



ANNUAL REPORT 2004

PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN INC.

2004 HIGHLIGHTS

ON-RESERVE MATRIMONIAL REAL PROPERTY INFORMATION SESSION

PLEA entered into an agreement with the Women's Issues and Gender Equality Directorate (WIGE) of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) to organize and coordinate activities related to On-Reserve Matrimonial Real Property (OMRP). A conference was held in March, 2004, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and brought together approximately 20 participants from Saskatchewan and Manitoba First Nations to discuss this issue.

YCJA ONE YEAR LATER PROJECT

The *YCJA: One Year Later*, is a publication that draws on case law, challenges, etc. from across the country, to address and account for on-going developments in the interpretation and application of the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* (YCJA). This resource is available in English and French.

PLEA ANNUAL LAW WEEK LUNCHEON

PLEA's Sixth Annual Law Week Luncheon was held on April 6, 2004 in Saskatoon. Our guest speaker was prominent Canadian lawyer James Lockyer, Director of the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted.

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS

PLEA partnered with the Canadian Wildlife Service/Environment Canada; the Nature Conservancy of Canada; Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization Lands Branch; Ducks Unlimited Canada; and Saskatchewan Environment to produce a series of newspaper articles on the topic of conservation easements. These articles ran in newspapers across the province that subscribe to PLEA's *A Look at the Law* newspaper article service.

WHAT IS PLEA?

The Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan (PLEA) is a non-profit, non-government, charitable organization which exists **to educate, inform, and empower through law-related education.**

PLEA provides **general information on the law** rather than legal advice for specific problems. Knowledge of the law (our rights and responsibilities) is a form of responsible citizenship. Public awareness of, and involvement in, legal issues can increase the effectiveness of our legal system. To this end, PLEA offers a number of services and materials.

PLEA offers **presentations** on various areas of the law through Free Legal Information Sessions at public libraries and regional colleges throughout the province, and through our Speakers Bureau service. Lectures are given by volunteer lawyers, government personnel, and other professionals.

PLEA produces **publications** on many areas of the law and makes these available to the public at no charge. PLEA also writes a **newspaper article series**, run weekly in many Saskatchewan newspapers.

PLEA's **Youth and Schools Program** strives to promote the integration of law-related education into the schools. We develop classroom resources and teacher education programs on teaching about the law.

PLEA receives funding from the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and the Department of Justice (Canada). PLEA also enjoys the support of the Law Society of Saskatchewan, the Canadian Bar Association (Saskatchewan Branch), the College of Law, the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission, Saskatchewan Learning, Saskatchewan Justice, the Saskatoon Public Library, and libraries and regional colleges throughout the province.

EDUCATE
...
INFORM
...
EMPOWER

PLEA strives to ensure that, by providing legal education to the public, the people of Saskatchewan, especially young people, have the basic level of legal literacy that will allow them to function in this complex society, for a democratic society depends on its members being well informed. It is a pleasure and an honour to be associated with an association with a level of commitment such as that of PLEA. Through the dedication of the Co-Directors, Doug Surtees and Joel Janow, and the wonderful staff, PLEA has continued to expand its creative projects and partnerships.

Each year PLEA provides free legal information services. Speakers Bureau presentations, Youth and Schools presentations, and media presentations. PLEA distributes booklets and pamphlets, teachers manuals and newspaper articles. Among many other projects this year we distributed 10,000 copies of our 188 page *Guide to the Law for Saskatchewan Women* and 6000 more copies are on order. Aboriginal PLEI has started a partnership with the Aboriginal Justice and Criminology Program at the University of Saskatchewan; and we have developed and revised materials with respect to youth justice information.

I would like to thank the Co-Directors and the staff for their energy and professionalism and their many talents. They have demonstrated an amazing ability to coordinate an extremely well-run operation.

PLEA relies heavily on the generous support of volunteers from the legal profession, judiciary and general public to deliver its services. We are grateful for the time and energy which so many have given to the work of PLEA this year.

The Law Foundation of Saskatchewan provides our core funding, making many of our projects possible, and we continue to be thankful for this support.

- Norma Sim, Q.C., PLEA President

2004 HIGHLIGHTS

(CONTINUED)

INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

PLEA is revising this very valuable website and accompanying teachers' resource books. Preliminary consultations with the University of Saskatchewan Centre for Studies in Agriculture, Law and the Environment and Saskatchewan Learning have gone very well. The new edition of this material will be ready to go in 2005.

FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERMEDIARY TRAINING GUIDE

With the support of the Department of Justice Canada's Family Violence Initiative, PLEA published the *Family Violence Intermediary Training Guide*. This free resource for persons working with victims of family violence contains information and resources related to domestic abuse, such as accessing help from the community, accessing the criminal and civil court systems, *The Victims of Domestic Violence Act*, as well as the legal system as a whole.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

A Death in the Family: The death of a family member or close friend can be a traumatic and unsettling experience. In addition to the grief or personal loss, survivors also may have to make a number of pressing decisions about the affairs of the deceased person. This booklet is designed to address some of those things that may need to be done in the short term, after someone has died.

SCHOOL LAW

Last year, Saskatchewan teachers told us that they would like a way to more easily invite Saskatchewan lawyers and judges into their classrooms. PLEA entered into a partnership with the Law Society of Saskatchewan, the Canadian Bar Association, and the Courts Education Program to make this happen. Teachers and students told us what topics they would like to discuss. Volunteer lawyers and judges, as well as PLEA staff visited over 20 schools to talk with students about issues like Human Rights, Sentencing Circles, Labour Law, Consumer Law, and Youth Crime. We visited schools in Northern communities like La Ronge, La Loche, Pakwaw Lake, and Patuanak. We also visited rural communities like Pense, St. Brieux, Lampman and Grand Coulee. Some of the larger communities we visited were Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert and Kindersley. In 2005, we look forward to matching many more volunteer lawyers and judges with students from all over Saskatchewan.



James Lockyer, Director of the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted, guest speaker at PLEA's Sixth Annual Law Week Luncheon.

CO-DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

It has been another year of great accomplishment for PLEA, and as we look to the future, we see much promise for us. Areas of concentration in the coming years include:

- ensuring appropriate Aboriginal content in public legal education and information (PLEI);
- making more of our information available in French;
- enhancing electronic delivery of information, including continual upgrading of our website;
- focusing on more evaluative practices as we carry out our mission. This will serve to not only make our work even more effective, but assist in allowing the public more input concerning PLEI needs, as well as make the value of our important work even clearer; and
- revising some of our older Teachers' Resources .

Many highlights from 2004 are set out in this report. Some are updates regarding projects begun last year that have now been completed or have since been undertaken. The report demonstrates new partnerships with professional organizations, government bodies, and others. We know this is key to making sure we inform as many citizens as possible about the law through the most efficient means possible. We expect additional important partnerships as others look to PLEA for our expertise and infrastructure in the field of public legal education and information. Of course, we will continue to seek the same from others where they are able to supplement our activities and our objectives may converge.

We will enter 2005 looking forward to PLEA's silver anniversary - another proud accomplishment. We know that the last 25 years of outreach and growth in providing the people of our province with information so rightfully theirs would not have been possible without the faithful support of the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan. Milestones such as this are not reached without such partnerships and support from others. We thank the Foundation on behalf of our board, staff, partners and, most importantly, the citizens of Saskatchewan.

- Joel Janow & Doug Surtees, PLEA Co-Directors

OUR STAFF

Joel Janow	Co-Director
Doug Surtees	Co-Director
Shelly Simons	Admin. Coordinator
Carol Colville	Financial Admin.
Lee Cutforth	Legal Writer
Janet Drysdale	Legal Writer
Allyson Gagne	Legal Writer
Jocelyn Gagne	Legal Writer
Ferne Hebig	Program Assistant
Peggy Welter	Program Assistant
Deb McLachlan	2004 Project Staff

2004 ADULT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- 110 free legal information sessions, speakers bureau presentations and media presentations were delivered
- 754 requests for legal information
- 71 volunteers presented programs throughout the province or edited publications
- 550 contribution-in-kind professional hours were committed to by volunteers
- 167,898 publications were distributed
- 40,076 publications were accessed online
- 10,762 homepage "hits" at www.plea.org

2004 YOUTH & SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES

- 664 instruction guides distributed
- 6 in-service presentations
- 32 School Law presentations
- 4,943 copies of *The PLEA* distributed (4 issues)
- 5 Youth and Schools displays at events
- 1,695 homepage hits at the Youth & Schools website

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

The Public Legal Education Association of Saskatchewan is funded by:

- The Law Foundation of Saskatchewan

With grants and assistance from:

- Department of Justice Canada • Indian and Northern Affairs Canada • Corrections and Public Safety • Saskatchewan Justice
- The Law Society of Saskatchewan • Law Courts Education Society of BC

We gratefully acknowledge the following sponsors:

Sixth Annual PLEA Law Week Luncheon

- Houghton Boston Printers & Lithographers • College of Law, University of Saskatchewan
- Sheraton Cavalier Hotel • Saskatoon Police Service • Canadian Bar Association • McKercher McKercher & Whitmore Law Office
- Flowers by Fred and Murray • Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission • MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman Law Office

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PLEA is extremely grateful for the time and effort our Board Members put into directing and supporting the important and valuable work the organization does for the people of Saskatchewan. Their advisory role with respect to our programming and administrative concerns, when they have been called upon, has been invaluable for the good of PLEA and, ultimately, the Saskatchewan public. Their work as Board Members often goes above and beyond the ordinary call of duty.

2003/2004

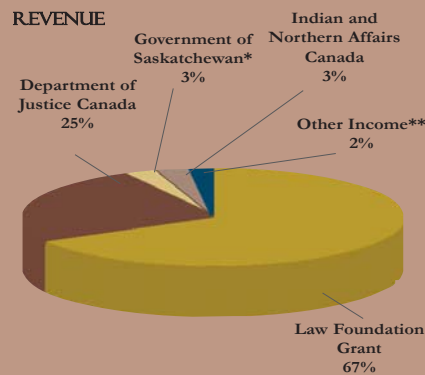
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Norma Sim, Q.C., B.A.(Hons.), LL.B. Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission Representative	Vice President
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Peggy Sarjeant, B.A., M.L.A. Saskatoon Public Library Representative	
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Glenda Cooney, B.A. (Hons.) Member at Large	

2004/2005

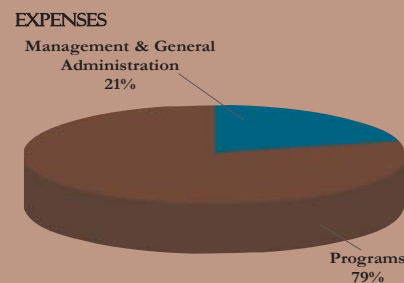
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Donna Scott, Q.C., B.A., LL.B. Member at Large	
Andrew Mason, B.A., LL.B. Canadian Bar Association Representative	

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Revenue	2004	2003
Donations - Regular	\$ 165	\$ 105
Grants	712,793	708,565
Interest	1,571	2,248
Luncheon Income	3,420	2,725
Memberships	640	515
Miscellaneous	185	4,229
Portfolios	1,550	1,700
Publications	389	1,691
Total Revenue	720,713	721,778
Expenses	718,527	719,828
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses	2,186	1,950
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	51,308	49,358
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 53,494	\$ 51,308



* includes Saskatchewan Justice; Corrections and Public Safety
 ** includes Law Society of Saskatchewan; Canadian Bar Association; Law Courts Education Society of British Columbia.



To obtain a complete Financial Statement, please contact PLEA.

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