

West Coast LEAF News Alert October 2, 2009



Celebrate the 80th annual Persons Day with Mary Eberts: an inspiration to all

This month marks the 80th anniversary of "Persons Day", the victory that established many women in Canada as "persons" under the law and eligible for appointment to the Senate.

On October 18, 1929, the English Privy Council overturned a Supreme Court of Canada decision and declared that women were legally "persons", and therefore eligible for appointment to the Senate. Sadly the change in law did not apply to Aboriginal women and many women of colour; however, it paved the way for the eventual legal recognition of all women across the country.

Each year, West Coast LEAF celebrates this important legal victory for women with the Persons Day Breakfast.

A 1996 recipient of the Governor-General's Persons Day award, Mary Eberts, will help West Coast LEAF welcome the 81st year of women as "persons" under the law in Canada.

As a constitutional scholar, superb teacher and a skilful legal practitioner, Mary Eberts' dedication and commitment to women's equality have made her an inspiration to us all.

Throughout the course of her career, Mary Eberts has promoted equality in Canadian law, the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and women's rights.

"We have a special historical relationship to the constitution, as we had to fight so hard for so long to be included in even its minimal provisions. Let us not stop now."

So committed was she to the *Charter* and equality rights, Mary Eberts co-founded the Legal Education and Action Fund for women in 1985.

Along with many awards, she has received three honorary doctorates from Canadian Universities.

Celebrate Persons Day in Kamloops

WHAT: Persons Day Breakfast with human rights lawyer and LEAF co-founder, Mary Eberts

WHERE: The Plaza Heritage Hotel, Blackwell Room, 405 Victoria Street, Kamloops

WHEN: Friday October 23rd, 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.,

TICKETS: \$35 per person; tables of 8 \$280; students \$25

For tickets call toll free 1-866-737-7716 or [click here to download a form](#). Tickets will be held at the door.

Celebrate Persons Day in Victoria

WHAT: Persons Day Breakfast with human rights lawyer and LEAF co-founder, Mary Eberts

WHERE: Ambrosia Conference & Event Centre, 638 Fisgard Street, Victoria

WHEN: Tuesday October 27th at 7:00 a.m.

TICKETS: \$40 per person; tables of 8 \$320

For tickets call toll free 1-866-737-7716 or [click here to download a form](#). This is a ticketless event. Names will be held at the door.

About [West Coast LEAF](#)

West Coast LEAF's mission is to achieve equality by changing historic patterns of discrimination against women through BC based equality rights litigation, law reform and public legal education.

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