



# Edmonton Community Legal Centre

## 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 23, 2015

### VOLUNTEER AWARDS

#### Five Years of Service

Tamara Buckwold  
Clara Cerminara  
Jim Chronopoulos  
Allan Delgado

Derek Hopfner  
Adam Knisely  
Rebecca Lee  
Stephanie Leung

Tyler Lypkie  
Ron Meleshko  
Sarah Rossman  
Winston Tuttle

#### Ten Years of Service

Arman Chak

Ross McLeod

#### Distinguished Service

**Debra Meakins** has been a committed and reliable ECLC volunteer lawyer since 2012, taking a summary legal advice clinic shift at least monthly. In 2014, in addition to continuing with her civil law clinic shifts, Debra began providing Family Law clinic advice, volunteering as many as three times each month. She volunteered for clinic a total of 22 times during the course of the year, contributing a staggering 66 hours of summary legal advice to ECLC clients. We appreciate Debra's flexibility in volunteering where she is needed and we are grateful for the time and expertise she so generously gives. We are very fortunate to have her as an ECLC volunteer.

**Clara Cerminara** is a lawyer with Alberta Justice and has been volunteering with the ECLC for over five years, since 2010. Clara provides public legal education sessions on behalf of the ECLC, and in 2014 presented a total of 11 sessions, contributing 22 hours of service. She generally presents a session once a month, although in May 2014, Clara presented three sessions. She provides public legal education sessions on the topic of Wills and Estates, and as a result of client demand and feedback about the benefit of the information, some agencies request her sessions regularly each year, which Clara accommodates with grace and professionalism. We sincerely appreciate Clara's commitment to the ECLC.

**Lorretta Klein** is the President of the Alberta Association of Paralegal Professionals and has been an ECLC volunteer since 2013. Lorretta volunteers at clinic every Thursday evening, partnering with lawyers to help clients during summary legal advice appointments. In 2014, she contributed a truly amazing total of 129 hours of service to the ECLC. ECLC volunteer lawyers praise Lorretta for her professionalism and organizational skills which benefit both the lawyers and ECLC clients. In addition, she has encouraged other paralegals to share their expertise at the ECLC, which has increased ECLC capacity for client assistance. We appreciate not only Lorretta's many hours of service, but also her role as an ambassador for other paralegal volunteers.

**Alumni & Friends of the Faculty of Law Association** We would like to acknowledge the tremendous financial support of the Alumni & Friends of the Faculty of Law Association over the past several years. Beginning in 2009, they have made an annual donation to the ECLC for the purpose of contributing to the employment of U of A law students as ECLC summer law clerks. In the first year the amount contributed toward the costs of employing one student. In 2014, the donation was \$18,000, enabling the ECLC to fully fund TWO full-time summer law clerks. This \$18,000 donation was repeated again for the summer of 2015. Not only does this opportunity provide law students with poverty law client experience, but it also greatly increases ECLC capacity for client service. The ECLC is so very grateful for the assistance of the Alumni and Friends in supporting our work.