



Access to Legal Knowledge: *Update*

February 2015 - Pancake breakfast celebrates official launch of Access to Knowledge Initiative

The Law Society of Nunavut (LSN), in partnership with Maliiganik Tukisiiniakvik (MT), officially launched the Access to Knowledge campaign on February 7th, 2015 with a pancake breakfast for the community. A few years in the making, this is the first phase in the much larger Access to Justice Initiative which will be taking place territory wide in the upcoming years.



Held at the Francophone centre, the pancake breakfast gave community members an opportunity to engage with members of the legal community in an informal setting. It was an opportunity to celebrate this first step in making services more accessible and relatable for all citizens of Iqaluit, as well as a chance for people to ask questions and learn more about the next steps of this initiative. Lawyers from MT, in addition to LSN staff, attended the event with enthusiasm, eager to share this project with those around them and welcome questions anyone might have.



MT lawyers Mark Christie and Sue Charlesworth busy at the stove while articling student Miatta Gorvie (far left) with public representative Jessica Black look on.

The Access to Knowledge Initiative is the first phase in a larger project, which hopes to make the justice system more accessible for everyone – educating people on their rights, working with schools to teach about the legal system, helping people in times of crisis, offering routine legal services for those in need. In order for this to happen, it is essential for information to not only be readily available for community members, but between service providers as well. It is also essential for individuals to begin to get to know each other in a personal setting such as the Pancake breakfast. In order for this to happen, it is essential for information to not only be readily available for community members, but between service providers as well.

It is also essential for individuals to begin to get to know each other in a personal setting such as the Pancake breakfast. Knowing what services are available and where you can turn for help is an important first step, and the Access to Knowledge Initiative, and those involved, hope to offer the support needed in order for people to understand their rights.

The successful launch of this education campaign at the pancake breakfast promises good things for the future of this Initiative. Look for future events that are in the works for further outreach and educating community members on their rights. We look forward to extending the reach of this project to all communities in the territory.