New Stephanie Chipeur Accessibility Research Fund supports Nunavut project on access to justice for people with disabilities

By Priscilla Ferrazzi, University of Alberta

While the 2012 Canadian Survey on Disability reported that 6.9 percent of non-institutionalized people in Nunavut over age 15 live with a disability, little is known about whether and how this group encounters barriers that limit access to justice. Access to justice is considered a cornerstone of inclusion, equality and social justice in Canada and is essential to the rule of law.

The Law Society of Nunavut has flagged the importance of considering access to justice needs of people with disabilities in the territory, and more generally, access to justice and its relationship to the enjoyment of other human rights has in recent years been in the forefront of the Canadian legal landscape (2013 Action Committee on *Access to Civil & Family Justice: Roadmap for Change* report; the 2013 Canadian Bar Association's *Reaching Equal Justice Report*).

The Stephanie Chipeur Research Accessibility Fund is supporting a literature review by a University of Alberta research team lead by Priscilla Ferrazzi that will identify barriers to access to justice affecting people with disabilities in Nunavut. The results will be shared and discussed with key stakeholders including the Law Society of Nunavut, the Government of Nunavut and the Nunavummi Disabilities Makinnasuaqtiit Society. The intent is to use the results of the literature review to generate consensus on a direction for a larger, related research initiative among justice, health and disability organizations in Nunavut.

Pricilla Ferrazzi

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Congratulations to the newly elected CBA Nunavut Branch Executive!

On Saturday October 22, 2016, the CBA Nunavut Branch held its AGM and elected its 2016-17 Executive:

President - Kathryn Kellough

Vice-President - Sarah Bailey

Secretary - Tejas Madhur

Treasurer - Matt Binkle

Member-at-large - Stephen Mansell

We look forward to identifying common areas of interest for meaningful collaborations that will benefit both the CBA and the LSN membership.

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We wish to recognize the good work and efforts made by the Foundation to meet its statutory mandate. We invite our members to take notice of the Foundation's Annual Reports (http://lawsociety.nu.ca/law-foundation-annual-reports/)

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