98 were criminal
- 127 were civil litigation
- 687 requests for referrals were from women and 380 were from men

Website / Resource Centre

Last year, our website received 213,237 hits. Emails for legal information resulted. This website is sadly out of date and we have been working for years on a new one. Midway through the year, we decided to begin anew in this area and Beti Andric resigned from the CLIA Board to design a website for us. It will be a site that staff can make changes to without hiring a web designer to do it. This website is being unveiled this evening and we are very excited about it.

Publications

This is an area that suffered last year due to extreme staff shortages for several months. There is now a committee of the Board involved in assessing publications and programs for efficiency, relevance, and other factors. All publications have now been assigned new 13-digit ISBN's and also turned into PDFs.

There are some exciting new developments in this area - CLIA purchased Adobe Acrobat Pro 8.0 and will be able to put our Divorce Kit and our variation kits on a CD using this program.

Publications revised during this past year include:

- *Islanders Guide to Drinking, Driving and the Law* (now *Impaired Driving and the Law*)
- *Are You Old Enough?*
- *Êtes vous assez âgé?*
- *CLIA Publications*
- most of the 10 modules on Canadian Law for the Association for Newcomers to Canada

Several publications were translated:

- *Information a l'intention des locataires résidentiels de l'Î.-P.-É.*
- *La médiation à l'Î.-P.-É.*
- *Ordonnances du tribunal pour votre protection*

Over 25,000 pieces of information were distributed, which includes our publications and publications we distribute from other organizations and government departments. This is a bit lower than in previous years, but we functioned on skeleton staff for a significant part of the year.

As well, we sent far more information electronically this year than we usually do and this did not always get recorded in our stats. We are presently revising our data collection tools to ensure we collect information that will help us in planning for the future.

Acting as a Resource to the Community/Speakers Bureau

CLIA provides legal information and education through group and public presentations to organizations, project advisory committees, classrooms and others. We provide speakers on request and put together staffed displays for workshops, conferences and expos. We received 26 requests for presentations or displays, responded to all but one, and participants numbered over 1500. Evaluations were primarily positive with the most negative being that more time was needed to cover the topic.

Some of these workshops were with targeted groups such as the Aboriginal community, Women and Addictions Rehab Program, disabled women, pregnant and parenting teens and high-risk youth in alternative education programs.

CLIA is a member of and/or contributes to the following partnerships and networks in the community:

- Victim Services Advisory Committee (Co-Chair)
- PEI Advisory Committee on Child Sexual Abuse
- Literacy Alliance of PEI
- NB-PEI Criminal Justice Association (Board Member)
- Atlantic Coordinating Committee on Crime Prevention and Community Safety (Executive)
- Public Legal Education Association of Canada (Board member)
- Pro Bono Students Canada
- Law Foundation of PEI
- Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce
- PEI Women's Business Association
- Advisory Council on the Status of Women
- Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI's Aboriginal Justice Program
- PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada