



From left to right : M<sup>e</sup> Sasha Mandy (volunteer lawyer), Jacqueline Madden, Aude Florin, M<sup>e</sup> Christine Paquin (Director), Melissa Zampini, Lluc Cerdà (Legal Services Coordinator), Cécile Capela and Sarah Marinier-Doucet.

(Photos : Laura Damecour)

# THE MILE END LEGAL CLINIC, PROMOTING ACCESS TO JUSTICE SINCE 2002

## SAVE THE DATE!

## CELEBRATION OF M<sup>e</sup> COLIN K. IRVING'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE MILE END & TYNDALE CLINICS

On **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2013**, we will be celebrating the contribution to access to justice of the late M<sup>e</sup> Colin K. Irving who passed away in June 2013. **All are welcome.**

DOORS OPEN : 5 PM / STORIES BEGIN : 6 PM

ADDRESS : Mile End Library / second floor / 5434 Park Avenue

REFRESHMENTS & SNACKS WILL BE SERVED.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

THE CLINIC IN A NUTSHELL	2
TIME TO REFLECT WHILE KEEPING MOMENTUM! M <sup>e</sup> Christine Paquin	3
M <sup>e</sup> COLIN K. IRVING M <sup>e</sup> Geeta Narang	4
THE CLINIC IN NUMBERS	6
FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN	7
THE CLINIC 2012-2013	8
A WORD FROM THE COORDINATOR Sasha Cragg-Gore	9
STORIES FROM OUR STUDENTS	9
PORTRAIT OF TWO VOLUNTEER LAWYERS M <sup>e</sup> Natacha Calixte & M <sup>e</sup> Valérie Gobeil	12
GREAT NEWS!	13
THANK YOU	13
OUR TEAM	14



Location where we welcome clients on Wednesdays: the Mile End Community Mission is a non-profit organization which offers a variety of social services.  
(Photo: Laura Damecour)

## THE CLINIC IN A NUTSHELL **WHO ARE WE?**

**SERVING THE COMMUNITY /** For over 10 years, the Mile End Legal Clinic and its network of lawyers and law students have been dedicated to making justice accessible to citizens. We believe that no one should face legal problems without the necessary knowledge to protect and exercise their rights. Since its beginnings, the Clinic has helped a vast number of people by informing them of their rights and by offering support through the processes of the judicial system.

**STUDENT TRAINING /** We train future lawyers by providing hands-on internships to law students from McGill University, Université de Montréal and UQAM.

**LAWYER INVOLVEMENT /** Volunteer lawyers supervise and teach students, as well as provide free information and advice to clients.

**REFERRALS /** We provide referrals to lawyers, Legal Aid and non-legal services in order to address the issues brought forth by our clients.

**OUR CLIENTELE /** We will sit down with anyone who comes to the Clinic, but we target individuals and families who cannot afford a lawyer and who do not qualify for Legal Aid. Our clients come from all over Montreal and even from outside of Montreal and their legal problems are in many different areas of law.

**WHY WE DO IT /** A person's wealth should not determine whether or not they can understand and defend their rights. We want our legal system to be more accessible and to live up to the ideal of justice for all. At the Mile End Legal Clinic, we are dedicated to improving the ability of lower income individuals and families to navigate the justice system.

**OUR SISTER ORGANIZATION /** Since 2008, the Tyndale Legal Clinic offers free legal information and advice every Tuesday at the Tyndale St-Georges Community Center, 870 Richmond Square, in Little Burgundy.

As the Tyndale Legal Clinic was founded and run by the late M<sup>e</sup> Irving, the opening hours for the current year have yet to be determined. The Mile End Legal Clinic is currently working on ensuring its continuity.

# TIME TO REFLECT WHILE KEEPING MOMENTUM!

M<sup>e</sup> Christine Paquin / Executive Director



I will soon be completing my first year as the director of the Mile End Legal Clinic. We have worked assiduously. The track record of our work gives me a feeling of pride and the willpower to do more during the year to come. The high demand for our services can at times feel dizzying, but we remain focused.

The year 2012-2013 began on the right foot with a reception on September 18, 2012 to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mr. Graham Carpenter, representing Deputy Thomas Mulcair, marked the occasion by presenting the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to M<sup>e</sup> Geeta Narang to commend her overall contribution to the Clinic. Needless to say, this kick off was inspiring to me as a new director.

The compilation of our statistics is certainly energizing: we helped **340** clients, conducted **488** consultations, and logged over **450** hours of student involvement. At the Mile End Legal Clinic, **8** devoted jurists sit on our board of directors, including **3** new recruits, **2** successive coordinators of legal services, as well as **12** dedicated student interns, and finally, over **20** volunteer lawyers; all with a generosity that truly impressed me. Each of them has proven to be essential for the quality of the work done at the organization.

This newsletter will give you the chance to see what has happened at our organization since September and I am delighted to showcase the fruits of our labour.

Notwithstanding these achievements, securing funding for our activities in the face of such high demand remains a considerable challenge. I therefore take this opportunity to invite you to support us in reaching our objectives by making a donation to our organization, or by renewing a previous donation.

When clients travel from Quebec City to consult with us, and they explain that we were their “only

option”, I find the motivation to ensure that we carry on our work.

I also find inspiration when I think of the exceptional quality of M<sup>e</sup> Colin K. Irving’s contribution during the past few years. His departure is a hard blow, but he will remain a source of inspiration for the future. With great humility and discretion, M<sup>e</sup> Irving devoted an incredible amount of time welcoming and helping our clients, in addition to supporting the Clinic financially.

If you are searching for a reason to donate to the Clinic, may this newsletter serve as an answer. Happy reading to all!



**THE MILE END COMMUNITY MISSION,  
99 BERNARD STREET WEST**

(Photos : Laura Damecour)





Photo: Irving Mitchell Kalichman

## M<sup>e</sup> COLIN K. IRVING

### VOLUNTEER LAWYER & PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (1934-2013)

M<sup>e</sup> Geeta Narang / Founder & board member

It is hard for me to find the right words to describe Colin Irving's contribution to the Mile End and Tyndale Legal Clinics. This is probably because what he gave to the clinics is akin to what he gave me, personally.

Devotion, passion, time, energy, resources, mentorship, support, enthusiasm, understanding, empathy - come to mind. An enumeration of the ways in which Colin supported the clinics and access to justice would almost be tedious. There are just so many people he helped and jurists he inspired.

The words Hope, Confidence and Counsel most aptly summarize his contribution.

\*\*\*

Colin and I met in 2007. A mutual friend who was tending bar introduced us. Our paths had crossed before, but we had never really sat down, broken bread, shared a bottle of wine and spoken to one another in earnest. In 2007, we were at crossroads in our respective lives. I had just finished my maternity leave and was contemplating leaving my job as a junior lawyer at a Montreal law firm. He had lost his wife, Anne, and was asking himself larger questions.

The stars were aligned when Colin and I met. Our meeting and quick friendship convinced us that many good things do, indeed, begin in bars. We knew that we were lucky in our friendship as Colin and I needed one another.

He kept telling me that I could do anything and I told him that he was welcome to volunteer at the Mile End Legal Clinic. He gave me the confidence to start my own practice and the clinics assured him that the world still needed lawyers like him.

Colin and I were both grappling with what seemed to be very different questions and ended up finding answers in the same place: good, honest advocacy work.

\*\*\*

For those unaware of the breadth of Colin's involvement with the clinics, it should be spelled out. Until recently, he promoted access to justice as follows. On Tuesdays from 6.00pm to 7.00pm, he ran the legal clinic that he founded at the Tyndale St-Georges Community Center in Little Burgundy. At Tyndale, he was responsible for supervising law students and all files. On Wednesdays, he acted as counsel at the Mile End Legal Clinic from 4.00pm to 7.00pm, where he met with walk-in clients. On Fridays,

from 1.00pm to 3.00pm, he attended staff meetings at which cases from both clinics were reviewed. In addition, he acted as president of the board and attended board meetings.

I was amazed by Colin's work at the clinics. Watching him interact with clients made me proud to be a member of the Bar, something that I had not felt in a long time. He treated each and every case as though it was his only case and gave every client his undivided attention. Colin was a true advocate and unwavering in his understanding of his job as a lawyer. Whether advising a corporation or someone living below the poverty line, he believed his role was the same: to listen, provide sound counsel, then do everything in his power so that his client's point of view might prevail.

Colin had pled at the Supreme Court of Canada over twenty times. He counted governments, banks and multinational corporations among his clients. In his other life at the clinics, he researched questions regarding late rent payments, the rights of users of public transportation and issues relating to old age pensions. No case was too small or unimportant. Colin understood that if a client came to the clinic with an issue, the issue was important to them.

Colin's kindness at the clinics was all encompassing. He offered lifts to law students and clients waiting at the bus stop in inclement weather and brought food to Friday staff meetings.

Clients invited him into their apartments for homemade dinners and brought him cakes to say thank you. These gestures moved him deeply. He often spoke of how overwhelmed he was by the hardships so many people endure and how easy it is for lawyers to help them when they decide to do so.

\*\*\*

Under his guidance, the Clinic grew from an *ad hoc* program of the Mile End Mission to an incorporated non-profit with charitable status.

When a lawyer of Colin's stature assured us that what we were doing to promote access to justice was important, his words resonated. We listened and kept at it.

The Clinic in its current incarnation owes everything to Colin. He gave this small project his time and his love and his resources so that we could become as big and as great as he was.

It is time for us to grow up and make good use of what Colin gave us – the hope, confidence and counsel that got us to where we are.



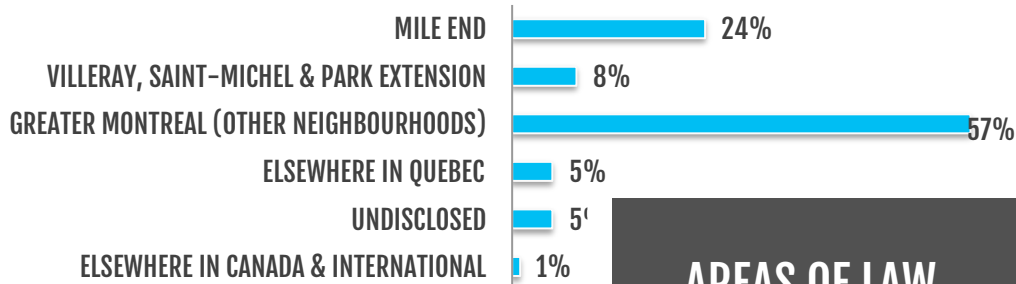
M<sup>r</sup> Colin Irving & M<sup>s</sup> Geeta Narang at the Clinic

M<sup>r</sup> Irving was awarded many honours throughout his life. Just recently, on May 29, 2013, he was honoured with the *Excellence in Advocacy* award during the Canadian Civil Liberties Association's gala. He shares this award with the Honourable Ian Binnie, former judge at the Supreme Court of Canada.

# THE CLINIC IN NUMBERS

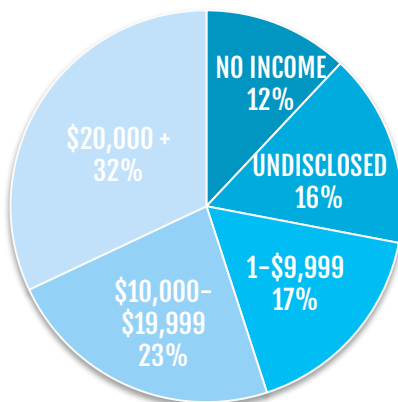
FROM SEPTEMBER 2012 TO MAY 2013

## WHERE OUR CLIENTS LIVE

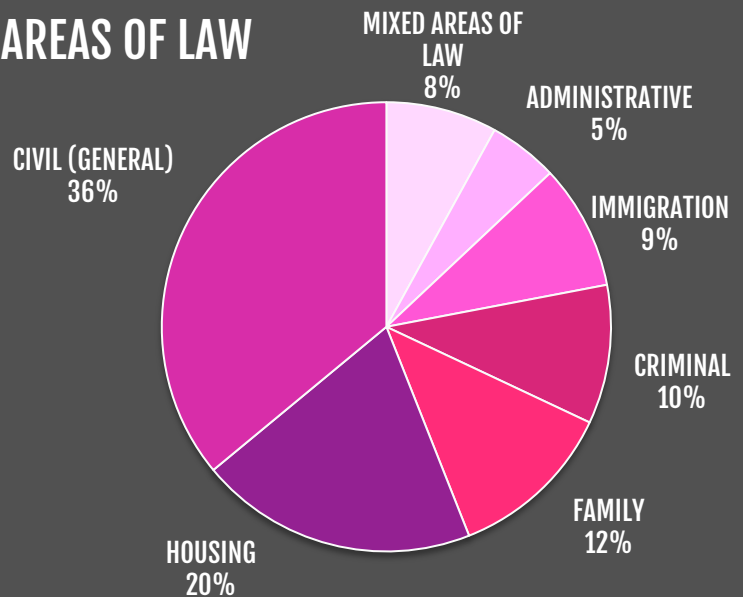


**450+**  
HOURS  
OF RESEARCH  
BY STUDENTS  
IN ADDITION TO THE FULL  
TIME POSITION OF THE  
DIRECTOR

## INCOME BRACKETS OF OUR CLIENTS



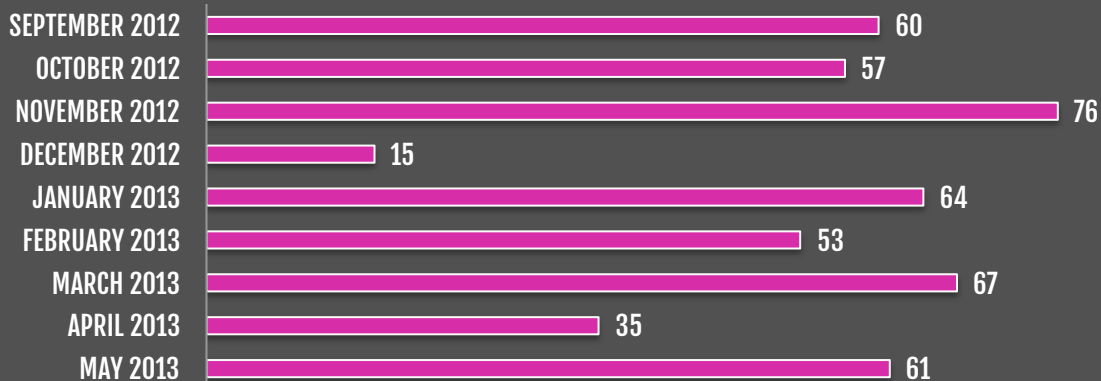
## AREAS OF LAW



**340**  
CLIENTS &  
**488**  
CONSULTATIONS\* PER YEAR

*\*When a client meets with a  
student or a volunteer lawyer*

## NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS PER MONTH



**32**  
WEDNESDAYS  
WITH AN AVERAGE OF  
**15**  
CLIENTS PER EVENING





## FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN 2013–2014

### ONE HOUR OF YOUR TIME

We are asking colleagues to donate to the Clinic the equivalent of their hourly rate to promote access to justice. All donations are welcome, and charitable receipts will be issued for any donation of \$50 or more. Facing increasing demand, we need stable employees to ensure the quality of our services. Our organization relies on private donations for the vast majority of our operations and we need your support in order to help those who consult us. All funds raised through your donations will help us support the Clinic's operations. This year, our goal is to raise \$100,000 and we hope that you will help us reach it!

## HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!

YOU CAN MAKE A DONATION BY SENDING A CHEQUE TO:

**5276 SAINT-LAURENT BLVD, MONTREAL (QC) H2T 1S1**

OR ONLINE, VIA OUR WEBSITE: **[WWW.JUSTICEMONTREAL.ORG](http://WWW.JUSTICEMONTREAL.ORG)**

**GOAL**

**\$100,000**

# THE CLINIC 2012-2013

**AUGUST 20, 2012** / M<sup>e</sup> Christine Paquin begins her mandate as the new Director of the Clinic.

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2012** / During the Clinic's 10th anniversary, Mr. Graham Carpenter, political attaché to Deputy Thomas Mulcair, awards the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal to M<sup>e</sup> Geeta Narang to highlight the quality of her work at the organization.



Me Geeta Narang (Photo: Sandra Ng)

During the evening, the Clinic holds a panel on access to justice, "Breaking Down the Barriers: a Roundtable Discussion on Access to Justice". Sandra Ng, former student of the Clinic, M<sup>e</sup> Tatiana Gomez, immigration lawyer and M<sup>e</sup> Geneviève Gagnon, Legal Aid lawyer in Longueuil, take part in the panel.

**NOVEMBER 2012** / M<sup>e</sup> Paquin moderates a panel on access to justice during the Public Interest and Social Justice Career Day at the McGill Faculty of Law.

The Clinic takes part in the 4th National Pro Bono Conference in Montreal entitled "Pro Access – Pro Justice – Pro Bono" and to a forum bringing together several legal clinics in Quebec. Both events were

organized by Pro Bono Quebec and allowed knowledge sharing and reflection on pro bono work.

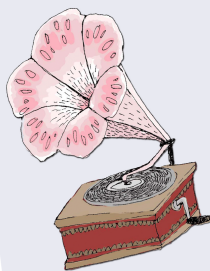
**DECEMBER 14, 2012** / The Clinic is happy to welcome M<sup>e</sup> Geeta Narang, M<sup>e</sup> Stéphanie Bachand and M<sup>e</sup> Sara Gauthier as new board members.

**DECEMBER 2012 – MARCH 2013** / In collaboration with the borough of Plateau-Mont-Royal, the Mile End Legal Clinic offered, for a second year in a row, 16 legal workshops on housing law for tenants, given by lawyers specialized in that field.

Le Plateau-Mont-Royal  
**Montréal**

**JANUARY 17, 2013** / On their own initiative, students from the Clinic organize a fundraiser and dance party at Blizzarts. The evening is a big hit and raises a few thousand dollars for the Clinic.

**CLINIQUE JURIDIQUE DU MILE END  
PARTY LEVÉE DE FONDS**



TOUTES LES RECETTES VONT À LA CLINIQUE JURIDIQUE DU MILE END  
**CLASSI ASSI F.U.N.K.**  
**JEUDI 17.01.13 • BLIZZARTS**  
**PORTE OUVERTE DES 21H • 3054 ST LAURENT**  
**ADMISSION PAR DON (\$10 RECOMMANDÉ)**

**MARCH 7, 2013** / After two years of close and important involvement with the Clinic, Karen L. Kear-Jodoin, volunteer lawyer and board member, is named judge at the Superior Court of Quebec in Montreal.

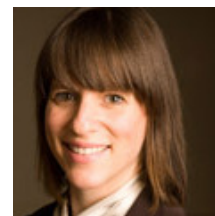
**MARCH 20, 2013** / M<sup>e</sup> Paquin is invited to speak with law students during the Women's Caucus Speed Meet at the McGill Faculty of Law.

**MAY 2013** / The Clinic hires three summer students thanks to the federal program supporting summer work opportunities. Thanks to this funding, the Clinic can offer services until July 2013.



Sofia Guedez, Cécile Capela, M<sup>e</sup> Christine Paquin (Director), Sarah Marinier-Doucet, Melissa Zampini and Aude Florin.  
(Photo : Laura Damecour)

**JUNE 2013** / The Clinic mourns M<sup>e</sup> Colin K. Irving, President of the board. The same month, Prof. Alana Klein succeeds Me Irving as President of the board.



Prof. Alana Klein,  
President of the board

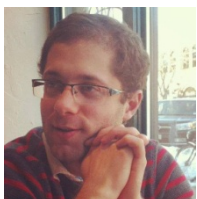




From left to right: Jaimie Tax, Guillaume Blais, Assaf Gal-Or, Neesha Rao, Lluc Cerdà, Sofia Guedez, Sasha Cragg-Gore, Shantha Priya Morley, M<sup>c</sup> Christine Paquin (Director), Evan Stringer and Sarah Marinier-Doucet (Photo: Adam Bowser)

## A WORD FROM THE 2012-2013 LEGAL SERVICES COORDINATOR

Sasha Cragg-Gore / Law student at McGill University



Being the Legal Services Coordinator of the Mile End Legal Clinic during the past year was fulfilling and positively impacted my year. I enjoyed adapting our intake procedures to make Wednesday evenings flow more efficiently, helping connect clients with the services they need, or creating ties with clients and discussing the news or the weather. Even when I faced difficult clients, I felt supported by a talented team of jurists. In the face of so much demand and many decisions to be made, I was impressed with how well the Clinic team was able to deliver services.

As one of the only students involved at the Clinic before the arrival of M<sup>c</sup> Christine Paquin, I had the opportunity and the responsibility of passing down knowledge to the new team of jurists and acted as a resource person. I am excited to see how the Clinic will evolve and am proud to have contributed to its achievements. While student interns may only be involved with the Clinic for a limited period, we contribute to an organization that provides an essential service to its clients.

## STORIES FROM OUR STUDENTS

*STUDENT INTERNS FROM SEPTEMBER 2012 TO APRIL 2013*

*Note: All our clients' names have been changed and the consent of each client to tell their story was obtained.*

Evan Stringer / Law student at McGill University



**COMMON WALL AND ASTRONOMICAL BILL** / Tamara came to the Clinic after receiving an astronomical bill from a construction company. She was the co-owner of a house which shares a common wall. When her neighbour wanted to do some major renovations to increase the rental value of his units, it became apparent that structural work would be required to the party wall. Tamara agreed to share the costs. After consulting with a construction company, all parties agreed on a maximum amount for the work. Tamara was shocked to receive a bill four times what had been agreed upon.

A lawyer at the Clinic drafted a letter for Tamara reinforcing the agreement and stating that the additional costs had to be approved by all the concerned co-owners. Following this letter, negotiations took place and the case was settled by agreement.

### Shantha Priya Morley / Law student at McGill University



**MULTIPLE BARRIERS TO ACCESSING JUSTICE /** Over the course of my Clinic placement, it became obvious that our clients interact disproportionately with law and government bodies. In addition, several of our clients also face a wide range of non-legal problems. In these cases, we contact community support groups and social service agencies to help them. I quickly learned that legal problems are rarely solved without dealing with social problems.

**EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES /** Robert came into the Clinic seeking help in dealing with the \$3,000 in parking tickets he owed. Robert's problem was due in large part to his limited command of English and French; he had failed to pay the tickets for a long period of time, and the interest increased the fine exponentially. We looked into Robert's situation and found that because he was a social assistance recipient, he could apply to the Municipal court to work off his fines at a non-profit organization. We found the requisite forms, helped him fill them out and file them at the Municipal court. Once his request was accepted, we contacted the organization where he would work on his behalf. Robert was happy with this outcome.

### Sofia Guede / Law student at Université de Montréal



**THE BEST REFERENCE /** Sylvia came to us about the steps to take to file a divorce. I met her with a volunteer lawyer who was able to answer her questions. Sylvia came back a few months later, more confident and serene, having taken the decision to divorce. During her second visit, she was able to meet a lawyer specialized in family law who established the amount she would be entitled to in child support payments. At this stage, Sylvia was looking for a lawyer with a specific profile: if possible, a woman with compassion and a listening ear but also someone who could be firm. The lawyer in family law referred our client to several lawyers who were affordable and matched these characteristics.

**LOSE YOUR APARTMENT? /** Hassan came about a housing problem. He lived in the upper floor of a duplex and the landlords, a couple, occupied the apartment below. Recently, Hassan received a notice informing him that the landlords wished to repossess his apartment as they had separated. Our client, who had lived in this apartment all his life, was shaken by this notice. He was defeated as he had received contradictory information concerning the legality of this repossession. Through my research, I discovered that the marital status of the landlords could permit repossession but only under certain conditions. With the results of my research in hand, Hassan had a global view of all the issues. We suggested that Hassan seek representation by a lawyer and we now know that our legal opinion will be used by the lawyer that he decided to hire and that our organization knows well. This considerably diminished his legal fees.

### Jaimie Tax / Law student at McGill University



**WORK AND NO PAY /** Paul is a self-employed graphic designer who does freelance work. Prior to visiting us at the Clinic, he had completed a couple of projects with a particular company in Ontario. While no formal contract had been signed, a string of e-mails evidenced that there was a clear arrangement between the two parties. Once Paul upheld his end of the bargain, he contacted the company for payment. The company came up with a range of excuses to delay payment. Paul wrote countless emails and a formal letter to the company requesting payment; he had no success.

With the help of M<sup>e</sup> Irving, we were able to write a formal letter of suit. This worked: a couple of weeks later, the company contacted Paul to organize payment. They arranged for Paul to receive payments over the next few months. Once he received full payment, he dropped by the Clinic to share the good news.

**LIGHTS OUT /** Elizabeth and her two children had been renting the same apartment for years. While the apartment was ideal in many respects, it was old and had increasingly required costly repairs. The central lighting in Elizabeth's apartment had been out for weeks. She had asked her landlord to make repairs, but he refused to follow through. In the interim, Elizabeth had been using table and floor

lamps, but such lighting was inadequate and was starting to affect the peaceful enjoyment of her leased property. Elizabeth came to the Clinic in order to better understand her rights and we provided her with all the details on her rights and obligations.

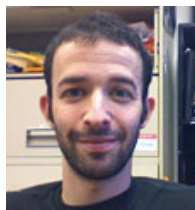
Neesha Rao / Law student at McGill University



**FIGURING OUT THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM** / Procedure is one of the most challenging parts of family law. Imagine what it would be like to divorce if you were (1) an immigrant who (2) wanted to serve divorce papers on a husband who was only in Montreal for a week and who (3) refused to grant you a divorce. This semester I worked with the Clinic's family law lawyer to help such a woman get a divorce. I was able to accompany her to court and understand what the system looks like from the perspective of an unrepresented litigant. Ultimately we were able to help our client get a divorce with little cost and that was a very satisfying feeling.

**MICE STORY** / One of my favourite cases at the Clinic this semester involved mice. A client came to us saying that her apartment had mice. At first glance, I thought our client had no case. However, after a few hours of reading, I realized that several tenants had received damages because they had mice in their dwellings. So many people live in apartments and houses with mice without knowing that they have rights in this type of situation.

Assaf Gal-Or / Law student at McGill University



**LAYOFF WITHOUT COMPENSATION** / Having laboured for years for his employer, Michael had become a fixture at the restaurant, attracting a regular clientele while helping new hires get on their feet. Suffice it to say, his place of employment would not be the same without him. This job was perfect for Michael as the operating hours permitted him to pursue his creative endeavours in a manner that the typical nine-to-five day would not. This allowed him to carve out a foothold in the hyper-competitive creative industry of Montreal.

All was well for seven years, until an unexpected change in management saw new managers take the drastic and unexpected action of firing the entire staff, including seasoned veterans such as Michael, without notice. The new management neglected to provide the compensation due to the employees. Michael turned to the only legal help he could afford: The Mile End Legal Clinic. One week after his first visit he was apprised of his rights pursuant to the Act Respecting Labour Standards. Armed with this information, Michael was able to ensure that he received his legally enforceable indemnity. Satisfied with the friendly and timely service at the Mile End Legal Clinic, Michael has since returned to inquire about legal troubles while trumpeting the merits of the Clinic.

Sarah Marinier-Doucet / Law student at Université de Montréal



**NAME CHANGE** / A client met with us after several attempts to change her name and surname. The client was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). She sought to change her name on the basis that it had a negative connotation and that it invited ridicule. The procedures to change a name could have been simple – generally, a simple reasoned request will allow you to change your name but the request must be accompanied by an original birth certificate. However, like many immigrants, our client had no birth certificate available in Quebec. Without any family living in her native country and considering the difficulty of obtaining official documents from the DRC, she did not know what to do.

After analyzing her case and communicating with a lawyer from the *Directeur de l'Etat civil*, we did the necessary work for her to receive a birth certificate and change her name. However, this procedure presented to the Superior Court usually requires legal counsel and dramatically increases legal fees, which our client could not afford. Under the guidance of a lawyer, we were able to reduce costs by writing the procedure.



# PORTRAIT OF TWO VOLUNTEER LAWYERS

M<sup>e</sup> Natacha Calixte / Lawyer at Robinson Sheppard Shapiro / Member of the Bar since 2007



Photo : Robinson Sheppard Shapiro

**WHY DO YOU VOLUNTEER?** My parents are immigrants and while they did not come to Canada in the best conditions, they were still able to build a better life for their family. I am blessed to have been born and educated here and I feel a duty towards my parents' adoptive land. By volunteering at the Clinic I want to show that I am aware of how lucky I am and that I appreciate the society in which we live.

**WHAT DO YOU TAKE AWAY?** Helping others is part of my upbringing and education, it is a fundamental moral value instilled by my parents. From a very young age, I would take care of children for a family with little means and I was paid for it. My mother told me that if I saw they needed extra help with housework, I should do it and most importantly, not ask to be paid for it. Giving my time to the Clinic is therefore something completely normal to me and my parents are proud to know that the new generation is giving back to the country that welcomed them, years ago.

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR LAWYERS TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME?** It is not as lawyers that we have this duty but as citizens. It has nothing to do with the profession because we all have this duty. In my opinion, it is not a volunteering obligation or a professional duty but simply, civic spirit or even basic courtesy.

M<sup>e</sup> Valérie Gobeil / Lawyer at Woods / Member of the Bar since 2012



Photo : Woods

**WHY DO YOU VOLUNTEER?** I volunteered at the Clinic because I am preoccupied by the problems that our justice system is facing with respect to the lack of access to our legal services. The services offered by the Clinic permit a part of the population that does not otherwise have access to legal services to obtain a service that will listen to them and offer answers and advice.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE?** At the Clinic, we are faced with human and legal issues that differ from those addressed in the context of my professional work place. I am sometimes confronted with the limits of what the law can provide as answers to complex problems, but generally, I feel that I can give some peace of mind to clients from the Clinic by answering their questions.

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR LAWYERS TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME?** As a lawyer, I believe that it is important to act as an intermediary between the legal system and the population, be it in administrative law, criminal law, or any another domain of law. We possess the technical knowledge needed to ensure that certain rights are not violated, and it is our responsibility to use it.

WE ALWAYS NEED **VOLUNTEER LAWYERS** PRACTICING IN ALL AREAS OF LAW.

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION:

(514) 507-3054 / [mile\\_end\\_law@yahoo.ca](mailto:mile_end_law@yahoo.ca)

# GREAT NEWS!

## M<sup>e</sup> MICHÈLE MOREAU JOINS OUR BOARD



(Photo: Jacques Pharand)

The Mile End Legal Clinic team is proud to announce that M<sup>e</sup> Michele Moreau joined our Board of Directors in June 2013. M<sup>e</sup> Moreau has rich and ample experience in the implementation of access to justice initiatives and has been committed to the cause, professionally and passionately, for many years. Until July 2013, M<sup>e</sup> Moreau had the impressive challenge of managing two important organizations: Pro Bono Québec and the *Centre de justice de proximité du Grand Montréal*. She now manages The Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice, an agency whose mandate is to explore ways to improve the legal system for Canadians.

Considering her numerous accomplishments, her experience in managerial positions, her sincere dedication to access to justice, and the quality of her legal work, notably with the *Barreau de Montreal*, M<sup>e</sup> Moreau is an invaluable asset for the organization and will help us accomplish our mission. It is with great pleasure that we welcome her!

# THANK YOU

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

### SPECIAL MENTION

M<sup>e</sup> Colin K. Irving  
The Mile End Community Mission  
Ministry of Justice  
ECHO Foundation  
The Bannerman Family Foundation  
Irving Mitchell Kalichman



Le Plateau-Mont-Royal  
**Montréal**

### ORGANIZATIONS & FIRMS

Pro Bono Québec  
The Barbara and David Zuker  
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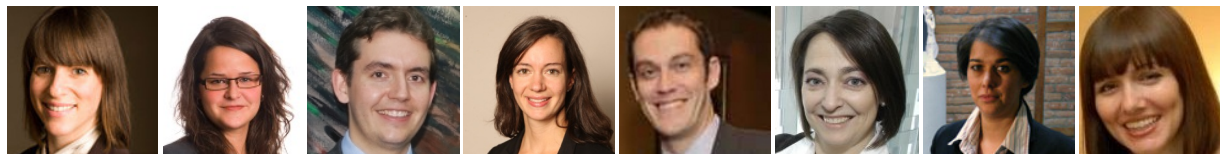
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Laura Damecour  
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