

# LNN

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Sex workers hold  
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LEGAL NETWORK NEWS

Issue 26 | March 2007



Stephen Lewis, former UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa (File photo: Nick Wiebe)

## Stephen Lewis and Legal Network slam UN-funded drug board

Shortly after 11 a.m. on Tuesday, February 27, at a Legal Network press conference at United Nations headquarters in New York, Stephen Lewis was getting warmed up in his criticism of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), the UN-funded body responsible for monitoring compliance with the UN drug conventions.

"It's as though they weren't aware of the fact that virtually a third of the new infections outside of Africa occur through injecting drug use or other aspects of drug activities," said the former UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa. "This report is one of the best documents I've seen on a highly elusive area."

By "they," Lewis was referring to the 13 people who make up the INCB. The report he was talking about was *Closed to Reason: The International Narcotics Control Board and HIV/AIDS*, which was being launched at the press conference by its co-authors, Executive Director Joanne Csete and Daniel Wolfe, Deputy Director of the Open Society Institute's International Harm Reduction Development Program.

Csete and Wolfe had just finished summarizing the report's main findings, giving an overview of how the INCB blocks effective efforts to address HIV/AIDS among people who use drugs, and how the supposedly independent body is sorely lacking in transparency and accountability, which often results in ill-informed, inconsistent and factually incorrect statements. INCB members, for example, had spoken out against sterile syringe programs and opiate substitution treatment, despite findings by other UN bodies and the INCB itself that such measures are effective components of HIV prevention.

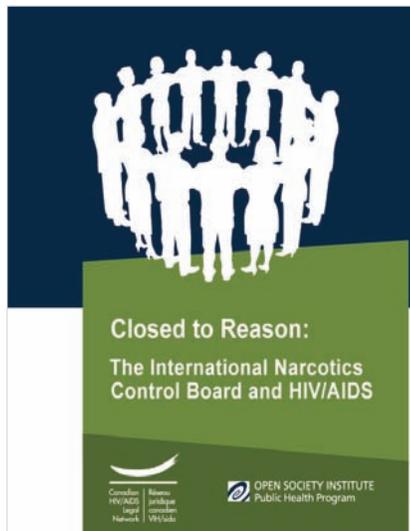
Then, midway through the press conference, Lewis hit full stride.

"If I had it in my grasp I would take them out behind the international woodshed and give them an intellectual and rhetorical flogging, the like of which they would never forget," he said of the INCB, to the obvious delight of journalists from the UN press corps. (Half an hour later, Lewis would repeat this most quotable of quotes in a live interview on CTV Newsnet.)

As in Canada, Lewis is a media magnet at the UN. The dozen or so reporters in the room — including correspondents from Reuters and the Associated Press — failed to heed the call to attend another press conference on the hot topic >>>

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of global climate change, preferring instead to listen to Lewis.

“He’s a quote *machine*,” Jennifer Tryon said admiringly. The Toronto-based health reporter for Global Television’s flagship newscast, *Global National* with Kevin Newman was

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“I would take them out behind the international woodshed and give them an intellectual and rhetorical flogging, the like of which they would never forget.”

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in New York for a second day of coverage on the report launch — the day before the press conference, she had broken the story in an exclusive report that featured Csete and Lewis.

“We’re concerned that the UN is paying for a body of so-called experts that are actually shooting the UN’s own global response to HIV/AIDS in the foot,” said Csete in Tryon’s story. “They really are out of step with the rest of the UN.”

As a result, *Closed to Reason* calls

(among other things) for greater transparency and accountability by the INCB and recommends it “cite specific evidence for its observations about drug use and health, and legal grounds for its interpretation of law.”

The report’s launch had an almost immediate impact on the Board, which released its latest annual report two days later in Washington, D.C. The UN press corps pressed the Board to hold a previously unscheduled press conference at the UN in New York — and the Board gave in. In an unprecedented briefing on March 7, UN correspondents peppered INCB President Philip Emafo and Secretary Koli Kouame with questions on the secrecy of the INCB’s proceedings and its positions with respect to HIV.

Since its launch, praise for *Closed to Reason* has come from all corners of the world. Dr. Alex Wodak of

Australia, a harm reduction pioneer and a keynote speaker at the XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto, wrote to offer “heartfelt thanks from all of us working in harm reduction from all over the world for your superbly written and wonderfully researched report. . . . I have sent it on to hundreds of people.”

To read *Closed to Reason*, visit [www.aidslaw.ca](http://www.aidslaw.ca). Visit the Open Society Institute on-line at [www.soros.org](http://www.soros.org). For more information on the INCB, go to [www.incb.org](http://www.incb.org). 

# LNN

LEGAL NETWORK NEWS

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The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network promotes the human rights of people living with and vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, in Canada and internationally, through research, legal and policy analysis, education, and community mobilization. The Legal Network is Canada’s leading advocacy organization working on the legal and human rights issues raised by HIV/AIDS.

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Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network		Réseau juridique canadien VIH/sida
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## Feature | European Court of Human Rights considers Legal Network submission

Do prisoners have the right to access sterile syringes? Do they have the right to the same health services as those available outside prison? These are just two of the questions being considered by the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *Shelley v. the United Kingdom*. In January, the Legal Network and the Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT), a Legal Network member, made a joint submission to the Court answering “yes” to both questions.

In 2005, John Shelley, a prisoner in the United Kingdom, took the British government to court for failing to provide prisoners with sterile syringes, which can help prevent the spread of HIV (as well as hepatitis B and C, and other blood-borne diseases). Shelley claimed this violated provisions of the *European Convention on Human Rights*.



*The European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg, France (File photo)*

part on a Legal Network report, *Prison Needle Exchange: Lessons from a Comprehensive Review of International Evidence* (available at [www.aidslaw.ca/prisons](http://www.aidslaw.ca/prisons) >

that prison needle exchange programs should be piloted in Canada, as well as academic analyses of case law under the *European Convention on Human Rights*, and recommendations from UN bodies and the Council of Europe on the human rights of prisoners and best practices in responding to HIV in prisons.

If the Court rules in Shelley’s favour, the ramifications would reach well beyond the U.K.

Courts in the U.K. dismissed Shelley’s case, saying there wasn’t enough evidence showing the benefits of prison needle exchange programs and suggesting that such programs “may lead to increased drugs use” in prisons. The case was appealed to the European Court of Human Rights, located in Strasbourg, France, and the Legal Network and the IPRT, both of which had been following the case, applied for and were granted standing to make a joint submission.

The submission was based in

Publications). Originally released in 2004 and updated in 2006, the report remains one of the most comprehensive publications on the subject. By evaluating prison needle exchange experiences in six countries, it concluded that sterile syringe programs are necessary to protect the human rights of prisoners, that they improve safety for both prisoners and prison staff, and that they do not increase drug use or drug injection in prison.

The submission also drew upon a recent review by the Public Health Agency of Canada that concluded

If the Court rules in Shelley’s favour, the ramifications would reach well beyond the U.K. All countries that have ratified the *European Convention on Human Rights* — and possibly countries of the former Soviet Union seeking membership in the European Union — could be affected. The Court’s decision is expected later this year.

*To read the joint submission to the European Court of Human Rights (as well as a supplementary submission responding to the British government’s brief), visit [www.aidslaw.ca/drugpolicy](http://www.aidslaw.ca/drugpolicy) > Publications. Visit the IPRT on-line at [www.iprt.ie](http://www.iprt.ie). **LNN***

## Feature | Sex workers hold strategy meeting in Toronto

Sex workers and their allies from across Canada gathered in Toronto on March 10 for a daylong meeting on how to continue the push to reform Canadian criminal laws on prostitution.

Around 20 people participated in the strategy session, which was

on the issue, including the Legal Network's 2005 report, *Sex, work, rights*; its joint response with Maggie's and Stella to a December 2006 parliamentary study (see "Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws gets a failing grade," page 7), and two groundbreaking publications, *Voices of Dignity* and *Beyond*

among sex workers, opposition to sex workers' rights from abolitionist feminists, and systemic biases against sex workers within the criminal justice system were also pinpointed as critical barriers to overcome.

"It's always challenging for us to strategize around our rights,"

Participants recognized the unlikelihood of Parliament decriminalizing adult prostitution any time soon.



organized by the Legal Network and two sex worker organizations, Toronto-based Maggie's and Montréal-based Stella (a Legal Network member).

"It was a great opportunity to catch up with people who are in this work, as far as law reform around sex work," said Maggie's Keisha Scott. "There was so much good input and so many subcategories came up while we were talking that it could easily have been a two-day meeting. It was really encouraging to hear about all the work being done and hearing ideas about how to extend this work into different areas."

Much of the discussion was grounded in the significant body of research and analysis already published

*Decriminalization*, by another Legal Network member, the Vancouver-based Pivot Legal Society.

In light of the woefully weak report by the Commons subcommittee and the current political climate in Canada, participants recognized the unlikelihood of Parliament decriminalizing adult prostitution any time soon. Inattention to the human rights and labour rights of sex workers was also identified as a significant barrier to law reform, and everyone agreed that all future actions to promote the health and human rights of sex workers must take into account diversity — not only of the people working in sex work, but also of the nature of their work. Lack of funding for human rights-specific work and mobilization

admitted Jenn Clamen of Stella. "In the face of so much adversity it's hard to be proactive."

The potential for change through the courts was also discussed in detail, though everyone acknowledged that court challenges are lengthy, long-term processes with uncertain outcomes.

A draft report summarizing the meeting outcomes will be circulated to participants for feedback and endorsement before being finalized and published.

*The Legal Network's publications on sex work are available at [www.aidslaw.ca/sexwork](http://www.aidslaw.ca/sexwork) > Publications. Pivot's reports are on-line at [www.pivotlegal.org](http://www.pivotlegal.org). **LNN***

## Media | Review article and Smith trial result in bump in coverage

An article published in the Legal Network's flagship journal, the trial of a former Canadian Football League (CFL) star, and a report launch at the United Nations resulted in a bump in media coverage during a normally quiet time of the year. Fifty-two media requests between December 15, 2006 and March 15, 2007, resulted in over 80 Legal Network media hits, of which almost half (40) were television and radio interviews.

In mid-January, the cover story of the *HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Review* ("Canada's 2003 renewed drug strategy — an evidence-based review," December 2006) made front-page news in *The Globe and Mail* ("Storm brews over drug strategy," January 15). The *Review* article — written by Kora DeBeck, Evan Wood, Julio Montaner and

John's and 15 other points in between. The *Review* also appeared in TV news reports on *CBC News: Canada Now*, *CBC News: Today* and CTV Newsnet.

In late January, the case of former Saskatchewan Roughriders linebacker Trevis Smith went to trial; he was subsequently found guilty on two counts of aggravated sexual assault. Richard made two national TV appearances on the case, the first in a report on *Global National with Kevin Newman*, and the second in a live interview on CTV's *Canada AM*. In addition, he and Senior Policy Analyst Glenn Betteridge were quoted in 18 newspaper articles (including the *National Post*) and were heard on 4 radio shows commenting on both the trial and the verdict.

*Herald Tribune*, London's *Guardian* newspaper, *The Toronto Star*, and *The Washington Post*, among other outlets.

Some of the other issues putting the Legal Network in the news included:

- eight stories on the federal government's cancellation of a pilot prison tattooing program, including two items in the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* quoting Richard and Leon, and a report on CBC Radio's *World Report* quoting Leon;
- five stories on the joint announcement by Bill Gates and the Prime Minister on AIDS vaccines funding, including a report on *CTV News with Lloyd Robertson* featuring Joanne, and

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In mid-January, the cover story of the *HIV/AIDS Policy & Law Review* made front-page news in *The Globe and Mail*.

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Thomas Kerr, all of the British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS — revealed that about three quarters of the resources of Canada's Drug Strategy are directed towards enforcement-related efforts, despite a lack of scientific evidence to support such an approach and little, if any, evaluation of the impacts of this investment.

Between the two of them, Deputy Director Richard Elliott and Director of Communications Leon Mar did 24 radio interviews on the worrisome findings in the *Review* article, including CBC Radio One drive-home shows from Victoria to Whitehorse to St.

On February 27, Leon joined Executive Director Joanne Csete at the United Nations in New York to launch *Closed to Reason*, a critical report on the International Narcotics Control Board (see "Stephen Lewis and Legal Network slam UN-funded drug board," p. 1) to the UN press corps. In Canada, news of the launch broke late on the afternoon of February 26 in an exclusive granted by the Legal Network to *Global National with Kevin Newman*. The press launch was reported by the Canadian Press, the Associated Press, Reuters, and Deutsche Presse Agentur, with stories appearing in *The International*

live TV appearances by Joanne on CTV Newsnet and Richard on *Goldhawk Live*; and

- five stories on the final report of the House of Commons Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws (for more on this, see "Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws gets a failing grade," p. 7).

To find out more about the Legal Network's media activities, contact Leon Mar, Director of Communications, at [lmar@aidslaw.ca](mailto:lmar@aidslaw.ca), or visit [www.aidslaw.ca/media](http://www.aidslaw.ca/media) to read our news releases. **LNN**

## Feature | Glenn Betteridge ends four years at the Legal Network

*The board and staff of the Legal Network are saying good-bye and bon voyage to a long-time colleague and friend, Senior Policy Analyst Glenn Betteridge. Glenn's service to the Legal Network, including his outstanding work with sex workers and prisoners, will be sorely missed. As he looks forward to embarking on a round-the-world adventure, Legal Network News asked Glenn to look back on his four years working with us.*

My last day of work will be April 30, 2007, a little more than four years after I started work here on a “one-year” leave of absence from my last job. In 2003, I was a lawyer at HALCO, the HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic (Ontario), when then-Executive Director Ralf Jürgens approached me to join the Legal Network for one year, while Richard Elliott returned to university. I agreed, feeling that it was time for a different perspective on the legal issues I had been seeing daily at HALCO.

It has been an exciting and interesting four years. I have broadened my horizons substantially — geographically and in terms of the issues

I have been exposed to and the people I have worked with. A highlight of my time at the Legal Network was the XV International AIDS conference in Bangkok. It was a period of intense work and brought home to me the impact that the Legal Network was having in many areas of the globe, and the great need to expand resources for work on the legal and human rights challenges linked to HIV/AIDS.

A low point was the XVI International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2006) in Toronto. It was a dizzying, overwhelming spectacle of “the Bills” — Bill Clinton and Bill Gates — which seemed far removed from the daily reality of most people living with HIV/AIDS. I couldn't help but think back to the pre-HAART [highly active



Senior Policy Analyst Glenn Betteridge

antiretroviral therapy] days when many people living with HIV would have found it impossible to participate in the conference, unable to traverse the vast distance between the Metro Toronto Convention Centre's north and south buildings. Yet I know that globally most people are still living in the pre-HAART era in terms of their access to medications. Where were they? Who was this conference for?

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“AIDS 2006 cemented in my mind that I needed to get some perspective on where I fit in in all of this.”

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Gregg Gonsalves, a colleague living with HIV who recently moved from New York City to South Africa to continue his activism, put it better than I could hope to:

I think we've created a vast infrastructure that is largely unaccountable, and self-justifying between organizational survival and expansion — privileging the policy occupations of the major industrialized countries, privileging generalized international responsibility instead of specific, local, political accountability, privileging technical experience and skill over local knowledge, and promoting development or assistance instead of social change. No wonder things aren't getting better . . . We're

in a terrible, anti-political moment right now where the powers that be have taken our rhetoric and told us, “Everything is fine, we're on your side. You can demobilize and leave the epidemic to us.” That is the pernicious message of this conference. Don't believe a word they say.

(Gregg's remarks, delivered as part of the August 8, 2006 plenary session, “25 Years of AIDS — Reflecting Back and Looking Forward,” are well worth the read: [www.kaisernetwork.org](http://www.kaisernetwork.org).)

AIDS 2006 cemented in my mind that I needed to get some perspective on where I fit in in all of this.

What better way to get perspective than travel? So, beginning in May, I will be travelling, contrary to my natural inclination to know where I am going to sleep at night. I will miss my colleagues at the Legal Network and the incredible work environment

we enjoy. I will miss being part of the excellence. I will also miss, believe it or not, those national meetings and

advisory committees because I was able to exchange, discuss, and debate ideas with many of you — intelligent, thoughtful and committed advocates and activists. Perhaps my travels will end in Mexico City [host of the XVII International AIDS Conference] in 2008 and provide me with another opportunity to take stock of the “AIDS industry,” as I have taken to calling it. I can only hope the voices of the *campesinos* — in this case, people living with HIV/AIDS — will be heard once again, above the din of those of the self-appointed *propietarios* — people I call the “AIDS industrialists.”

Until then,

## IN BRIEF

## Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws gets a failing grade

The Legal Network criticized the final report of the House of Commons Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws, saying it falls far short of the measures required to ensure the health, safety and human rights of sex workers.

“The Subcommittee had a chance to make informed recommendations on how to modernize Canada’s outdated laws on prostitution. Instead, what we have is a report, years in the making, that does too little to protect sex workers or to promote their dignity and equality,” said Executive Director Joanne Csete in a December 13 news release issued minutes after the report was made public.



The House of Commons in Ottawa  
(Photo: Library of Parliament)

The Subcommittee was established in 2003 to review Canada’s criminal laws related to sex work, in response to scores of brutal killings and disappearances of sex workers in Vancouver and Edmonton. Its mandate was “to review the solicitation laws in order to improve the safety of sex-trade workers and communities overall, and to recommend changes that will reduce the exploitation and

violence against sex-trade workers.”

And yet, when the Subcommittee finally released its report, the Legal Network and two organizations of sex workers, Maggie’s and Stella (a Legal Network member), found it riddled with shortcomings. In *Not Up to the Challenge of Change: An analysis of the report of the Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws*, the three groups took the Subcommittee to task for neglecting to recommend a single concrete legislative change to protect the human rights of sex workers in Canada.

“They failed to recognize a fundamental fact — that sex workers are entitled to the same human rights as everyone else,” said Senior Policy Analyst Glenn Betteridge, the Legal Network’s lead lawyer on sex work.

Only one of the report’s seven recommendations came close to addressing the harmful effects of the current contradictory laws, said Betteridge. All it asks is for the government to “recognize” the inadequacy of the status quo.

To read *Not Up to the Challenge of Change*, visit

[www.aidslaw.ca/sexwork](http://www.aidslaw.ca/sexwork) >

Publications. *The Subcommittee’s report is available at*

[www.parl.gc.ca/sslr](http://www.parl.gc.ca/sslr). Visit *Maggie’s and Stella on-line at*

[www.maggiestoronto.ca](http://www.maggiestoronto.ca) and [www.chezstella.org](http://www.chezstella.org).

## READER FEEDBACK

We welcome your feedback on our stories. Send your letters to the editor by e-mail to [LNN-NRJ@aidslaw.ca](mailto:LNN-NRJ@aidslaw.ca).

## 2006 Awards for Action winner attacked in Jamaica

Gareth Williams, international recipient of last year’s Awards for Action on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights, was one of four victims of a disturbing anti-gay hate crime in Kingston, Jamaica.



Silhouette of Gareth Williams accepting his Award for Action on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights, September 2006

On Wednesday, February 14, Williams and three other men were branded as homosexuals and holed up inside a pharmacy for almost an hour. Outside, an angry mob of hundreds hurled homophobic insults and demanded that pharmacy staff hand over the men. Some even called for the four men to be killed. Police were forced to use tear gas to disperse the crowd in order to remove the men from the scene.

In a Legal Network news release, Jamaican human rights advocate and Legal Network board member Robert Carr called the situation unacceptable: “The Jamaican government must condemn these kinds of incidents and take immediate action to eliminate such discrimination, including changing Jamaican law to respect and protect the human rights of all its citizens.”

## IN BRIEF

Jamaican law criminalizes homosexuals. Williams — who just a few months ago was in Gatineau, Quebec to accept his award on the opening night of the Legal Network's 2006 annual general meeting — says he was also pistol-whipped by police officers and accused of provoking the mob by being gay.

“We’re deeply disturbed to hear that police may have perpetrated further abuse towards those whom they were supposed to be protecting. Jamaican authorities must ensure that the officers involved are held to account,” concluded Carr.

*To find out more about the Awards for Action on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights, or to read the February 16 news release, visit [www.aidslaw.ca/awards](http://www.aidslaw.ca/awards).*

## Russians welcome Legal Network training on health and human rights

In March, the NAN-Balakovo Foundation — a regional training centre for front-line health workers in the Saratov region of southern Russia — used materials developed by Senior Policy Analyst Leah Utyasheva to conduct a half-day training session on international and Russian law and the right to health.

“We wanted to give participants some background on the legal foundations of harm reduction in Russian law, and highlight which legal provisions could be used in advocating for human rights-based drug policy reform,” said Utyasheva, who will mark her first anniversary with the Legal Network at the end of April.

The workshop attracted people from the Volga region of Russia, as well as Siberia. They were presented with hypothetical situations involving human rights violations, and asked to find ways to address them. Participants also heard of examples from around the world of the proven results and best practices of opiate substitution treatment.

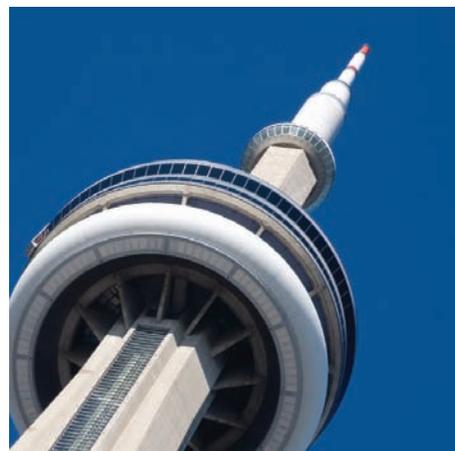
### DID YOU KNOW?

The Legal Network has posted a Russian-language web page at [www.aidslaw.ca/ru](http://www.aidslaw.ca/ru). The page includes our mission, vision and values, as well as a link to all of our Russian-language publications.

## CWGHR joins Legal Network for June AGM

The Legal Network's 2007 annual general meeting will be held in Toronto on June 10 and 11 in partnership with the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation (CWHGR).

“We surveyed our members and there was strong support for a June AGM,”



*This year's AGM will be held in Toronto, June 10–11*

said Joanne Csete, Executive Director of the Legal Network. “This will allow our members to review and comment on our work plan earlier in the fiscal year.”

Over the past three years, AGMs were held in September with the Ottawa-based Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD).

“This year, the timing just didn't work out for us to hold a joint AGM, so we're taking a hiatus of sorts,” said Michael O'Connor, Executive Director of ICAD. “But our board is looking at options for next year, including renewing our partnership with the Legal Network.”

ICAD will go ahead with its own AGM this September, but will facilitate one of the workshops at the Legal Network / CWGHR AGM as part of its consultations on the content of the “global engagement” element of Ottawa's Federal Initiative to Address HIV/AIDS in Canada.

*Information on registration and workshops will be available on-line at [www.aidslaw.ca/agm](http://www.aidslaw.ca/agm) by the end of April. Members will be notified by e-mail. Visit the Canadian Working Group on HIV and Rehabilitation at [www.hivandrehab.ca](http://www.hivandrehab.ca).*

## Indonesian AIDS conference highlights harm reduction

Executive Director Joanne Csete spoke at the national HIV/AIDS conference in Surabaya, Indonesia in early February. Over 1500 delegates were in attendance, including high-level national and provincial officials,

and representatives of organizations of people living with HIV.

“The conference was notable in that high-level officials very publicly supported the rollout of harm reduction measures — including sterile syringe programs and methadone therapy — with a view to making them available even in local health facilities,” said Csete.

About half of new HIV transmission in Indonesia is linked to injection drug use, highlighting the need for sterile syringe programs. And, according to media reports, people who frequent methadone clinics are regularly harassed and arrested by police.

Csete’s talk focused on the need to revisit drug policies and police practices — topics on which very little was otherwise said during the conference. Under Indonesian drug laws, relatively minor crimes of possession are punishable by long sentences; trafficking can result in the death penalty.

“Harsh drug laws and law enforcement may be Indonesia’s biggest impediment to harm reduction services,” she said. “Instead, the focus should be on decriminalizing the possession of syringes and sensitizing police about how and why the new harm reduction programs are so important in stemming the spread of HIV.”

## Fix law on exporting generic medicines: Legal Network and GTAG

In late January, both the Legal Network and the Global Treatment Access Group (GTAG) submitted recommendations

to the federal government on ways to reform Canada’s Access to Medicines Regime (“the Regime”), formerly known as the *Jean Chrétien Pledge to Africa*, which is meant to facilitate the production and export of lower-cost generic medicines to developing countries.



In September 2006, Deputy Director Richard Elliott spoke to a meeting of federal members of Parliament and highlighted flaws in the Regime that need to be fixed (“Legal Network calls for reforms to law on generic medicine exports,” Issue 25, December 2006). Two months later, the government initiated a review of the legislation and called for submissions from interested parties. A final report to Parliament is due by mid-May.

The Legal Network and GTAG submissions call on Parliament to legislate a simpler and more straightforward process than the existing Regime.

In addition to raising its recommendations directly with the Industry Minister Maxime Bernier and Health Minister Tony Clement, the Legal Network is calling for

parliamentary hearings on reforming the legislation.

*To find out more about the Regime, or to read the Legal Network and GTAG submissions, visit*

[www.aidslaw.ca/gtag](http://www.aidslaw.ca/gtag).

## A new look at the Legal Network’s news

By now, you may have noticed something different about the Legal Network’s quarterly newsletter — our updated name, *Legal Network News* (LNN), and our more contemporary design.

The first issue of this newsletter was published in March 1999 under the old *Network News* masthead — and ever since, it’s kept our members up to date on our work and in touch with our people.

Now, after eight years and 25 issues, we’re turning the page with this new look at the Legal Network’s news — and we’re hoping you, our readers, will help us. Tell us what you think — of the stories you read in these pages, and of our work on the legal and human rights issues raised by HIV/AIDS. Write to us and let us know, and your feedback could be featured in a brand-new Letters section.

Please send letters to the editor by e-mail to [LNN-NRJ@aidslaw.ca](mailto:LNN-NRJ@aidslaw.ca) or by post to:

Legal Network News  
c/o Canadian HIV/AIDS  
Legal Network  
1240 Bay Street, Suite 600  
Toronto, Ontario M5R 2A7

## NEW THIS QUARTER

## Reports

- Closed to Reason: The International Narcotics Control Board and HIV/AIDS  
[www.aidslaw.ca/drugpolicy](http://www.aidslaw.ca/drugpolicy) > Publications
- Courting Rights: Case Studies in Litigating the Human Rights of People Living with HIV  
*French, Russian and Spanish versions are now available.*  
[www.aidslaw.ca/discrimination](http://www.aidslaw.ca/discrimination) > Publications

## Briefing papers

- Not Up to the Challenge of Change: An analysis of the report of the Subcommittee on Solicitation Laws  
[www.aidslaw.ca/sexwork](http://www.aidslaw.ca/sexwork) > Publications

## Advocacy

- *Shelley v. the United Kingdom*: Response to the submission of the U.K. government  
[www.aidslaw.ca/prisons](http://www.aidslaw.ca/prisons) > Publications
- Delivering on the Pledge: Reforming Canada's Access to Medicines Regime — GTAG submission to the Government of Canada  
[www.aidslaw.ca/treatment](http://www.aidslaw.ca/treatment) > Publications
- Review of Canada's Access to Medicines Regime — Legal Network submission to the Government of Canada  
[www.aidslaw.ca/treatment](http://www.aidslaw.ca/treatment) > Publications
- *Shelley v. the United Kingdom*: Submissions of the Intervenors in the European Court of Human Rights  
[www.aidslaw.ca/prisons](http://www.aidslaw.ca/prisons) > Publications

## News releases

Available at [www.aidslaw.ca/media](http://www.aidslaw.ca/media)

- February 28, 2007 — Canada Unfairly Berated by International Drug Body for Pragmatic, Effective HIV Prevention Measures
- February 27, 2007 — New Report Finds International Narcotics Control Board Blocks Effective HIV Prevention Among Drug Users
- February 20, 2007 — Former UN Special Envoy to join call for greater accountability at INCB (Media Advisory)
- February 16, 2007 — Legal Network Condemns Anti-gay Mob Attack on Award-winning Jamaican Activist