



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Community Advocacy & Legal Centre celebrates 35 years of serving their community

Community Advocacy & Legal Centre (CALC) is celebrating a 35-year legacy of serving low-income clients and forging strong community partnerships. To celebrate this milestone, they are focusing on the future by launching a new strategic plan and hosting a public forum featuring Osgoode professor Mary Jane Mossman. Mossman will be responding to the clinic's new strategic directions, particularly with respect to social inclusion and equality of justice.

"Her visit to CALC at this opportune time brings us full circle," says CALC's Executive Director Michele Leering, "as Mossman, in her previous capacity as funding manager at Ontario Legal Aid Plan, is in fact the very person who approved the inception funding for CALC 35 years ago."

The forum, entitled "Journeying Towards Justice: Future Directions for 2016 – 2020" will be held on Tuesday, November 10 at 3:30 p.m., followed by the clinic's annual general meeting.

"The actual anniversary is on December 1," says Leering, "but because our focus is on looking to the future rather than to the past and because we want to concentrate on how we will transform our services to meet clients' legal needs in new ways, Professor Mossman will be discussing the challenges and opportunities of our intention to offer more holistic approaches to providing services."

Established as Hastings and Prince Edward Legal Services in October 1980, the clinic served the community with a staff of four from a tiny storefront office in Belleville. Today, CALC offers seven locations in communities across Hastings and Prince Edward County and the southern half of Lennox & Addington County. Clinic staff members travel to the satellite offices to serve low-income clients in their rural and remote communities.

For more information about the November 10 Forum:

<http://www.communitylegalcentre.ca/calendar/UpcomingEvents.htm>

To attend the Forum, you may register at: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/journeying-towards-justice-future-directions-for-calc-2016-2020-registration-18864135136>

For further information about the contents of this press release, please call Michele Leering, Executive Director, at 613-966-8686, ext 0 or Toll Free at 1-877-966-8686, ext 0.

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For more information about CALC, visit <http://www.communitylegalcentre.ca/default.htm>.

The Community Advocacy & Legal Centre (CALC) is a non-profit community legal clinic principally funded by Legal Aid Ontario. The clinic was founded in 1980 and provides poverty law services to low income residents of Hastings, Prince Edward and Lennox & Addington counties. The clinic's main office is in Belleville, with satellite locations in Trenton, Picton, Napanee, Amherstview, Bancroft and Madoc. For more information, visit CALC's website at www.communitylegalcentre.ca.

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