

# 2005

A N N U A L R E P O R T



PRO BONO LAW  
ONTARIO



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## Chair's message

Paul Schabas



■ As a member of Pro Bono Law Ontario (PBLO)'s Board of Directors since the organization launched in 2002 and as Chair since 2005, I have had a unique opportunity to observe the impact this organization has had on the pro bono culture of the legal profession and, more importantly, on low-income Ontarians whose legal issue is not covered by legal aid and who cannot afford to hire a lawyer. Last year, PBLO had successfully entered the mainstream with the creation of a number of viable partnerships and pro bono projects. This year, with nearly 2,000 clients served through these PBLO Registered Projects and more than 8,000 pro bono hours reported by a handful of law firms, PBLO is clearly making a difference.

Much of this success is due to PBLO's commitment to developing and sustaining partnerships with a range of stakeholders, including major law firms and government lawyers and to developing innovative pro bono programs that connect unmet legal need to available legal resources. PBLO programs exist to serve low-income South Asians,

Aboriginal communities in hard-to-reach parts of northern Ontario, unrepresented litigants before a growing number of courts, children and charitable organizations to name but a few.

Of course, much work remains to be done to improve access to justice in Ontario. And 8,000 reported hours does not truly reflect the scale of pro bono work being done by the legal profession, especially by small firms and sole practitioners. However, the outcomes of 2005 provide a concrete example of what can be achieved when the private bar, government lawyers, community groups, and the courts work in conjunction with legal aid to address the unmet legal needs of vulnerable Ontarians.

PBLO's goal for 2006 is to build on its achievements and to continue to make a difference.

On behalf of PBLO, I am pleased to extend our gratitude to our major funders, The Law Foundation of Ontario, Legal Aid Ontario and The Law Society of Upper Canada for their ongoing support. In addition, I would like to thank everyone – from the judges and the bar leaders promoting pro bono as a professional obligation, to the volunteers accepting pro bono cases, and to our community partners – for their ongoing support and commitment to access to justice in Ontario.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Schabas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## Director's report

Lynn Burns



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■ As an organization that strives to be a leader in the access to justice movement, PBLO is continually looking for ways it can innovate and improve the services it can offer to its stakeholders and the community. I am pleased to say that PBLO was able to advance its goals on a number of fronts in 2005.

PBLO focused a significant amount of energy in 2005 to ensure that the profession and the public had increased access to PBLO's programs and services. In addition to a re-branding campaign, PBLO launched a new website, *www.pblo.org*. This website is the platform for two innovative tools: *ProbonoNet for Lawyers* and *ProbonoNet for the Public*. The first provides lawyers with easy access to information about pro bono opportunities, upcoming CLE sessions, and resources that can help them with their pro bono cases. The second provides members of the public with information about PBLO Registered Projects, including applications for assistance that they can submit online, as well as a variety of self-help resources.

PBLO was also able to increase its support to pro bono lawyers in 2005 thanks to a partnership with BAREX. That organization donated more than \$10,000 of in-kind services to PBLO to record and broadcast CLE programs through its webcasting service. The webcast CLE's were an important volunteer recruitment and training tool, and PBLO has already started looking at ways this technology can be used to educate both volunteers and pro bono clients in the future.

In 2005, technology also played a key role in the launch of one of PBLO's most innovative projects, the Telejustice Project, in partnership with the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) and Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services. Thanks to a generous grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, PBLO was able to develop a web portal that connects Community Legal Workers in remote communities in northern Ontario with the expertise of MAG lawyers in Toronto and Ottawa. Not only is this the first pro bono project in Canada that counts on the participation of government

lawyers, but PBLO believes that this urban-to-rural model has enormous potential to leverage legal clinics and serve hard-to-reach communities across the province.

Perhaps PBLO's most important activity of 2005 was the hiring of dedicated staff to direct its two in-house pro bono programs, the Child Advocacy Project and Volunteer Lawyers Service, and to manage the implementation of a number of new programs and services. These staff members have been dedicating a tremendous amount of time and energy to forging relationships with the private bar and the community in an effort to increase the number of clients served.

There is still a long way to go to improve access to justice for all Ontarians, but I am confident that PBLO is well poised to meet the continued challenge ahead of us.

# Mission and objectives

■ PBLO'S mission is to improve access to justice by providing strategic guidance, training, and tailored technical assistance to law firms, law associations, legal departments and other groups that are dedicated to addressing the legal needs of low-income and disadvantaged individuals, as well as to the communities and charitable organizations that serve them.

In addition to providing technical support, PBLO brokers relationships between the private bar and high volume public service providers such as legal clinics or community-based organizations.

## Objectives

1. Promoting the growth of pro bono work throughout Ontario's legal profession:
  - a. Collecting and sharing information about existing pro bono services and areas of need for pro bono services within the profession;
  - b. Providing conferences and seminars;
  - c. Providing information about pro bono opportunities via [www.probononet.on.ca](http://www.probononet.on.ca) and other media including a published directory of pro bono opportunities; and
  - d. Working with professional bodies to promote pro bono culture.
2. Promoting pro bono services as a means for addressing basic community legal needs:
  - a. Raising general public awareness of pro bono legal services to community organizations and individuals who require legal services, but for which there is no government obligation to provide assistance;
  - b. Maintaining partnerships with legal clinics to provide community legal education workshops and materials via pro bono presenters; and
  - c. Utilizing pro bono lawyers to provide community legal education in areas not supported by legal aid (i.e., charitable sector).
3. Supporting pro bono service providers:
  - a. Developing turn-key materials, best practices guides, policies, case management, training, outreach, resource development, etc;
  - b. Identifying and addressing barriers and obstacles to pro bono participation (i.e., court fees, policies for government lawyers and in-house counsel);
  - c. Facilitating continuing legal education and training in key areas of client need/demand for pro bono services;
  - d. Collecting and sharing information about pro bono to the wider public in order to promote understanding of lawyers' positive contributions to their communities (communication supports); and
  - e. Promoting awareness of PBLO and its services within the profession so that pro bono providers and potential volunteers know where to turn for information, support and volunteer opportunities.

## Mission and objectives continued

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4. Supporting policy and client-focused research such as:
  - a. Exploring clients' needs;
  - b. Maintaining regular contact with community stakeholders to ascertain ongoing and emerging legal needs, and evaluate effectiveness of service delivery models;
  - c. Quantifying amount of pro bono work;
  - d. Simplifying judicial procedures;
  - e. Researching barriers and inefficiencies at tribunal levels, administrative hearings, etc; and
  - f. Policy advocacy projects.

## Highlights of 2005

### Delivering Pro Bono Services

■ 2005 was an important year for PBLO as it shifted from project development to a focus on delivering pro bono services. Significant accomplishments included a growing presence in law firm pro bono activities, and the introduction of government lawyer pro bono programs. In 2005, almost 2,000 clients received pro bono legal services through PBLO Registered Projects, and lawyers reported spending over 8,000 hours on pro bono files.

### Innovative Pro Bono Programs

In 2005, PBLO brokered partnerships and supported a range of innovative pro bono projects that called on the participation of law firms, government agencies, community groups and legal clinics. Many of these projects are urban renewal initiatives such as the Regent Park Community Re-development, the revitalization of the Don Valley Brick Works site by the environmental organization, Evergreen, and the development of the Green/Arts Barns Project undertaken by Artscape at the former Wychwood TTC streetcar site at St. Clair and Bathurst.

Community development is also the theme of the Visual Artists Legal Clinic of Ontario (VALCO), a pilot project PBLO launched in 2005 in partnership with Torys and CARFAC. Adapted from an arts law project (previously developed for Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto) and Gowlings, VALCO provides

much needed business law services to low-income visual artists to help them protect their creative works and their primary source of income.

Over 2005, PBLO begin tapping into a new source for pro bono lawyers – government agencies.

PBLO worked with the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) – the first government ministry to commit to develop a pro bono policy – and engaged lawyers to perform pro bono work through the Telejustice Project. This unique urban-to-rural initiative assists First Nations communities in Northwest Ontario through a partnership with the Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Clinic. The first phase of the project was launched in 2005, beginning with an “Ask-a-Lawyer” online tool that enables MAG lawyers to provide question-and-answer support to community legal workers. Phase II will include

videoconferenced legal training sessions, summary legal information in community papers, and fact sheets.

PBLO met with Justice Minister Irwin Cotler to discuss innovative ways the government could support pro bono. Government lawyers are some of the most highly skilled and civic-minded lawyers in the profession, and the opportunity to make use of this skill base will have a significant and long-term impact on access to justice.

The second government project is in its early stages – a Pro Bono Community Mediation Project for the city of Ottawa that is being supported by Department of Justice lawyers in partnership with the YMCA/YWCA and *Centres des services communautaires Vanier*. More focus will be given to this project as PBLO seeks supportive funding.

### **Assistance for Unrepresented Litigants**

The past year has seen significant activities in PBLO’s court-based pro bono activities. These programs are a priority for PBLO because they play a key role in improving access to justice, improving the administration of justice and providing younger lawyers with meaningful opportunities to gain court room experience and engage in public service. In 2005, PBLO expanded the Appeals Assistance Project to include brief services at Divisional Court for unrepresented litigants with motions related to their appeals. In addition, PBLO spent much of the year developing additional court-based pro bono programs. The first of these – the Small Claims Court Pro Bono Duty Counsel Project – will launch in 2006 in Toronto and Kingston. The Advocates’ Society and a number of Toronto firms, including Blakes, Faskens, Gowlings and McCarthys, have been key partners in these initiatives.

# Highlights of 2005

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## **Pro Bono for Children and Youth**

Pro bono projects for children and youth continue to prove popular for PBLO, and in 2005, these initiatives were consolidated under one umbrella and directed by a new Children's Projects Manager, Wendy Miller.

The addition of a dedicated project manager was particularly beneficial to the Child Advocacy Project (CAP) and enabled efforts to diversify and enhance project operations, such as intensifying and widening the scope of client outreach and dividing case management and volunteer relations functions. The result was a larger, geographically broader and more diverse pool of potential clients as well as greater overall efficiency. New populations for CAP include specific ethno-linguistic communities, newcomers, and children/youth with child welfare involvement. As a measure of this increased activity, in 2005 the outreach database nearly tripled in size and 113 children and their families across Ontario received pro bono legal help.

Over the course of the year, the project launched a website and developed new marketing materials to support its outreach efforts.

Also in 2005, PBLO launched two new pilot projects for children and youth. The first, in partnership with McCarthys and the Immigration and Refugee Board provides pro bono lawyers to act as designated representatives for unaccompanied minors arriving in Canada at Pearson International Airport (Toronto). The designated representatives help these children complete forms, gather evidence related to their refugee claims, facilitate access to legal aid and instruct counsel.

The second initiative is the Property Rights for Minors project, which partners Borden Ladner Gervais with the Office of the Children's Lawyer to provide *guardian ad litem* services to wards of the state in cases where the demand exceeds the OCL's capacity to provide services.

A third project still in its initial research phase is the SALCO Forced Marriage Project. PBLO provided consulting support to SALCO (South Asian Legal Clinic) on this project which includes the active participation of a broad-based coalition of community service, women's advocacy, child welfare, and law enforcement agencies.

## **Business Law Pro Bono**

PBLO's in-house business law project is Volunteer Lawyers Service, which provides pro bono services to charitable organizations across Ontario. In July 2005, Janice Wiggins joined PBLO as the Director of VLS. Wiggins, whose background includes work for the YWCA, United Way and Ontario Trillium Foundation, has focused her efforts on developing relationships with the private bar and ensuring that the charitable sector in Ontario is aware of VLS and has ready access to its services – either through information on its website ([www.volunteerlawyers.org](http://www.volunteerlawyers.org)), a popular seminar series, or through direct

representation on matters that range from incorporation and charitable status, to management-side employment law and real-estate matters.

Over the course of the year, the project launched a revamped website and developed new marketing materials to support its outreach efforts.

In 2005, VLS served 460 clients through direct representation, summary advice and legal education seminars.

### **Technology and Pro Bono**

PBLO is committed to constantly improving the efficiency and efficacy of its programs and services. In 2005, the use of technology was instrumental to achieving this goal.

Most notable is the web portal that PBLO launched in October 2005 for the Telejustice Project in partnership with the Ministry of the Attorney General and Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services. Modeled after projects that increase access to health care

in remote and rural communities, the Telejustice Project provides a direct on-line link between frontline workers serving hard-to-reach Aboriginal communities in northern Ontario, and a pool of experienced pro bono lawyers at MAG.

In 2005, PBLO also piloted a series of web-cast CLE's to recruit and train volunteer lawyers for the Child Advocacy Project and Volunteer Lawyers Service. The program was made possible thanks to the generous support of Bar-Ex who donated more than \$10,000 of in-kind services to record and broadcast the programs.

2005 was also the year that PBLO re-launched its website, [www.pblo.org](http://www.pblo.org) and introduced two online tools: *ProbonoNet for Lawyers* and *ProbonoNet for the Public* to facilitate access to PBLO's programs and services.

### **Spreading the Word**

Ensuring that the legal profession is aware of pro bono opportunities and is recognized for its contributions is a growing priority for PBLO, as is the need to inform the public about the expanding array of pro bono legal services they can access.

In 2005, PBLO undertook a re-branding strategy and established a formal communications plan. PBLO's profile steadily increased throughout the year. Communications are targeted to two broad audiences – the legal profession and the general public. Online tools, resources and publicity efforts have been developed for both these audiences in a balanced way so PBLO can effectively manage growth in both the supply and demand for pro bono services.

The primary portal for many of these activities has been the new PBLO website, redesigned and launched in October of 2005. The site includes general information on PBLO along with global news

# Highlights of 2005

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10 on pro bono activity, media information, and a library containing PBLO newsletters, annual reports and other project deliverables and resources.

## Engaging the Bar

A new online tool for lawyers – *ProbonoNet for Lawyers*, was designed and launched in 2005 to facilitate pro bono participation. The site provides information on volunteering, an online directory of pro bono opportunities, notices on upcoming pro bono CLE events, and reference support materials for the pro bono legal work lawyers perform. The site requires lawyers to sign up as members (at no cost), which serves two purposes: to avoid confusion for members of the general public seeking legal services or resources, and to track pro bono interest and participation by gathering contact information on interested volunteers.

Websites for the two largest PBLO in-house projects – Child Advocacy Project and Volunteer Lawyers Service were designed with sections specifically for lawyers including application information and online listings of open cases seeking pro bono help.

One of PBLO's objectives is to offer pro bono volunteer opportunities for lawyers practicing in a variety of areas. While in some cases, services might be directly related to a lawyer's existing practice area, it might also be an area that's new. For that reason, pro bono CLE's are developed as training sessions for PBLO projects such as the Child Advocacy Project and Volunteer Lawyers Service. In 2005, a number of these trainings were held, attracting new volunteers and providing the support lawyers might need in taking on pro bono cases. In 2005, BAR-eX partnered on these projects and filmed CLE events for use as on-demand webcasts and video reproduction.

PBLO's newly redesigned newsletter – Pro Bono News – began regular quarterly publishing in 2005. The publication is distributed to over 1,600 members of the legal profession, stakeholders, government agencies and community agencies. It is also made available online. Each issue highlights one or two themes such as a pro bono practice area, and showcases law firm initiatives or individuals dedicated to pro bono in that particular area.

Media opportunities in 2005 arose from proactive efforts to reinforce newsworthy messages on the importance of pro bono and access to justice. Articles and Letters to the Editor appeared in a number of publications throughout 2005, such as the National Post, Toronto Star, Canadian Lawyer Magazine, Ontario Lawyers' Gazette, and Lawyers Weekly.

### **Engaging the Community**

*ProbonoNet for the Public* was launched in 2005 as an online tool for the general public interested in locating pro bono services provided by PBLO. The site also includes self-help resources and notices on community legal events. Project websites were launched for PBLO's two in-house projects – CAP and VLS. These sites have detailed information on those specific programs, application forms, and news and resources on the subject area. The foundation for these tools was laid in 2005 and will continue to grow over the next several months so that each site offers a significant body of online resources for the general public and community agencies.

Two important self-help resources were published as online resources in 2005 – a Wrongful Dismissal Manual and a Court of Appeal Handbook. These resources are part of an ongoing series developed through a joint project with the Ontario Court of Appeal Law Clerks. More handbooks will be produced in future years.

Outreach to the general public by PBLO and its in-house projects takes place through a number of mechanisms. Legal education events are held in partnership with community agencies, presentations are made directly to community agency staff and stakeholders, and PBLO staff participate at conferences through speaking engagements or trade booths.

Printed materials using a new, consistent PBLO branding were produced in 2005 to support these outreach activities, such as brochures, posters, program fact sheets, and check lists on when to seek help. All printed materials direct potential pro bono clients back to the individual websites, where more detailed information, application forms and resources are found to guide them in getting help with their legal issue.

## **Staff**

### **STAFF**

Lynn Burns, Executive Director  
Yonit Fuhrmann, Executive Assistant  
Heather Hogan, Implementation Manager  
Wendy Miller, Children's Projects Manager  
Janice Wiggins, Volunteer Lawyers Service Director  
Nicole Kellow, Pro Bono Coordinator

### **CONSULTANTS**

Carol Austin, Communications  
Ruby Lam, Community Outreach

## Advisory Board



**12 The Honourable Chief Justice R. Roy McMurtry**  
Chief Justice Roy McMurtry devoted himself to numerous community service activities during his years as a practicing lawyer including Big Brothers, rehabilitation projects for former penitentiary inmates, adult education, senior citizens' housing, and on a number of multi-cultural initiatives. Mr. McMurtry was appointed and held the position of Attorney General of Ontario from 1975 to 1985 and played a key role in the negotiations that led to the Federal/Provincial Accord of November 1981 and the proclamation of Canada's new Constitution in April of 1982. In 1991, he was appointed the Associate Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice and then appointed Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice in 1994. On February 20, 1996, Mr. McMurtry was appointed the Chief Justice of Ontario. He is the founder and President of The Osgoode Society, and the creator and Chair of the Ontario Justice Education Network.

## Board of Directors



### **Paul Schabas, Chair**

Paul Schabas is a litigation partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon, LLP in Toronto. He was called to the Bar in 1986 and has a varied litigation practice with an emphasis on media, constitutional and public law. Paul has been counsel on leading Charter cases dealing with freedom of expression, equality rights, judicial independence, fundamental justice, and search and seizure, and has appeared many times in the Supreme Court of Canada, including acting as counsel, pro bono, for the Canadian Foundation for Children, Youth and the Law on its landmark challenge to the corporal punishment defence in criminal law. Paul is a director, or former director, of several non-profit organizations including the Family Service Association of Toronto, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

### **Raj Anand**

Raj Anand is a partner with WeirFoulds LLP. He is a former Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission and presently acts for complainants and respondents before the Ontario and Canadian Human Rights Commissions. In 1997, he was the first recipient of the Advocates' Society Award of Justice. In 2003, he received the Law Society Medal, the highest honour awarded by the governing body of the legal profession in Ontario.

### **Michael Barrack**

Michael Barrack is a partner at McCarthy Tétrault LLP Toronto. As senior counsel, Mr. Barrack has appeared in the full range of litigation matters at all levels of trial and appeal, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Recently, Mr. Barrack appeared in the Supreme Court of Canada to argue the constitutionality of the provisions of the *Criminal Code* relating to corporal punishment. Mr. Barrack is listed in the 2004 edition of the *Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada* as a leading lawyer

in the area of corporate commercial litigation. He is also a member of the executive of The Advocates' Society.

#### **Professor William Bogart**

Prof. W.A. Bogart (University of Toronto), LL.M. (Harvard) is Professor of Law, University of Windsor, where he teaches courses on Civil Procedure, Administrative Law, and Access to Justice. In October 2002, he was the recipient of a University of Windsor Award for research and scholarship excellence. He is a frequent consultant to governments and other bodies in developing legal policy and is also currently Director of Research for the Rules Committee of the Federal Court of Canada (with D. Ferland, Laval).

#### **The Honourable Colin Campbell**

Justice Colin Campbell was appointed to the Superior Court of Justice in June 1998. Prior to his appointment, his legal career was with the firm now known as McCarthy Tétrault. Following his call to the bar in 1962 (Alberta and Northwest Ter-

ritories in 1974), he practiced in all aspects of civil and criminal litigation, appearing in trial courts, appellate courts and administrative tribunals in many parts of Canada. Prior to his appointment, his practice was largely concentrated in commercial litigation and competition law. He is most known for his defence of doctors before courts and administrative tribunals.

#### **Ruth Carey**

Ruth Carey graduated from the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Law in 1991, and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1993 after completing her articles with Parkdale Community Legal Services. She has been the Executive Director of the HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic Ontario (HALCO) since 1996. Ms. Carey has served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network since 1997 and currently holds a Ministerial appointment to the Ontario Advisory Committee on HIV/AIDS.

#### **Ronald Foerster**

Ronald Foerster is a partner at Borden Ladner Gervais where he is the Toronto Regional Coordinator of the Commercial Litigation Professional Group and the National Coordinator of the Fraud Law Practice Group. Mr. Foerster was appointed Commission Counsel to Part II of the Walkerton Inquiry between June 2000 and June 2002. He is currently plaintiff's counsel in a major proposed class action against the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. Mr. Foerster is a member of the Canadian Bar Association (Ontario).

#### **The Honourable Stephen Goudge**

Justice Stephen Goudge, Hons. B.A., M.Sc, LL.B., was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1970 and appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1982. He was managing partner of the firm Gowling, Strathy & Henderson in Toronto and in 1989 was Counsel to the Office of the Premier of Ontario. Justice Goudge was an elected Bencher of the Law Society of the Upper Canada from 1991 to 1996. He is a Judicial Fellow

# Board of Directors

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of the American College of Trial Lawyers and was appointed to the Court of Appeal for Ontario in 1996.

## **Malcolm L. Heins**

Malcolm Heins was named Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Upper Canada in January 2001. During the previous six years, Mr. Heins had been President and Chief Executive Officer of the Lawyers' Professional Indemnity Company (currently LawPRO). Mr. Heins is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Canadian Bar Association. He is a director of LawPRO, LINK and BAR-eX (the lawyer's portal). In February 2002, Mr. Heins received the 2002 Award of Distinction from the Metropolitan Lawyers Association.

## **J. Alexander (Sandy) Houston**

Sandy Houston earned his LL.B from Queen's University and holds degrees in English and history from the University of Toronto, and in psychology from York University. Along with three other partners, he formed Stitt Feld Handy Houston in 1994,

where he practised alternative dispute resolution and civil litigation. In 1998, he was appointed Executive Director of the George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation. He also serves as a director of The Walrus magazine, Philanthropic Foundations of Canada, The Creative Trust, the Ruthven Park Foundation, Lewa Canada, and a number of privately held companies.

## **Veronica Lacey**

Veronica Lacey embarked on a teaching career after graduating from the University of Toronto. In 1996 she was appointed Deputy Minister of Education and Training. Most recently, Ms. Lacey has been a Senior Fellow at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto in the area of Public Policy and International Studies. Ms. Lacey assumed the position of President and Chief Executive Officer of The Learning Partnership in February 2000.

## **Angela Longo**

Angela Longo was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Legal Aid Ontario from 2000 to 2005. Previously, Ms. Longo established a record of expert leadership in significant public policy initiatives and operational and change management in her 25 years in the Ontario public service sector in a variety of ministries. She also serves as a Board member of Central Neighbourhood House in Toronto.

## **Derry Millar**

Derry Millar is a partner at WeirFoulds LLP. Mr. Millar is currently Lead Commission Counsel to the Ipperwash Inquiry. Mr. Millar is a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada and a member of the Board of Legal Aid Ontario. He has been a member of the Civil Rules Committee and its predecessors since 1976, past Chair of the Ontario Centre for Advocacy Training and a Director of The Advocates' Society.

**David Scott**

David Scott was called to the Bar in 1962 and is a partner at Borden Ladner Gervais in Ottawa. He was appointed Queens Counsel in 1976, is an elected Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, and is certified by the Law Society as a Specialist in Civil Litigation. In 2001, he received an Honorary Doctorate of laws from both the Law Society of Upper Canada and the University of Ottawa. He is both an active member of his firm's national pro bono committee and has acted as a Director of numerous social and philanthropic organizations, including the United Way, John Howard Society, CARE Canada, Ottawa General Hospital, the Canadian Stroke Network, and the University of Ottawa Heart Institute.

**Susan Ursel**

Susan Ursel is a partner with the law firm of Green & Chercover. She was a member of the team of lawyers on the case of "Jane Doe" v. Metropolitan Toronto Police, which was a challenge to the police practices in Toronto regarding sexual assaults. She

is a past member of the Advisory Committee to the Employment Equity Commissioner, a past director and president of the Emily Stowe Shelter for Women, a past member of the Steering Committee for the Campaign for Equal Families, and a founding Director of the Foundation for Equal Families. She was also among the founding members of the Gay and Lesbian Issues and Rights Committee of the Canadian Bar Association (Ontario).

# Financial Report

## Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2005

## Statement of Operations

December 31, 2005

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	2005	2004
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current		
Cash and short term investments	\$ 360,556	\$ 270,605
Grants receivable (note 3)	-	105,393
Prepaid expenses	<u>20,453</u>	<u>22,115</u>
	381,009	398,113
Capital - at cost less accumulated amortization (note 5)	<u>23,447</u>	<u>13,331</u>
	<u>\$ 404,456</u>	<u>\$ 411,444</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 55,811	\$ 35,751
Deferred revenue (note 6)	120,169	157,039
Deferred capital contributions (note 7)	<u>9,125</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>185,105</u>	<u>192,790</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Net assets invested in capital	23,447	13,331
Unrestricted net assets (note 8)	<u>195,904</u>	<u>205,323</u>
	<u>219,351</u>	<u>218,654</u>
	<u>\$ 404,456</u>	<u>\$ 411,444</u>

	Invested in capital assets	Unrestricted	2005 Total	2004 Total
<b>BALANCE</b> - Beginning of year	\$ 13,331	\$ 205,323	\$ 218,654	\$ 247,986
- Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(8,517)	9,214	697	(29,332)
- Purchase of capital assets	<u>18,633</u>	<u>(18,633)</u>	-	-
<b>BALANCE</b> - End of year	<u>\$ 23,447</u>	<u>\$ 195,904</u>	<u>\$ 219,351</u>	<u>\$ 218,654</u>

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

December 31, 2005

	2005	2004
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Operating grants from the Law Foundation of Ontario and Legal Aid Ontario	\$ 653,897	\$ 508,249
Grants		
Law Foundation of Ontario (VLS)	107,260	135,469
Law Society of Upper Canada (rent subsidy)	51,327	36,173
Attorney General of Ontario	23,994	7,788
Ontario Trillium Foundation	11,549	25,000
Other	<u>3,910</u>	<u>10,366</u>
	<u>851,937</u>	<u>723,045</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Salaries and benefits	404,461	253,492
Consulting fees	171,857	123,178
Rent	59,746	36,173
Communications	37,128	41,226
Office and general	30,869	33,962
Computer costs	29,145	14,395
Professional fees	23,787	22,736
Promotional	22,702	5,321
Travel	18,428	14,257
Meals and catering	14,972	14,264
Ontario Trillium Foundation - Seed Funding	11,549	25,000
Training	10,983	37,805
Insurance	2,992	1,980
Small office equipment and furniture	2,689	2,475
Photocopying	1,415	3,248
Conference	-	112,606
Volunteer expenses	-	5,461
Amortization	<u>8,517</u>	<u>4,798</u>
	<u>851,240</u>	<u>752,377</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<u>\$ 697</u>	<u>\$ (29,332)</u>

## Statement of Cash Flows

December 31, 2005

	2005	2004
Cash flow from operating activities:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ <u>697</u>	\$ <u>(29,332)</u>
Adjustment for:		
Amortization of capital assets	<u>8,517</u>	<u>4,798</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Decrease in grants receivable	105,393	81,998
(Increase) decrease in prepaid and sundry assets		1,662
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	<u>20,060</u>	<u>(16,543)</u>
	<u>127,115</u>	<u>59,951</u>
Cash flow from operating activities:	<u>136,329</u>	<u>35,417</u>
Cash flow for investing activities:		
Purchase of capital assets	<u>(18,633)</u>	<u>(16,073)</u>
Cash flow from financing activities:		
Increase (decrease) in deferred grants	<u>(67,843)</u>	<u>6,540</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	49,853	25,884
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - Beginning of year</b>	<u>270,605</u>	<u>244,721</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - End of year</b>	<u>\$ 320,458</u>	<u>\$ 270,605</u>

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