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Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic

Greetings from the President of the Board

Reflecting back over the 2019 – 2020 fiscal year, Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic met the challenge presented by the government regarding legal aid funding cuts. Despite some cuts, Kinna-aweya has been able to maintain high quality legal services to our clients with maintaining our staffing. Going into the 2020-2021 fiscal year, we continued to be challenged not only by the impact of Covid-19 on providing services to our clients but on clinic modernization.

As Legal Clinics were designated as essential services, Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic adapted to the many changes that resulted from Covid-19 during each wave of the pandemic. Our staff worked from home and dealt with the many changes this involved, while keeping our clients safe and still providing quality service. Often this resulted in telephone or on-line hearings.

Board and staff have also been involved in working with the Association of Community Legal Clinics of Ontario (ACLCO) and Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) on clinic modernization. Clinic modernization will have a significant effect on our relationship with LAO as a result of the new Funding Framework that is being developed. We are working to ensure that the new Funding Framework provides our clinic with stable funding and the ability to continue to provide high quality services that meet the needs of our communities.

This past year has been full of challenges. We are a strong community with strong individuals – community members, clients, staff, Board members, who will help us face the many challenges ahead.

On behalf of the Board, chi-miigwech to everyone for their work and support of Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic.

Alta Fenton, President
Board of Directors

Overview of Services

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic provides legal advice and assistance to residents of the District of Thunder Bay, particularly Aboriginal people, who need assistance with poverty law issues. We help people get income maintenance benefits and maintain access to housing.

We offer our services at no cost to people with low incomes who meet our financial eligibility guidelines.

The main areas that we deal with are income maintenance – Ontario Works, Ontario Disability Support Program, CPP Disability, Employment Insurance, Canada Child Benefit – and preventing evictions.

In addition to casework our staff are involved in community development projects, public legal education workshops, outreach activities, and law reform initiatives.

Our main office is in Thunder Bay and we have full-time branch offices in Geraldton and Marathon with toll-free phone numbers. Armstrong and Whitesand are serviced by a legal worker that travels to the community approximately every two months.

Legal workers hope to start traveling regularly to various towns and First Nations communities throughout the District. We also have a toll-free phone number that can be dialed from anywhere in the District.

Kinna-aweya is an independent, non-profit corporation overseen by an all-Aboriginal Board of Directors. We are funded by Legal Aid Ontario.

COVID-19 Update

by Beth Ponka



The COVID-19 pandemic impacted our ability to provide services to our clients and communities. We started working from home in March of last year with limited staff in each of the offices. Staff worked on rotation in our offices every day to answer phones and provide legal advice and assistance but everything slowed down as the world dealt with the global pandemic. This continued for almost a year however since April 2021 all of our staff have been back working in person.

Our services are starting to return to normal in some respects but we are not yet open to the public. Office doors are locked and all visitors are screened before they are allowed to enter the office. We've set up spaces with equipment and internet for clients to participate virtually

in their video and telephone hearings when alternate arrangements can't be made. Each of our clinic locations (Geraldton, Marathon, and Thunder Bay) have been renovated to ensure we have measures in place to comply with public health guidelines (plexi-glass, intercom systems, etc); face masks are mandatory and we are recording everyone's contact information.

We have not yet resumed travelling to the communities to provide services in the District. Our partners in the District – First Nation band offices, health centres, and community agencies – have been extremely helpful and we were able to remotely assist many people with their income tax returns. We are looking forward to being able to resume travelling to the communities throughout the District of Thunder Bay once public health guidelines and community directives permit.

Awenen Niin ID Services

by Beth Ponka



Ontario Trillium Foundation project funding for the Awenen Niin ID Services program ran out at the end of March 2021 and we no longer have an ID Services Coordinator position. NorWest Community Health Centre has taken a lead role in providing assistance for birth certificates and hosted an ID clinic on August 10, 2021 in partnership with Lakehead University Community Legal Services, Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic, and Roots to Harvest, where 83 people were assisted. More ID clinics are planned in Thunder Bay in the upcoming months with possible locations at Roots to Harvest and Wequedong Lodge. In addition a small team will be travelling to Armstrong, Geraldton, and Marathon in September to provide drop-in ID clinics in Armstrong, Geraldton and Marathon. Watch our Facebook page for updated information.

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic has signed MOUs with 13 community partners to provide ID services to their clients. Partners include Brain Injury Services of Northern Ontario (BISNO), Canadian Mental Health Association, Elizabeth Fry Society NWO, John Howard Society, Judith Monteith-Farrell MPP, Lakehead University Community Legal Services, Lutheran Community Care, Matawa First Nations Management, NorWest Community Health Centre, Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre, People Advocating for Change through Empowerment (PACE), Roots to Harvest, and Thunder Bay Counselling Centre.

The Awenen Niin ID Services/Lakehead University academic research team comprised of Dr. Kristin Burnett and Dr. Chris Sanders compiled a research report highlighting some of the barriers that people experience trying to access ID. They will be presenting their research findings at our upcoming AGM in Thunder Bay in October.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) Repayments

by *Melanie MacKenzie*

In April 2020 the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) was launched to provide financial support to employed and self-employed Canadians who were directly affected by COVID-19. The benefit was available to workers who stopped working because of reasons related to COVID-19.

Unfortunately, many people applied in error and received the benefit even though they were not eligible. Months later, social assistance recipients who applied in error and received the benefit, were faced with either losing their social assistance benefits or having a large overpayment. This meant many recipients were not receiving enough income to pay their rent or cover their basic needs. For those in Rent-Geared-to-Income housing, their rent amount was retroactively increased and they found themselves in rent arrears and therefore at risk of eviction.

The Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic advocated on behalf of our clients to Ontario Works (OW), Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and the Thunder Bay Housing Program. We highlighted that sometime in the future the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) would likely review who received the benefit and declare an overpayment to those who were not eligible. This would result in recipients paying back the income they received twice. First to ODSP and OW in the form of overpayment recover, or to Housing in the form of increased rent, and then again to the CRA. In order to avoid further confusion in the future, our local offices agreed to not consider CERB as income as long as the recipient agreed to pay the amount they received back to the Canadian Government and were actively making voluntary payments paying back the CRA (or Service Canada).

Unfortunately, this agreement does not apply to anyone over 65 who received the Guaranteed Income Supplement.

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and your taxes

by *Melanie MacKenzie*

CERB payments are taxable. This means that anyone who received CERB must report the amount they received as income when filing their personal income tax return. The tax payable depends on the amount of income earned. CERB may also affect people's other tax benefits such as the GST benefit. It will not affect the Canada Child Benefit.

If you received CERB in error and you entered into a voluntary agreement to repay your CERB, any amount paid before should be reflected in your 2020 T4A slip and you will not have to pay tax on any amount repaid in 2020. If you made payments after December 31, 2020 you will be taxed on the full amount still owing in 2020. The repayments will be on your 2021 T4A slip which can be claimed as a deduction on your 2021 tax return.

The Canada Revenue Agency has agreed to automatically apply interest relief on your 2020 taxes owing to people who have a total taxable income of \$75,000 or less in 2020, and received at least one COVID-19 benefit in 2020, such as the CERB. For those that this applies to, they will not have to pay interest on any amount owing from their 2020 taxes until April 30, 2022. Interest relief only applies to the **2020 taxes owing** and not on previous years or other debts with the CRA.



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of Canada

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du Canada

Canada

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and Seniors

by Melanie MacKenzie

For people over the age of 65 who receive Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), CERB payments received in 2020 will be used to calculate their Guaranteed Income Supplement and other tax benefits in 2021. For many seniors their GIS payments and other tax benefits such as GST will be reduced.

This reduction has come without warning for those who accessed CERB because it was imperative, as a high risk population, to help themselves stay safe and isolate. As a result of the reduction in monthly income, low-income seniors who accessed CERB benefits will be forced to live in deeper poverty during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Seniors receiving GIS can request that their benefit be calculated based on their estimated income for the current calendar year rather than their actual income from the previous year. The senior has to contact Service Canada (1-800-277-9914) and ask for the Estimated Statement of Income for 2020 and 2021. Currently, there is a six month processing time.

The Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic is in support of the Income Security Advocacy Centre's letter to the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion requesting that the Ministry retroactively exempt CERB income from the calculation for GIS for all seniors to ensure that their GIS payments will not be reduced.

Indian Day School Class Action Settlement

by Sally Colquhoun



A settlement was reached in 2019 in a class action that was brought on behalf of students who attended Day Schools that were administered by the federal government in First Nation communities. Anyone who was a student in a listed Federal Indian Day School can apply for compensation.

The amount of compensation depends on the type of harm that was experienced. The necessary form to apply for compensation is found at <https://indiandayschools.com>. There is assistance available from the law firm that is class counsel. Their toll-free phone number is 1-844-539-3815. Our staff can also give information and advice, and help people complete their claim forms.

The deadline to file a claim is **July 13, 2022**. We are recommending that anyone who is eligible start reviewing the claim form soon. Many people are finding it a difficult process to complete the application, because they have to think about harmful things that happened during their childhood. Anyone who is experiencing emotional distress due to the process is encouraged to access counselling and crisis intervention services from the Hope for Wellness Help Line at 1-855-242-3310 or online at www.hopeforwellness.ca.

Reaching Homes Eviction Prevention Project

by Beth Ponka

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic will be receiving funding to hire a Housing Social Navigator and a Housing Intake Support Worker under our **Eviction Prevention Project**. The purpose of the project is to help clients access supports to prevent eviction. Funding is provided by the Government of Canada's Homelessness Strategy through the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre in partnership with the Thunder Bay Urban Aboriginal Advisory Committee. Funding will be provided through to March 31, 2022.

LTB Hearings: Digital First Puts Tenants Last

by Tracey Lasook



Landlord and Tenant Board

Before the pandemic the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) was woefully behind in scheduling hearings, especially hearings about tenant's rights. Since the pandemic, the LTB has suspended in person hearings and moved to video hearing format. They claim that digital first does not mean digital only but we have yet to hear of any in person hearings being scheduled, even in cases where tenants do not have access to any of the necessary technology to attend the hearing. This raises serious access to justice issues for some of the most vulnerable tenants in Ontario.

In addition to simply not having access to the necessary technology, many tenants who may have a phone may not have sufficient minutes in their plan to wait several hours for their matter to be called. In other instances, lack of access to the internet or sufficient bandwidth has resulted in tenants missing their hearings and being evicted without being able to participate. In other cases, tenants are simply not tech-savvy enough to use the video conference platforms which have also been plagued with difficulties and poor functionality.

In addition to these challenges, if a tenant is fortunate enough to be able to get into their hearing block, they are often prevented from accessing Tenant Duty Counsel services because of time constraints and technical issues. And, even if they are able to speak to Tenant Duty Counsel, they are not being provided with the most fulsome legal advice because TDC is no longer able to access the documents that the landlord has filed and will be relying on to evict them. Previously, when hearings were held in person, TDC would be able to access the Board file and provide tenants with advice about technical defects in the forms and detailed legal advice about issues with the details contained in the notice.

Digital first really does put tenants last.

Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Project (SHIW)

by Esma Haider

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic will be receiving funding over a three-year period to provide information and advice on Sexual Harassment in the Workplace. The SHIW project is funded by the federal Department of Justice and the Law Foundation of Ontario through to March 2024.

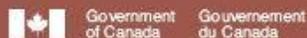
Esma Haider has been hired a part-time community legal worker for the Sexual Harassment in the Workplace (SHIW) project in September 2020. To spread awareness of the SHIW project, Esma has been hard at work building connections with community partners. An Advisory Committee was formed with five locals who have experience working with vulnerable populations within the District of Thunder Bay. This Committee usually meets every month to collaborate ways to improve and expand the SHIW project. She is also part of the wider SHIW Community, where she meets with other legal workers from Ontario clinics to work on assignments such as creating SHIW video content, social media posts, self-help guides etc.

Along with building community connections, Esma has been facilitating public legal education sessions with employment training facilities, women centers, and social service agencies that support Indigenous, migrant, and low-income individuals and communities. She has also created a social media presence for the Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic on different online platforms while developing and posting accessible materials for the public.

Her work has further included providing summary legal advice and brief services to low-income Ontarians in the District of Thunder Bay who have experienced or are experiencing SHIW.

Esma is entering her third-year at the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law. As she works to complete her Juris Doctor degree, she will continue to work with us on a part-time basis.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Department of Justice Canada.



Geraldton Branch Office Update *by Chantal Walterson*

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The Geraldton branch office is located in Geraldton and is staffed with 1 Legal Worker and 1 Support Staff. The office though small is quite busy and services the Greenstone area which includes Geraldton, Nakina, Longlac, Beardmore, Jellicoe and 4 First Nations; Aroland, Long Lake #58, Ginoogaming and Rocky Bay. On June 22, 2021 the Legal Worker welcomed back the clinic's Support Staff; Pam Leblanc after a 5 month leave. The building that houses the Geraldton legal clinic was recently purchased and the new owner/landlord were very happy to announce that the Geraldton Legal Clinic would remain a tenant. Trying to find alternate rental space accessible to low income clients would have been difficult. Though the office is able to remain, unfortunately, this was not the case for some of the other businesses that share the same building space. One of the areas only 3 local restaurants housed in the building space were given notice to vacate by August 31/21. The only good news from that decision is that the current restaurant space will be remodelled and a brand new Robin's Donuts (first ever) will open in its location to serve the community. The Legal Worker and Support Staff are looking forward to having access to this new business within reach of their current office space.

The Geraldton area has been buzzing with excitement in the last few months as construction has started on the new mine; Equinox Gold/Greenstone Gold Mine which is to be up and fully operational by year 2022. With this new mine will come an increase of people in the area and a need for additional services. Geraldton will see a 500 men construction work crew come to the area this coming September 2021 which will oversee the construction of main buildings...etc needed for the mine's operation. By year 2022 the area anticipates seeing a large increase of new people establishing residence to the area for employment purposes. With the anticipation of the increase in population, some of area's main service facilities have prepared for the need of additional services. ; The area's only hospital underwent extensive renovations which included a very large multi-million dollar expansion of its Emergency Room department. In their Strategic Plan 2018-2022, the Geraldton District Hospital had set out to develop models and structures that would best optimize patient access and flow, as well as, to implement best practices in the delivery of care and refine services to meet the needs of target populations. The Early Years Center (daycare) will soon be relocating into its new home The Superior-Greenstone District School Board had announced in 2020 that their application to relocate the Geraldton Child Care and Early On Center to the B.A. Parker Public School and Geraldton Composite High School complex had been approved. The school board received \$8.4M from the Ministry of Education to retrofit and expand the current B.A. Parker Public School for the child-care and Early On Centre programs and for a major renovation to Geraldton Composite High School. The application was the result of years of collaboration between the Municipality of Greenstone and the School Board, with support from several community partners. This project has been the vision of the School Board and the Municipality for a number of years. There are many advantages to the relocation of services, including the expansion of the current Geraldton Child Care to include an infant program. For families, it also means access to services all under one roof. The current complex already houses Contact North Distance Education, a Confederation College Regional Campus, and a community swimming pool run by the municipality. The retrofit project includes the expansion of child care spaces, 3 new child care rooms, 2 new EarlyOn rooms, and renovations to the Geraldton Composite High School which includes the creation of Indigenous cultural spaces and a full renovation of the cafeteria. This expansion supports the School Board's vision to increase support for families through high quality, accessible programs and services, from birth to adulthood.

The only downfall with the new mine coming to the area is that Greenstone has seen an increase in housing costs. There are currently very few homes on the market available for purchase. The homes currently available are simply not affordable as the price of real-estate has nearly doubled in the area in the last year or so. There is also currently a shortage of affordable and suitable rental housing in our area. Greenstone is without a homeless shelter and accessing temporary housing is not an option, therefore it will be quite difficult for anyone coming to the area for employment purposes to remain employed if they don't have access to suitable affordable housing. Hopefully the Municipality of Greenstone will encourage and provide an incentive to some of the area's current landlords to build new adequate affordable housing units and/or collaborate with other bigger landlords to build new additional affordable housing units right here in Greenstone where there is a need.



Marathon Branch Office Update *by Miriam McCutcheon*

2021 has been an interesting year, but a good one.

We continue to be busy here in the Marathon Branch Office. Julia and I worked alternating days between the office and home until June 22, 2021 when we both returned to work in the office together. So glad to have things starting to return to some sort of normal.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, I have still been unable to travel to the surrounding communities that we provide service to since the beginning of March 2020. These communities include Manitouwadge, Terrace Bay, Biigtigong Nishnaabeg (Pic River First Nation), Netmizaaggamig Nishnaabeg (Pic Mobert First Nation) and Pawgwasheeng (Pays Plat First Nation). We are hoping this will be changing in the fall of 2021. It will be nice to start travelling again to actually see our clients.

Once again our office participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Program this year. This has proven to be a very essential program in our area. This program is designed to assist financially eligible people complete their tax returns in order for them to qualify or maintain their government funded benefits. These benefits include GST, Ontario Trillium Benefits and Canada Child Benefits. We were unable to hold any income tax workshops again this year due to Covid-19 – but we still managed to do quite a number of them. We would gather the client's information over the telephone and then the client would either drop the information slips at our office by sliding under the door, faxing or emailing them to us. Canada Revenue Agency did not extend the April 30th deadline this year.

Hearings continue for Ontario Disability Support Program denials, Canada Pension Plan Disability denials and Landlord Tenant issues. Our office also continues to provide Tenant Duty Counsel Services. These hearings all held virtually either through MS Teams or Zoom.

Again this year all our training sessions were available through webinars. Our Annual Board/Staff Planning Session was also held virtually this year.

In March I participated in a Public Legal Education session with the Biigtigong Mno-zhi-yqqwgamig (Pic River Health Centre). I provided information on our services to them. This was also done virtually.

Our Marathon Office continues to provide services by appointment following Covid-19 screening. We do have safety measures in place.

Miigwech

Good Food Box Program



Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic is a host site for the Good Food Box program in Thunder Bay.

The Good Food Box is a non-profit program for families and individuals who want to purchase quality, fresh, local produce at a lower price than shopping at grocery stores.

You can purchase a box for \$22. Boxes are ordered and paid for by the first Thursday of each month. Food is available for pick up at the legal clinic on the 2nd last Thursday of the month.

This means food is accessible at a time when some have less money available for buying food. There are many other host sites throughout the city, to make it easier for people to pickup their food. To find the host site closest to you, call (807) 345-7819.

To order and pick up a Good Food Box through the legal clinic's office at 86 S. Cumberland Street, please call (807) 344-2478 for more information.

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

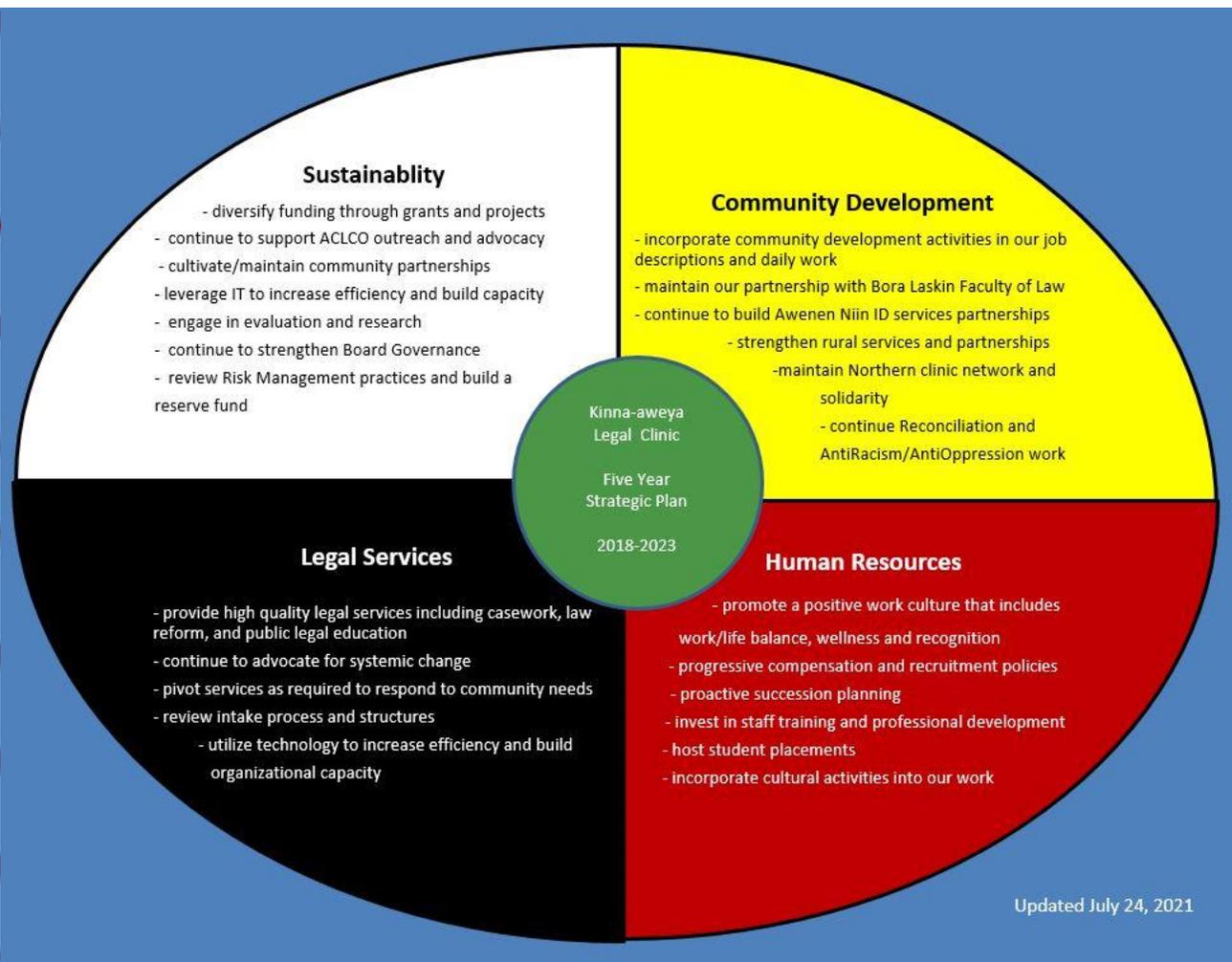
The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program is a partnership between the Canada Revenue Agency and various organizations and volunteers. The program is designed to assist financially eligible people who are unable to prepare their own income tax return.

This free program assists people who cannot afford to pay to have their taxes completed and as a result, obtain income they would not otherwise receive. Completing a tax return is needed in order to qualify for many government funded programs, including the Canada Child Benefit, GST and the Ontario Trillium Benefit.

Our Geraldton and Marathon branch offices assist people in their communities who have low income and simple tax situations. In Thunder Bay, clients are referred to the Lakehead Social Planning Council, who have a team of CVITP volunteers who provide this service.

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic's Five Year Strategic Plan

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic Board of Directors and staff met virtually in March to review the clinic's Strategic Plan 2018-2023. Updates were made to reflect accomplishments to date and ongoing priorities.



Comings and Goings

By Beth Ponka

- We welcomed Audrey Achneepineskum, Candace Davies, and Bonnie Vermette to our Board of Directors following the 2020 Area Community Meetings. Retiring directors included Jamie McGinnis, Andrea O’Nabigon, and Cindy Whittington. Miigwech for your service and commitment to Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic!
- In May, we bade farewell to Patricia Fenton at a virtual retirement party widely attended by staff, board, alumni, friends and family. A painting by local artist Rod Ostamus was presented to Pat in gratitude and appreciation for her 38 years of service. Chi miigwech Pat for your dedicated service and commitment. Miiniwa gawabimin.
- Esma Haider is our new Community Legal Worker responsible for the Sexual Harassment in the Workplace project.
- Kelly King has been hired as Administrative Assistant/Receptionist in our Thunder Bay office.
- Molly MacDonald has been hired on contract as a staff lawyer until July 2022 (when Caycie will return from maternity leave).
- Allister McGillivray has also been hired on contract as a staff lawyer on contract until December 2021.
- Larissa Speak is on a leave of absence to obtain her Masters of Law at Columbia University in New York City, USA.
- Caycie Soke, one of our permanent staff lawyers, is on maternity leave returning in July 2022.
- We expect Claire Littleton to return from maternity leave in October 2021 and resume her duties as one of our permanent staff lawyers (yay!)
- Katrina Langevin was our summer student and Integrated Practice Placement student through the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law. She finished her placement in December 2020.
- Project funding for our ID Services Coordinator, Angie Lynch, ended on March 31.
- Ann McGuire joined the clinic on placement through the Aboriginal Community Advocacy Program at Confederation College

We wish all of our staff, board members, students, and alumni the very best as they follow their path on their life journey!

Here to help – New Staff Lawyer Allister MacGillivray

Born and raised in Toronto, I have always had a connection to the Canadian North. My parents actively encouraged me to explore Canada’s northern communities by bringing me on canoe trips beginning when I was a baby, and continuing throughout my adolescence. These experiences brought me to places far removed from the city I knew, and allowed me to connect at an early age with the cultures, people, and environment that makes the north such a special place.

Today I find myself in one of the more spectacular regions of our province, Thunder Bay. I remember being amazed by the natural beauty of the city from the moment I landed nearly six years ago, but did not realize at that time that I would soon be calling the city “home”.

However, my path to my position at the Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic (“Kinna-aweya”) has been anything but straight forward. While I have always taken an active interest in social justice issues, finding a position at an organization actively working in this field has taken time. After completing my undergraduate education, I worked in restaurants and customer service roles. While I learned a lot in these positions, I always hoped I could use my skills to advocate for positive change within my community. As such, I applied to and attended the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law in Thunder Bay where I studied Indigenous Law and actively worked in Poverty Law as a caseworker at Lakehead University Community Legal Services.

After working as a lawyer in private practice over the last two years, I am excited to bring the skills I have developed to Kinna-aweya. As the newest staff lawyer at Kinna-aweya, I would like to express how privileged I feel to have found employment with an organization dedicated to assisting the residents of the District of Thunder Bay with some of their most pressing legal matters. I look forward to advocating for and serving the people of the Thunder Bay District.

Thank you. Miigwetch,

Allister MacGillivray

Board of Directors 2020/21

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Mary Day
Candace Davies
Robyn Medicine
Michael Deschamps Sr.
Audrey Achneepineskum
Bonnie Vermette

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Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Director
Director
Director

Thunder Bay
Armstrong
Nipigon
Thunder Bay
Marathon
Geraldton
Thunder Bay

Staff Members

Geraldton Office:

Chantal Walterson
Pam Leblanc

Marathon Office:

Miriam McCutcheon
Julia Michano

Thunder Bay Office:

Jessica Barry
Sally Colquhoun
Kim Facca
Esma Haider
Teri Hofer
Cindy Johnson
Iris Johnson
Kelly King
Tracey Lasook
Claire Littleton
Molly MacDonald
Allister McGillivray
Beth Ponka
Caycie Soke
Larissa Speak

Placement Students & Volunteers:

Darian Doblej
Danika Goshaluk
Katrina Langevin
Ann McGuire

Licensed Paralegal
Administrative Assistant

Community Legal Worker
Administrative Assistant

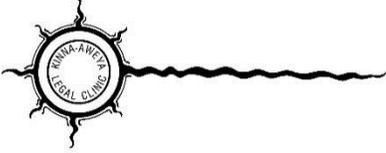
Administrative Assistant/File Digitization Clerk
Coordinator of Legal Services
Community Legal Worker/RSW
Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Project
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper
Assisant Director of Administration
Librarian
Administrative Assistant/Receptionist
Community Legal Worker/Licensed Paralegal
Staff Lawyer (on leave)
Staff Lawyer (contract)
Staff Lawyer (contract)
Director of Administration
Staff Lawyer (on leave)
Staff Lawyer (on leave)

Law Student
Law Student – Pro Bono Students Canada
Summer Student and IPC Placement Student
Aboriginal Community Advocacy Program
Placement Student



Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic

Main office:
86 S. Cumberland St.
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2V3
Phone: 807-344-2478
Fax: 807-345-2842
Toll Free: 1-888-373-3309



We're on the Web!

www.kalc.ca

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The clinic's central office is in Thunder Bay and there are two branch offices in Geraldton and Marathon. Each of the branch offices is staffed by a full-time Licensed Paralegal and Community Legal Worker and a full-time Administrative Assistant. The legal workers are supervised by lawyers in the Thunder Bay office. The branch office legal workers hope to start traveling again on a regular basis to the following First Nation communities: Mobert, Pays Plat, Long Lake 58, Ginoogaming, Aroland, MacDiarmid, Gull Bay, and Lake Helen. In addition, they hope to resume travel to the following non-reserve communities: Manitouwadge, Schreiber, Nakina, Jellicoe, Beardmore, and Nipigon.

Geraldton and Area

404 Main Street, Unit A
P.O. Box 1090
Geraldton, ON P0T 1M0
Phone: (807)854-1278
Fax: (807)854-1542
Toll Free: 1-866-875-4952

Marathon and Area

#101 – 52 Peninsula Square
P.O. Box 658
Marathon, ON P0T 2E0
Phone: (807)229-2290
Fax: (807)229-0486
Toll Free: 1-866-389-1477

Important Dates to Remember

An area community meeting is held every year in Armstrong, Geraldton, Marathon, Nipigon, and Thunder Bay, to provide members with an update of the legal clinic's activities over the past year.

This year, the meetings are scheduled as follows:

Marathon:	Monday, September 20, 2021	Noon
Geraldton:	Tuesday, September 21, 2021	5:00 p.m.
Nipigon:	Wednesday, September 22, 2021	Noon
Thunder Bay:	Friday, September 24, 2021	Noon
Armstrong	Tuesday, September 28, 2021	6:30 p.m.

The following Board member terms are expiring at these meetings:

Michael Deschamps (Marathon), Candace Davies (Nipigon), and Alta Fenton (Thunder Bay).

Annual General Meeting: Saturday, October 23, 2021, 9:00 a.m.
Valhalla Inn, Scandia

Membership in the legal clinic is open to people 18 years of age and older who reside in the District of Thunder Bay and who are of Aboriginal ancestry. Membership application forms will be available at the meetings for new members.