

Media Advisory Avis aux médias

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Notice of events and potential interview subjects:

SYMPOSIUM on HIV, LAW and HUMAN RIGHTS Toronto, June 11–12, 2010

The Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network is holding its 2nd Annual Symposium on HIV, Law and Human Rights in Toronto on June 11–12. Over 150 policy-makers, legal professionals, health researchers, activists and people living with or vulnerable to HIV/AIDS will be in attendance. Speakers and participants will address a number of controversial topics on AIDS and human rights — see information below and at www.aidslaw.ca/symposium.

During the Symposium, the Legal Network is also hosting two events with international guests, including one of the world's foremost leaders in the fight against AIDS, **Dr. Michel Kazatchkine**, **Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS**, **Tuberculosis and Malaria**.

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Panel and media briefing: "Canada, the G8 and Global Health"

When: Friday, June 11, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Where: Munk Centre, University of Toronto (Campbell Conference Facility, 1 Devonshire

Place)

Featuring: Dr. Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Dr. Kazatchkine will address the tremendous progress made in scaling up the global response to AIDS, TB and malaria, and the remaining urgent need for services and medicines. Dr. Kazatchkine has spent the past 25 years fighting AIDS as a leading physician, researcher, administrator, advocate, policy-maker and diplomat. Further background on Dr. Kazatchkine: http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/secretariat/director/.

Other Speakers:

Two African grandmothers and activists, **Siphiwe Hlope** (of Swaziland Positive Living) and **"Mama" Darlina Tyawana** (from the Alliance for Children's Entitlement to Social Security and the Treatment Action Campaign in South Africa), will provide personal testimony on how global efforts to address disease have a profound and beneficial impact on their lives and their families and communities.

Author, academic, columnist and commentator **Gerry Caplan** has served as a senior expert advisor to UNICEF and the World Health Organization on issues related to Africa and children's health, and is well-acquainted with the NGO development sector, having served as a former Director of CUSO's volunteer program in Nigeria, among numerous other roles. He was the founder of "Remembering Rwanda: The Rwanda Genocide 10th Anniversary Memorial Project." Dr. Caplan will add commentary regarding commitments made by Canada and the G8 countries on development and health issues to the developing world.

Note: The above event is jointly sponsored with the Comparative Program on Health and Society and the Global Health Diplomacy Unit at University of Toronto.

Public lecture and reception: "Redoubling our efforts on AIDS and human rights"

When: Friday, June 11, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., free public admission

Where: Grand Banking Hall, 1 King St. West

Keynote address by **Dr. Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria** on the role of human rights advocacy in overcoming the global AIDS crisis.

The evening will also honour the Canadian recipient of the **2010 Award for Action on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights**, presented jointly by the Legal Network and Human Rights Watch.

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2nd Annual Symposium on HIV, Law and Human Rights

When: Friday, June 11 – Saturday, June 12

Where: Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, 475 Yonge St.

Friday, June 11, 2010

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (break from 10:10 to 10:30)

Criminalization of HIV Non-disclosure: New Developments and Community Responses

- Dr. Barry Adam, University of Windsor and Ontario HIV Treatment Network
- Glenn Betteridge, Ontario Working Group on Criminal Law and HIV Exposure
- Stéphanie Claivaz-Loranger, Coalition des organismes communautaires québécois de lutte contre le sida (COCQ-sida)
- Dr. Eric Mykhalovksiy, York University
- Ryan Peck, HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic (Ontario)
- Lisa Power, Terrence Higgins Trust (U.K.)
- Shannon Thomas Ryan, Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention and African and Caribbean Council on HIV in Ontario

1:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Overcoming Exclusion: Current Research and Legal Issues in Canadian Immigration Policy for People with HIV

- John Norquay, HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic (Ontario)
- Michael Battista, Jordan Battista LLP
- Laura M. Bisaillon, Doctoral candidate, University of Ottawa
- André Ceranto, Committee for Accessible AIDS Treatment (CAAT)
- Amutha Samgam, Asian Community AIDS Services

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Our Bodies Our Health: A More Comprehensive Understanding of Maternal Health and HIV

- Prof. Rebecca Cook, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto
- Shari Margolese, Women's College Research Institute
- Khatundi Masinde, Fife House
- Suzannah Phillips, Center for Reproductive Rights (U.S.A.)

Saturday, June 12, 2010

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Annual General Meeting of the Legal Network

11:20 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

HIV, Housing and Human Rights

Closing plenary address by:

Michael Shapcott, Director of Community Engagement for the Wellesley Institute Michael is recognized nationally and internationally as an authoritative advocate on housing and housing rights, poverty, social exclusion, urban health and health equity. He has worked on housing rights issues with the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva and, among other roles, he co-chairs Canada's National Housing and Homelessness Network. Michael is co-author, with the Hon. Jack Layton, Member of Parliament, of *Homelessness: The Making and Unmaking of a Crisis.*

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About the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network

Since 1992, the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network (www.aidslaw.ca) has been promoting the human rights of people living with and vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, in Canada and internationally, through research, legal and policy analysis, education, and community mobilization. The Legal Network is Canada's leading advocacy organization working on the legal and human rights issues raised by HIV/AIDS.

For more information and to arrange interviews:

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