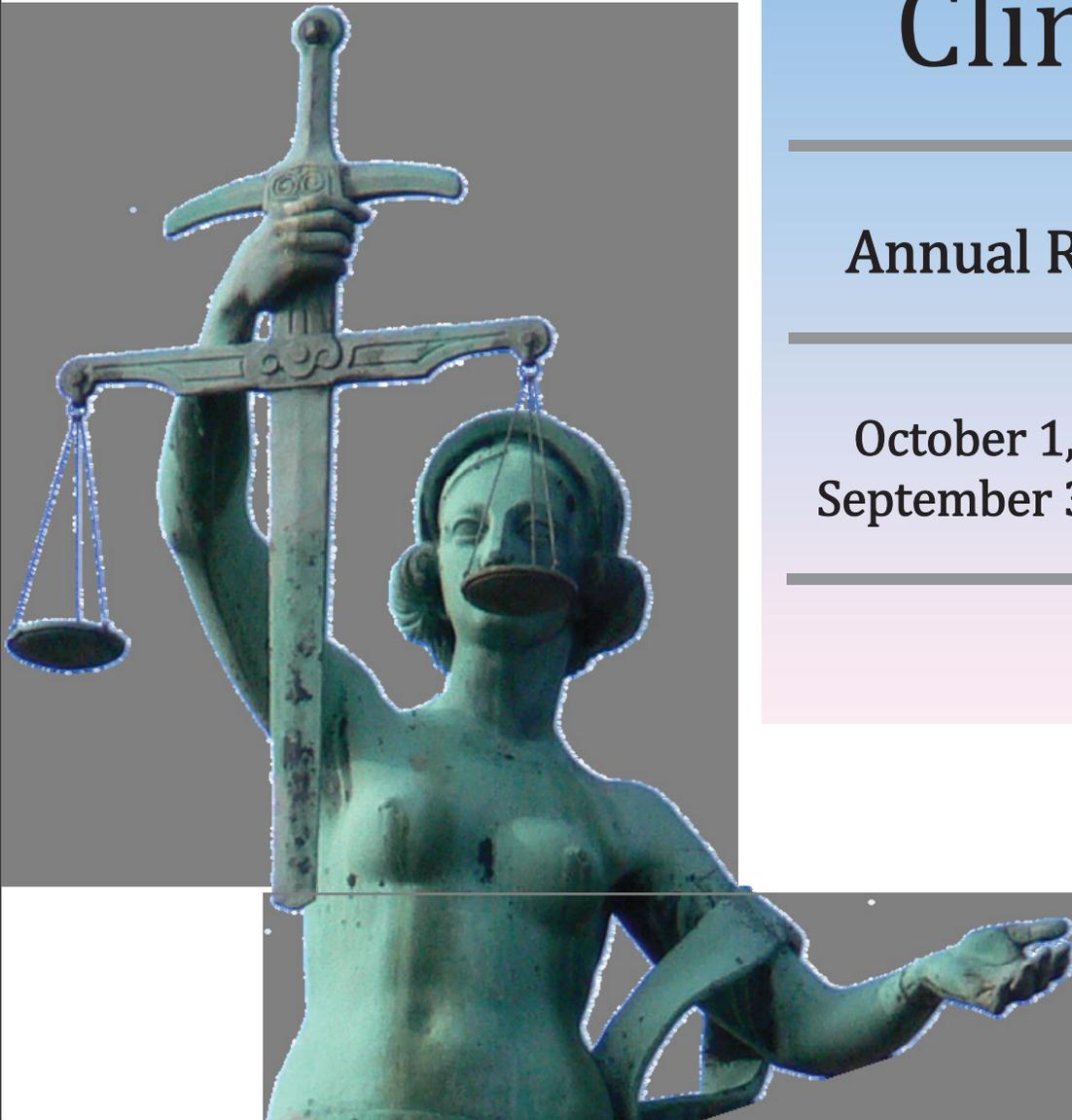

Mile End Legal Clinic

Annual Report

October 1, 2012-
September 30, 2013



History

The Mile End Legal Clinic was founded in 2002 by Me Geeta Narang. Me Geeta Narang volunteered one night per week to provide legal information to low income citizens and answer their legal questions.

The service quickly became known and demand grew rapidly, to the point where it became necessary to recruit law students and additional lawyers to participate in the clinic. Individual legal consultations have now been offered out of the Mile End Mission community centre for 11 years.

In 2008, Me Colin Irving, a volunteer at the clinic, founded a satellite clinic called the Tyndale St-Georges Legal Clinic in a neighbourhood in the southwest of Montreal. This clinic responds to a need similar to that of the Mile End Legal Clinic.

Today, the Mile End Legal Clinic serves approximately 15 clients each week.

Mission

The objective of the Mile End Legal Clinic, as stated in its Constitution, is “to promote access to justice.”

The Mile End Legal Clinic’s main purpose is to help people ensure their equal treatment under the law. We believe that no one should have to face legal problems without the knowledge required to protect and assert their rights.

In addition to assisting those already involved in the justice system, the Clinic also helps those who are not yet party to actual proceedings, but have problems of a legal nature.

What We Do

Protecting a fundamental right: Access to justice

The Clinic believes that equal treatment before the law is a principle of fundamental justice. However, based on the fact that a significant proportion of the Quebec population cannot afford the services of a lawyer, and that the majority of people who work are ineligible for legal aid, it is clear that the principle of equal treatment is currently not being achieved in our justice system.

We actively work to improve access to justice by providing free legal consultations every Wednesday from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm. In order to provide these services, we rely on volunteer lawyers and therefore encourage lawyers to have a *Pro Bono* legal practice at the Mile End Legal Clinic.

A way to fight against poverty

Since social, family, financial and legal problems are all interrelated, our services act as one way to fight against poverty. Individuals with limited financial resources risk having their living conditions affected in a grave and irreparable manner when confronted by legal problems. With this perspective in mind, the Clinic works in areas of law that are of central importance to individuals, such as housing, family, employment, and immigration.

Collaboration

Collaboration with other community services

In 2012-2013, the Clinic continued its partnership with the Mile End Community Mission.

Since 2002, this organization has allowed us to use their premises, where our volunteers meet with members of the public on Wednesday evenings. The social workers at the Mile End Mission continue to refer their clients with no or low income to our services when they are in need of legal information or advice.

The Clinic also partners with the Tyndale St-Georges community centre, which, since 2008, has offered a space on Tuesday evenings for the legal consultations offered by Me Irving and volunteers until June 2013. This service allows the clientele of this community centre, situated in the Petite Bourgogne neighbourhood in the southwest of Montreal, as well as the entire population of this disadvantaged neighbourhood, to have access to free legal advice close to home. The Mile End team will continue Me Irving's work by managing the Tyndale Clinic directly, beginning in January 2014.

The Clinic also maintains relationships with other legal clinics in the Montreal region. As each possess different mandates and different fields of expertise, the clinics refer clients from one to another in an effort to optimize the use of limited resources and to offer the best possible service to the population.

Due to the participation of volunteer lawyers, the Mile End Legal Clinic is able to give legal opinions and advice, distinguishing itself from other organizations. With the

aid of student volunteers, our lawyers are able to explain the law to our clients, help them prepare legal documents and advise them on the most appropriate course of action to take for their particular legal situation.

Collaboration with universities

The Mile End Legal Clinic participates in the education of students.

The McGill University Faculty of Law has partnered with the Clinic since 2005. In 2012-2013, four students from McGill completed internships at the Clinic during the school year and three joined the team for the summer.

Since 2009, the Faculty of Law at the University of Montréal has offered its students the opportunity to complete a community placement for credit. Through this program, the Clinic welcomed two students from the University of Montréal during the 2012-2013 school year.

According to feedback from students, they appreciate their experience at the Clinic because it allows them to meet with "real people," to work on "real files," and to assume real responsibility.

The Team

Staff

During the 2012-2013 year, the Clinic was managed by Me Christine Paquin, Executive Director.

Me Paquin was supported by two coordinators of legal services: Sasha Cragg-Gore from September 2012 to April 2013, and Lluç Cerdà from May 2013 to July 2013.

Me Paquin carried out the management and administration of the clinic, the supervision of volunteers, the solicitation of funding, and the coordination of the student's legal work. The legal services coordinators carried out client intake on Wednesday evenings.

Laura Damecour, Sarah Marinier-Doucet and Melissa Zampini were the three summer students.

Board of Directors

In December 2012, Me Geeta Narang, Me Stéphanie Bachand and Me Sara Gauthier joined the Board of Directors. In March 2013, Me Karen Kear-Jodoin was named a judge at the Superior Court of Quebec and therefore had to step down from her role on the Board of Directors of the Clinic. Professor Alana Klein took over the role of President of the Board of Directors from Me Irving in June 2013. Me Michèle Moreau also joined the Board of Directors in June.

Volunteers

In addition to the work of students, the Mile End Legal Clinic has 30 other volunteers, 25 of which are lawyers.

Activities

Participation in events that further the mission of the organization

In November 2012, Me Paquin was the moderator of a round table discussion on access to justice at the McGill University Faculty of Law's public interest and social justice career day. That same month, she participated in the 4th annual national conference on *pro bono* in Montréal titled "Pro Access- Pro Justice- Pro Bono", as well as a forum of many of the legal clinics in Quebec.

Finally, in March 2013, Me Paquin spoke with students at a "5 à 7" event organized by the Women's Caucus of McGill.

Regroupement des organismes communautaires juridiques

The Mile End Legal clinic is part of the *Regroupement des organismes communautaires juridiques* formed at the end of the legal clinic forum. The members of this informal group have decided to join together the efforts of their organizations towards the government regarding the Access to Justice Fund, which was established by the Minister of Justice to support community organizations working towards justice for all. Me Paquin has played an active role in the work of the group and, with several other members of the group, has met with representatives of political parties, the Deputy Minister of Justice and the members of the Advisory Committee of the Access to Justice Fund.

Legal workshops for tenants in Plateau-Mont-Royal

Thanks to our collaboration with the Plateau Mont-Royal borough, the Mile End Legal Clinic held 16 workshops on housing law between December 2012 and March 2013. These workshops were offered by lawyers who specialize in this area.

Student Activities

Of their own initiative, the students of the Clinic organized a dance party fundraiser on January 17, 2013. The event was a resounding success and raised several thousand dollars for the Clinic.

Summer Services

The Mile End Legal Clinic was pleased to receive funding to hire three summer stu-

dents for a period of nine weeks each from a federal government program which promotes summer employment. These three grants allowed the Mile End Legal Clinic to continue providing individual consultations from May 1, 2013 to July 10, 2013 as well as to prepare an annual newsletter.

5 à 7- September 10, 2013

The Mile End Legal Clinic dedicated its annual 5 à 7 to the memory of Me Colin Irving. Several people spoke in Me Irving's honour, including Me Narang, Me Paquin, Me David Laflamme, who is a former student at the clinic, Me Siemmatycki, who is involved with the Tyndale Clinic, and a former client who knew Me Irving. The participation of the legal community is extremely important to the Clinic; and it was at this event that the Clinic team learned of the intention of IRVING MITCHELL KALICHMAN to provide it with financial support for a period of five years.

Partnerships

It is essential to underline the exceptional financial support of Me Colin Irving as well as that of the ECHO Foundation and the Bannerman Foundation. In September 2012, the Mile End Legal Clinic also received support from the Caisse Desjardins Versants-du-mont-Royal.

On September 10, 2013, at the 5 à 7, Me Doug Mitchell announced the commitment of the firm IRVING MITCHELL KALICHMAN to donate \$50 000 over a period of five year (\$10 000 per year) to support the activities of the Clinic. This gift was made in honour of Me Irving's tireless efforts in the promotion of access to justice and his dedication to the Clinic.

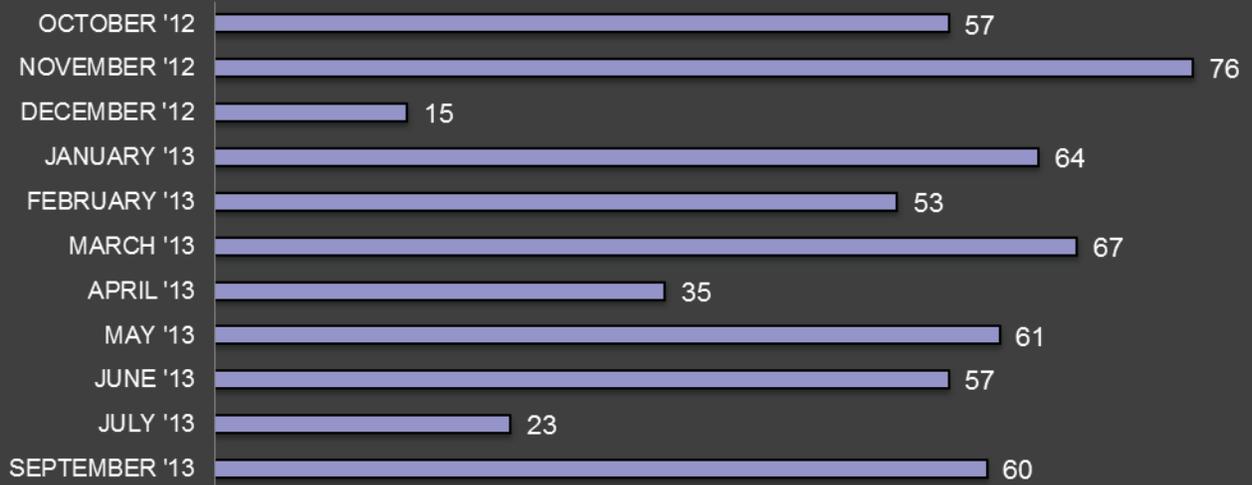
The Mile End Legal Clinic is also pleased to have received, for the first time, a contribution of \$5000 from the Minister of Justice.

Right at the end of the 2012-2013 fiscal year, the Mile End Legal Clinic received a grant from the Law Foundation of Ontario for several specific projects. This grant of several thousand dollars will allow the Clinic to upgrade its website, hire a part time administrative assistant for a period of two years, manage the Tyndale Clinic for a period of two years, obtain an independent legal opinion on improving the practices of the Clinic, and improve the system for managing clients' data.

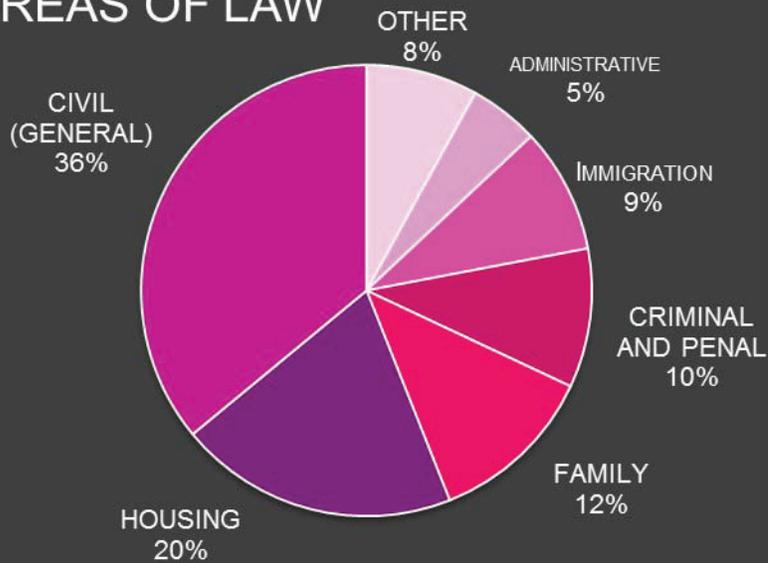
Statistics

From October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013, the Clinic served 568 people. Please see the attached figures for more information.

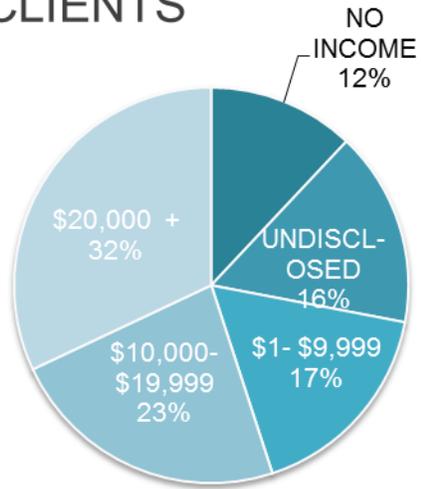
NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS PER MONTH



AREAS OF LAW



INCOME OF OUR CLIENTS



Financial Statements

Mile End Legal Clinic/Clinique Juridique du Mile End Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended September 30, 2013

	2013	2012
Revenues		
Donations	\$86,796	\$60,969
Grants		
Canada Summer Jobs	11,011	-
Legal workshops	1,789	5,364
Self-financing activities	-	1,198
Membership fees	-	55
Miscellaneous	-	5
	<u>99,596</u>	<u>67,591</u>
Expenses		
Salaries		
Regular	32,630	36,399
Canada Summer Jobs	11,011	-
Fringe Benefits	4,603	3,341
Rent	10,721	10,951
Professional and accounting fees	9,719	4,271
Office and general	1,518	890
Telecommunications and web site	1,372	630
Educational newsletter	1,159	1,344
Bank charges	218	4
Taxes and permits	33	32
Cost of events	-	820
Repairs and maintenance	-	784
Advertising and promotion	-	200
Miscellaneous	-	156
	<u>72,984</u>	<u>59,822</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses	26,612	7,769
Net assets, beginning of year	18,250	10,481
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$44,862</u>	<u>\$18,250</u>

**Mile End Legal Clinic/Clinique Juridique du Mile End
Statement of Financial Position
At September 30, 2013**

	<u>Sept 30,</u> <u>2013</u>	<u>Sept 30,</u> <u>2012</u>	<u>Oct 1,</u> <u>2011</u>
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash	\$ 50,071	\$25,824	\$11,903
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	523	1,606	2,822
	<u>\$50,594</u>	<u>\$27,430</u>	<u>\$14,725</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued charges (Note 5)	\$5,732	\$2,487	\$3,244
Deferred revenues	-	6,693	1,000
	<u>5,732</u>	<u>9,180</u>	<u>4,244</u>
Net Assets			
Unrestricted	44,862	18,250	10,481
	<u>44,862</u>	<u>18,250</u>	<u>10,481</u>
	<u>\$50,594</u>	<u>\$27,430</u>	<u>\$14,725</u>

Contractual Obligation (Note 7)

*The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

Note 4

Accounts receivable

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Other receivables	\$ -	\$ 153
Sales tax receivable	523	1,453
	<u>\$ 523</u>	<u>\$ 1,606</u>

Note 5

Accounts payable and accrued charges

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Accrued charges	\$2,156	\$2,487
Payroll deductions at source	3,576	-
	<u>\$5,732</u>	<u>\$2,487</u>

Note 7

The organization leases an office under a lease expiring on February 28, 2014. The minimum lease payments for 2014 under this lease total \$4836.