

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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## “AN ENORMOUSLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR”



Board President Robyn Trask

At the end of my first year as board chair, I am reflecting on what has been an enormously successful year at West Coast LEAF. The highlights are many and set the stage for much anticipated growth of the organization.

This year, West Coast LEAF's litigation efforts included intervening in cases to challenge mandatory minimum sentences, protect women's right to safe health care, resist harmful myths and stereotypes about sexual

assault, and ensure the legal profession remains equally accessible to all, regardless of sexual orientation, marital status, or sex. We ended the year with a formidable development in our litigation program, filling our new position of Director of Litigation. This addition allows us to identify systemic issues and bring forward test case litigation, a significant expansion of our capacity.

Though it can take years to see the effects of law reform work, this year we witnessed results of our 2014 call to the Residential Tenancy Branch to help keep women safe. Earlier this year, provincial legislation was amended to allow tenants fleeing family violence to end fixed-term tenancies without penalty, a significant win for women in our province. We also saw the implementation of some of the recommendations from our co-authored 2012 report *Blueprint for an Inquiry* in the terms of reference for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

This year, we reached more than 2,300 youth in the Lower Mainland, Nanaimo, and for the first time in Kamloops, where we have a new dedicated youth facilitator. As well, we worked and consulted with older women and began developing new resources for older women escaping abuse.

West Coast LEAF has provided media commentary on women's equality issues for years and this year we did a record number of interviews. Even still, the *Georgia Straight* called women's equality one of the most underreported stories of 2015. West Coast LEAF is making sure the same can't be said in 2016. We've increased our outreach to all forms of media to help get the word out about equality issues.

Last but not least, we carefully laid the groundwork for what has become Rise Women's Legal Centre. This partnership with UBC's Allard School of Law required tremendous commitments from staff and from the community, including many of you. This has been a testament to what can happen when we work together on addressing a clear and pressing need for women.

With the foundation we've built over the last 31 years and the significant building blocks put in place this past year, I know we will continue to see our efforts succeed. Thank you for your commitment to advancing women's equality and towards building a more equal BC.

## LITIGATION



- Ensuring equal access to the legal profession in *TWU and Volkenant v Law Society of BC*
- Protecting safe health care in *College of Massage Therapists of BC v Scott*
- Challenging mandatory minimum sentencing in *R v Lloyd*

## LAW REFORM

- Published the 7th Annual CEDAW Report Card



**21**  
submission  
and letters

## LEADERS IN EQUALITY: MAJOR DONORS

Barbara Bell, Sherry Fraser, Lauren Gehlen, Frances Gordon, Ruth Louise James, Risa & William Levine, Maureen Maloney, Darlene Marzari, Karen Nordlinger, David Osborne, Dominique Roelants, Kathryn Sainty, Lynn Smith, Oasis Foundation, R & J Stern Family Foundation, Schein Foundation, Somerset Foundation, Team TELUS Cares.

## PROJECT FUNDERS



We are grateful for the continuing support of the Law Foundation of British Columbia.  
We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia.

## THANK YOU TO OUR 560 MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND MONTHLY DONORS

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## Law reform submissions and letters highlights include...

- **Joint submissions** with the **Coalition on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women** including pushing for a robust pre-inquiry consultation process, and what the design of the national inquiry should look like.

- **Submission** to the UN Human Rights Committee on women's health and safety
- **Submission** to Canada's review by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in coalition with the BC CEDAW Group
- **Submission** re: the BC Budget

## LETTERS

- To the BC Minister of Health on health care for migrant mothers
- To TransLink about seating for pregnant women
- To the Residential Tenancy Branch on women fleeing violence
- To federal party leaders on universal pharmacare

...And many others!

Maureen Fitzgerald, **Cassandra Florio**, Sarah Folk, Susan Fonseca, Linda Forsythe, Danielle Fostey, Rebecca Frame, Caelie Frampton, **Amy Francis**, **Jillian Frank**, Sherry Fraser, **Karen Frederickson**, **Cherisse Friesen**, Sara Frisch, **Alain Gagnon**, **Beverly Gallagher**, Vanessa Geary, **Lauren Gehlen**, **Derek Gent**, **Crissy George**, **Nico Ghisi**, Bridget Gilbride, Satwinder Gill, Tia Gill, Maureen Gillis, Lesley Giroday, **Danielle Glass**, Andrea Glen, **Penny Goldrick**, **Maria Gomes**, **Frances Gordon**, Joan Gordon, Kasari Govender, **Surya Govender**, Chinmay Goyal, **Patricia Graham**, Rebecca Graham, **Laurie Grant**, Jennifer Gray-Grant, Seamus Grayer, Lorraine Greaves, **Donna Greschner**, Katerine Grist, **Jennifer Groenewold**, **Cherene Groundwater**, Lori Guiton, Angel Ha, Claire Haaf, **Jessie Hadley**, Cathy Ham, Stephanie Hamilton, **Susan Hammell**, Sara Hanson, **Parvinder Hardwick**, Sharon Harowitz, **Jane Harris**, Katelyn Hawker, Kimberley Hawkins, **Nancy Hay**, Jennifer Hayes, Angela He, Des Heaslip, Barbara Heller, **Anna Helmer**, Alejandra Henao, Ruth Herman, Patricia Herrera, **Barbara Hestrin**, **Cheryl Hewitt**, George Heyman, Rebecca Hines, Julia Ho, Rosanna Ho, **Lesley Hobden**, Susan Hollick-Kenyon, **Monica Hong**, Lois Hosein, Michelle Houle, Tyson Howells, Christine Hoyer, **Agnes Huang**, JuiChi Huang, Rachel (Shucong) Huang, **Magal Huberman**, **Bridget Hughes**, Helen Hughes, Emma Hume, **Rachel Hutton**, Kayla Isomura, Iglia Ivanova, **Nitya Iyer**, **Agnes Jackman**, **Sandra Jakab**, Franke James, Ruth Louise James, Catherine Jenkins, Tript Johal, **Erica Johnson**, Charlotte Johnston, **France-Emmanuelle Joly**, **Jennifer Jordan**, Nour Kachouh, Jason Kalirai, Sion Kang, Lorena Kanke, Maria Kari, Nermin Karim, **Sophia Katsovskaja**, **April Katz**, Sharon Kearney, Frances Kelly, **Phyllis Kenney**, **Katharine Kent**, Lynne Kent, Lisa Kerr, **Amber Kezne**, **Nimmi Khangura**, Jennifer Khor, **Karen Kilbride**, Bonnie Klein, Lisa Kodono Boyle, **Darren Kopetsky**, Emelie Kozak, Naomi Kovak, Zephi Kramer, **Rysa Krmebusch**, **Natasha Krotez**, **Rosanne Kyle**, Elaine Lai, Katherine Lamond, Jeff Langlois, **Gudrun Langolf**, Danielle Larkin, **Jennifer Lau**, Jocelyn Lau, Ruby Lau, **Judith Lee**, Tiffani Lee, **Vera LeFranc**, Larissa Leong, Mathew Leung, Denise Levine,

Danielle Lewchuck, Carla Lewis, **Jessica Lewis**, **Linda Light**, Karen Light, Krystal Lillico-Ouachour, Ming Lin, **Jennifer Lindberg**, Jessica Lithwick, Yi-Fang Liu, Margaret Lord, **Teava Lotfi**, Will Lovatt, **Lindsay Lyster**, Christine Ma, Mary Ellen MacCallum, Kisa Macdonald, **Zona Macdonald**, **Carolyn MacEachern**, **Heather MacFadgen**, Jennifer MacGregor-Greer, **Ronald MacIsaac**, **Maureen MacLeod**, **Signy Madden**, Maureen Maloney, Erin Marshall, Sophie Marshall, Donna Martinson, Darlene Marzari, **Francesca Marzari**, Bronwyn Masson, **Virginia Mathers**, **Yuki Matsuno**, **Sharon Matthews**, JoAn Maurer, **Neilane Mayhew**, Carolyn McCool, **Drena McCormack**, Sarah McEachern, **Brenda McEachern-Keen**, Stephanie McHugh, Emma McLroy, **Cherlyn McKay**, Janet McManus, **Maris McMillan**, Carol McQuarrie, **Claire Meggs**, Aynsley Meldrum, **Ann-Marie Metten**, Julie Menten, **Paul Meyers**, **Drew Mildon**, **Virginia Miller**, **Shirley Milligan**, Margaret Mills, Karlan Modeste, **Kelly Moon**, Alison Moore, Katy Moore, Margery Moore, **Teri Mooring**, Eva Morgan, **Jennifer Morgan**, Michelle Moriarley, Hanna Murray, Shelina Neallani, Evelyn Neaman, Marianne Neill, **Barbara Nelson**, Aliza Nevarie, **Caroline Nevin**, David Ng, Dorothy Ng, Jocelyn Ng, Veronica Ng, Laurisse Noel, **Wendy Norman**, **Jan O'Brien**, **Thelma O'Grady**, **Chantel O'Neill**, Jennifer O'Rourke, **Angela Olivares**, **Niveria Oliveira**, **Alexandra Osan**, **David Osborne**, **Margaret Ostrowski**, Jim Oulton, **Katrina Pacey**, Miriam C. Palacios, **Margarita Papenbrock**, **Clea Parfitt**, Manjot Parhar, Raquel Park, Dara Parker, Gurb Parmar, **Josh Paterson**, Lorna Pawluk, Yu-Pei Patty Peng, Sheila Pepper, **Susan Philpott**, Tracy Pickett, **Robin Pike**, **Erica Pinsky**, **Lyndsay Poaps**, Lori Pobuta, **Monique Pongracic-Speier**, **Nerys Poole**, Christina Postnikoff, **Susan Powell**, **Amber Prince**, **Natasha Prodan-Bhalla**, **Nina Purewal**, Isaac Qi, R & J Stern Family Foundation, Vera Radyo, Meena Rajanala, Tamara Ramusovic, **Neena Randhawa**, Patricia Ransom, **Jessica Ransom Santos**, **Christina Reed**, Tasha Rennie, **Ramona Reynolds**, **Shirley Ridalls**, **Edna Ritchie**, Shelley Rivkin, Kladia Robertsdottir-Lewis, **Catalina Rodriguez**, **Dominique Roelants**,

# PUBLIC LEGAL EDUCATION

## SPEAKERS BUREAU



**818**

members of the public reached in **24** presentations and talks

**52,152** website visitors  
**1,010** resources downloaded

Number of youth who participated in all youth workshops:

**2,327**

Number of youth workshops total:

**105**

**39**

older women consulted on issues that impact them

• **32** Youth in the Workplace workshops with **543** participants

• **41** No Means No workshops with **1,015** participants

• **30** TrendShift workshops with **709** participants

• **2** Power Play workshops with **60** participants

**276** Women served through the Jane Doe Legal Advice Clinic

## MENTORSHIP



**17**

youth facilitators trained, with **39** active facilitators

## MEDIA STORIES



**40**

unique stories in the news

## SUPPORTERS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

**Andrea Rolls**, Veronica Rossos, **Rachel Roy**, Wendy Royal, Lisa Rupert, **Allison Russell**, **Eleasha Sabourin**, Miriam Sabzevari, **Kathryn Sainty**, **Mary Salaysay**, Lisa Sammartino, Caithlin Scarpelli, **Violet Schot**, Schein Foundation, Karen Segal, **Nicole Seguin**, **Stephanie Sersli**, Jeremy Seto, Curtis Seufert, **Jane Shackell**, **Mila Shah**, Archana Sharma, Grace Shave, **Monique Shebbeare**, Lucy Shen, Lana Shipley, **Shamim Shivji**, Harpreet Sidhu, Kirandeep Sidhu, **Elin Sigurdson**, Thora Sigurdson, **Kelly Simington**, **Veronica Singer**, Simibar Singh, Anmol Singh Kalra, **Vanessa Singleton**, Mark Skorah, Kirby Smith, Lynn Smith, **Miriam Sobrino**, Vandana Sood, **Eloise Spitzer**, Eve St. Laurent, **Monica Staff**, Hayley Stauffer, Eleanor Stewart, Vesna Stoicovici, **Veronica Strong-Boag**, **Zoe Suche**, Zara Suleman, **Glinda Sutherland**, **Cindy Switzer**, Dayna Sykes, Kayla Szlovicsak, **Mia Taghizadeh**, Tania Talebzadeh, Deborah Taylor, **Ruth Lea Taylor**, **Jane Templeman**, **Carla Terzariol**, **Joana Thackeray**, Judy Thau, **Janine Thomas**, **Paige Thombs**, Hilary Thomson, Olivia Toews, Rachelle Tolentino, Victoria Tortara, Anna Toth, **Joanna Track**, Laura Track, **Megan Trask**, **Robyn Trask**, Allison Tremblay, Larissa Trites, University Women's Club of Vancouver, Vivian Urquidi, Mary Anne Valliantos, **Wendy van Tongeren**, **Melissa VanderHouwen**, **Petra VanderLey**, Alex Verlaan, Patricia Victoria Herrera, Magnolia Villalobos, Kay Vinall, Tracy Wachmann, **Duff Waddell**, **Lindsay Waddell**, **Sheryl Wagner**, Jasmeet Wahid, **Elinor Warkentin**, **Frances Watters**, **Patricia Wejr**, Christina Wendel, **Janice Westlund**, **Matthew Westphal**, Kyra White, **Elizabeth Whynot**, **Janet Wiegand**, **Lauren Wihak**, **Wendy Williams**, Jordan Williams-Yuen, **Val Wilson**, Patricia Wimmer, Janet Winteringham, **Amanda Winters**, Allison Wolf, Vera-Marie Wolfe, Catherine Wong, Curtis Wong, Linda Wong, **Mary Woo Sims**, Ellen Woodsworth, Katherine Wu, Alva (Linlu) Xu, Eva Yang, **Barbara Yee**, **Lois Yelland**, **Yinn Yiin Cheng**, Jessica Yip, Kaymi Yoon-Maxwell, Sharyl Yore, **Fiona York**, Margot Young, Ching-Chang Yu, **Anita Zaenker**, **Martina Zanetti**, Amy Zhao, Jessica Zhong, Tiffany Zhong, Alice Zhou, Srdja Zivkov, **Andrea Zwack**

## 2015/2016 FINANCIALS

### REVENUES

Grants	\$ 403,307
Fundraising	283,044
Endowments and interest	17,979
Other (e.g. program fees)	<u>9,173</u>
Total	\$ 713,503

### EXPENSES

Program costs: staff and contractors	\$ 475,285
Program costs: other	91,264
Rent	52,781
Fundraising	43,892
Office & equipment	39,757
Accounting & audit	9,000
Governance	<u>2,625</u>
Total	\$ 714,604

## VOLUNTEER HOURS

