

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 27, 2007

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OUR VISION



We seek a community that deals with justice issues in an assertive, constructive and respectful way.

A community that provides support and guidance to its citizens when they need to interact with the justice system.

A community involved in developing and implementing justice initiatives and alternatives, which are culturally based, and community controlled.

A community where our youth have the opportunities and abilities to deal with the justice issues affecting them.

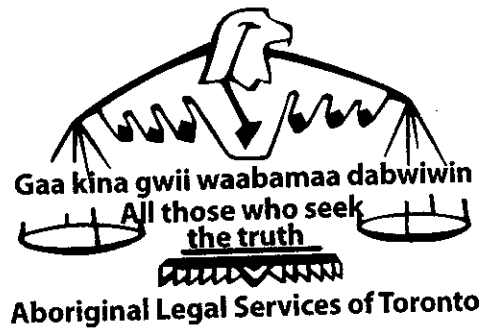
A community where its citizens have minimum exposure to the existing legal system and are less vulnerable to acts of aggression, of racism and ignorance of who we are.

A community that resolves its conflicts internally with minimum need for outside involvement.

A community that promotes a positive environment related to justice issues – an environment based on mutual understandings with no-aboriginal groups / services such as schools, police and other enforcement agencies.

A community where its agencies work together to ensure justice and related services and issues are provided in a holistic and integrated way.

A community where its citizens have the confidence and self-esteem to deal with issues in a constructive way.



MISSION

To strengthen the capacity of the Aboriginal community and its citizens to deal with justice issues and provide Aboriginal controlled and culturally based justice alternatives.

PRINCIPLES / BELIEFS

Aboriginal individuals require equitable treatment in the justice system, access to the legal and related resources within the justice system as well as an understanding of the system and their options.

The support required includes advocacy in all areas of the law as well as alternatives which can break the cycle of recidivism and dependency which is all too prevalent. These alternatives are more effective when they are community controlled and are based on the traditional cultural norms and values of the Aboriginal community.

It is necessary to re-introduce community controlled and culturally based justice alternatives by ensuring community involvement in the process and by integrating justice related services with complementary programs within the Aboriginal community.

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO



CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Derek Chum

Rose Cameron

Roberta Wraith

Margaret Froh

Carol Montagnes

Marisha Roman

Anne Solomon

Maggie Went

Steve Chabbert

The ALST staff would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our respect and appreciation for the Board members as well as to recognize the hard work they do for ALST and the Community.



CURRENT ALST STAFF

Bela McPhersonFamily Court Worker
Charlene TehkummahCommunity Legal Worker
Christina NielsenLegal Receptionist
Colette McCombsYO Community Council Caseworker
Dave NoganoshChild Welfare Comm. Council Caseworker
Della LafontaineExecutive Assistant
Jackie EsmondeStaff Lawyer
Joanna WemigwansCourtworker Old City Hall
Johl RinguetteGladue Aftercare Worker
John StevensGladue Caseworker
Jonathan RudinProgram Director
Judy SackaneyYouth Courtworker
Juliann Wemigwans Legal Secretary
Kathy NeeganYouth Community Council Caseworker
Kika MowryHamilton Area Gladue Caseworker
Kimberly Murray Executive Director
King LaurinMembership Clerk
Kiran MathurTenant Rights Advocate
Kris PheasantGladue Caseworker
Lori Mishibinijima.....Articling Student
Lee Miller Book Keeper
Mandy EasonStaff Lawyer
Patrick Nadjiwon Community Council Caseworker
Rozella Johnston Community Council Caseworker
Sheila Cuthbertson Staff Lawyer
Shelly Vanderhoef Criminal Court Worker
Sue MacLennan Perimeter Criminal Court Worker
Tanya Lafontaine T.A.S.S.A Coordinator
Tarah AkiwenzieGladue Liaison Worker

“The natural Law will prevail regardless of man-made laws, tribunals and governments.”

-Traditional Circle of Elders, NAVAJO-HOPI Joint Use Area

The Great Spirit Made Laws by which Man needs to live. These laws are just and are about living in harmony. Man has passed many laws that say it is okay to do things. Many of these man-made laws are out of harmony with the laws of the Great Spirit. These man-made laws will cause trouble for the human being if they are out of harmony with the laws of the Creator.

Great Spirit, teach me Your Laws.

WELCOME TO NEW & RETURNING COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michelle Baptiste

Shannon Bernard

Teresa Skilling

Rob Christie

Ayn Cooney

Mary-Ann Shoefly-Davies

Jacquie Dale

Darryl Enosse

Shannon Simpson

Peter Foote

Larry Frost

Valerie John

Francis Hobert

Lorraine Hughes

Wylie Stonefish

Barbara Hurford

Mike Jacko

Shylo Summers

Alex Jacobs

Ruth Koleszar-Green

Scott Sunday

Bonita Lawrence

Loretta Loon

Steve Teckens

Christine Luza

Todd Solomon

Rene Timlock

Peter Menzies

Roxanne Miller

Pat Turner

Wendy Patterson

Victoria Pezzo

Marilyn Vincent

Frances Sanderson

Betty-Lou Scholey

Angela Elliott

"The natural Law will prevail regardless of man-made laws, tribunals and governments."

-Traditional Circle of Elders, NAVAJO-HOPJ Joint Use Area

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Michele Baptiste

Shannon Bernard

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Rob Christie

Ayn Cooney

Mary-Ann Shoefly-Devries

Jacque Dale

Darryl Enosse

Shannon Simpson

Peter Foote

Larry Frost

Valerie John

Francis Hebert

Lorraine Hughes

Wylie Stonefish

Barbara Hurford

Mike Jacko

Skylo Summers

Alex Jacobs

Ruth Kobeszar-Green

Scott Sunday

Bonita Lawrence

Loretta Loon

Steve Teekens

Christine Luza

Todd Solomon

Rene Timbeck

Peter Menzies

Roxanne Miller

Pat Turner

Wendy Patterson

Victoria Pezzo

Marilyn Vincent

Frances Sanderson

Betty-Lou Scholey

Angela Elliott

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto

Gaa kina gwii waabamaa dabwiwin
“ All those who seek the truth “

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, November 27, 2007

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Max Faille of Gowlings Lafleur Henderson
Re: Employment Tax Exemption
4. Approval of Minutes - 2006 Annual General Meeting
5. Business Arising from Minutes
6. President's Report
7. Auditor's Reports and Financial Statements
8. Appointment of the Auditor
9. Executive Director's Report
10. Report of the Nominating Committee
11. Election of the Board of Directors
12. New or Other Business
13. Adjournment
14. Closing



**Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto
Annual General
November 1, 2006**

Marisha Roman, Vice-President, chaired the meeting.

Minutes: Maggie Wente

1. Opening Thanksgiving

The Opening was performed by Elder Vera Martin.

The attendees at the meeting introduced themselves.

2. Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: To adopt the agenda

Moved: Carol Montagnes

Second Anne Solomon

Consensus

3. Approval of minutes from 2005 AGM

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the AGM October 19, 2005

Moved: Carol Montagnes

Second: Rose Cameron

Consensus

4. Business Arising from minutes

There was no business arising.

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as amended

Consensus

5. President's Report

Marisha Roman presented the president's report.

MOTION: To accept the President's report

Moved: Maggie Wente

Second: Margaret Froh

Consensus

6. Auditor's Report and Presentation

Steve Silverberg of Silverberg Fuss LLP presented the audited financial statements for ALST – Legal Clinic.

MOTION: To Accept the Audited Financial Statements of ALST – Legal Clinic as at March 31, 2006

Moved By: Margaret Froh

Seconded: Anne Solomon

Consensus

Steve Silverberg presented the audited financial statements for ALST Inc.

MOTION: to accept the Audited Financial Statements for ALST Inc as at March 31, 2006.

Moved: Carol Montagnes

Seconde: Rose Cameron

Consensus

7. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Kimberly Murray presented the Executive Director's report

MOTION to accept the Executive Director's report as presented

Moved: Anne Solomon

Seconded: Margaret Froh

Consensus

8. Report of the Nominating Committee

9. Election of the Board of Directors

Jonathan Rudin conducted the election of the Board Directors

The new Board of Directors – Steve Chabbert, Marisha Roman, Anne Solomon, Roberta Wraith

Steve Chabbert and Roberta Wraith introduced themselves to the attendees of the meeting.

7. Appointment of Auditor

8. Agenda is adjusted to reflect that we are now at Item 10 – appointment of the auditor.

Marisha thanks Steve Silverberg for their services to ALST.

MOTION to approve to appoint Hilborn Ellis Grant as the auditor of ALST Inc and ALST – Legal Clinic

Moved: Anne Solomon

Seconded: Maggie Wentz

Carried

11. New or other business

There was a call for new or upcoming business from the floor.

→ Charlene Tekummah stated that there is a booth at the Rogers Centre Toronto Aboriginal Festival to assist with the booth.

→ Louis Riel Day – November 16 2006 – invitations to Louis Riel Day

12. Closing Remarks by Vera Martin

13. Adjournment

Consensus to adjourn the meeting

President's Report

November 2007

The past year since our last Annual General Meeting (AGM) has once again been a very active one for Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto (ALST). The programs and services delivered by ALST to the Aboriginal community continue to expand and grow along with our staff.

ALST continues to deliver an innovative range of programs and services promoting access to justice for Aboriginal people in Toronto. It also remains active in law reform and advocacy programs, including our involvement in the various inquiries across Northern Ontario and most recently in British Columbia. Through these activities we continue to advance the interests of urban Aboriginal people throughout Canada. Our agency also continues to play a key role in delivering much needed services within our Community, together with a host of other outstanding Aboriginal community service agencies in the Toronto area.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of ALST, I would like to extend our appreciation to all those who contribute to the success of ALST.

We are very grateful to our funders including Legal Aid Ontario, the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario, the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Department of Justice Canada, and Miiziwe Biik Aboriginal Employment & Training. Without the support of these funders we would not be able to offer the broad range of services that we do today. We are thankful for the vision of these institutions in recognizing the needs of the Aboriginal community, and in recognizing the unique skills and ability of ALST in serving them.

The board of directors would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of the volunteers who sit on our Community Council and Youth Council, and those who work in support of our fundraising activities. We are very grateful for the many contributions that our volunteers make to our organization.

Finally, we acknowledge and give thanks for the people that really make things happen at ALST: the staff. We are always grateful for the exceptional dedication and hard work of our Executive Director, Kimberly Murray; our Program Director – Jonathan Rudin; and all the staff at ALST. The commitment to community demonstrated by each and every ALST staff member and volunteer who support our programs and services make ALST the exceptional agency it is today.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of my fellow directors on the board, another group of dedicated volunteers that provide important support to the management and staff of ALST.

It has been my honour and privilege to serve as President of this organization over the past year, and to work with this excellent Board and Staff. Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to serve.

Miigwetch

Derek Chum

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP

Chartered Accountants

JOHN P. HILBORN
P. DOUGLAS HOLT
CARMELO LINARDI

GARY W. WEDDEL
I. BLAIR MacKENZIE
KEN HYNES

MARION S. MacDONALD
LISA J. SAUNDERS

401 Bay Street, Suite 3100, P.O. Box 49
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2Y4
Telephone: 416-364-1359 Fax: 416-364-9503

October 30, 2007

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

The Board of Directors
Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic
415 Yonge Street, Suite 803
Toronto, Ontario
M5B 2E7

re: Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto – Legal Clinic

Dear Board Members:

The objective of an audit is to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of any material misstatement and it is not designed to identify matters that may be of interest to management in discharging its responsibilities. Accordingly an audit would not usually identify all such matters.

During the course of our audit of the financial statements of Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic for the year ended March 31, 2007, we did not encounter any significant matters, which we believe should be brought to your attention.

This communication is prepared solely for the information of the Board of Directors and is not intended for any other purposes. We accept no responsibility to a third party who uses this communication.

We would like to express our appreciation for the cooperation and assistance, which we received during the course of our audit from the team at Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic.

We shall be pleased to discuss with you further, any matters mentioned in this report at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP

P.D.Holt/jl

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO - LEGAL CLINIC
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2007

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP
Chartered Accountants
Toronto, Ontario



Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP
Chartered Accountants

Auditors' Report

To the Board of Directors of
Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic

We have audited the statement of financial position of **Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic** as at March 31, 2007 and the statement of operations and funds balance for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the clinic's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the clinic as at March 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP

Toronto, Ontario
July 13, 2007

Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO - LEGAL CLINIC

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2007

	General Fund	Disbursements Fund	Legal Fund	Capital Fund	Challenges Fund	Court Fund	Foundation Fund	Law Fund	Non LAO Fund	2007 Total	2006 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Assets											
Current Assets											
Cash and short-term investments	-	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,490	7,990	27,824
Accounts receivable	4,957	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,957	66,047
GST receivable	7,275	192	-	-	-	-	-	-	118	7,585	3,977
Due from Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.	27,299	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,299	-
Prepaid expenses	2,966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,966	14,311
	42,497	692	-	6,679	-	-	-	-	7,608	50,797	112,159
Capital assets (note 3)	-	-	-	6,679	-	-	-	-	-	6,679	12,588
Total assets	42,497	692	-	6,679	-	-	-	-	7,608	57,476	124,747
Liabilities											
Current Liabilities											
Bank indebtedness	20,787	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,787	-
Accounts payable	13,262	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,262	28,622
Inter-fund payable (receivable)	15,992	-	-	-	-	-	(15,992)	-	-	-	-
	50,041	-	-	-	-	-	(15,992)	-	-	34,049	28,622
Funds Balance (deficit)	(7,544)	692	-	6,679	-	-	15,992	-	7,608	23,427	96,125
Total liabilities and funds balance	42,497	692	-	6,679	-	-	-	-	7,608	57,476	124,747

Approved by:

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO - LEGAL CLINIC

Statement of Operations and Funds Balance

Year ended March 31, 2007

	General Fund	Legal Disbursements Fund	Capital Fund	Court Challenges Fund	Law Foundation Fund	Non LAO Fund	2007 Total	2006 Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenues								
Legal Aid Ontario		4,926					509,222	483,249
- direct receipts	504,296						23,773	33,529
- indirect receipts (note 4)	23,773						25,000	-
Law Foundation of Ontario					25,000		1,129	14,073
Recovered from clients		1,129					-	109,066
Miziwe Biik				2,337		4,082	6,421	66,000
Other income	2			2,337		4,082	565,545	705,917
	<u>528,071</u>	<u>6,055</u>		<u>2,337</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>4,082</u>		
Expenses								
Salaries	346,412				8,358		354,770	455,220
Benefits	39,391				650		40,041	72,153
Professional dues	3,816						3,816	4,527
Travel	13,182						13,182	4,938
Communications	6,028						6,028	5,173
Accommodations	59,748						59,748	64,486
Equipment	4,618						4,618	3,965
Library	14,657						14,657	13,858
Supplies and services	15,635						15,635	30,166
Audit fees	5,386						5,386	2,500
Indirect payments (note 4)	23,773						23,773	15,217
Legal disbursements		13,450					13,450	13,235
Project expenses						12,433	12,433	-
Amortization							5,908	9,728
	<u>532,646</u>	<u>13,450</u>	<u>5,908</u>		<u>9,008</u>	<u>12,433</u>	<u>573,445</u>	<u>695,166</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses (expenses over revenues)	(4,575)	(7,395)	(5,908)	2,337	15,992	(8,351)	(7,900)	10,751
Funds transferred to Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.				(38,028)		(27,538)	(65,566)	-
Funds transferred to general fund	12,639			(4,139)		(8,500)	-	-
Funds balance (deficit), beginning of year	(15,608)	8,087	12,587	39,830		51,997	96,893	85,374
Funds balance (deficit), end of year	<u>(7,544)</u>	<u>692</u>	<u>6,679</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,992</u>	<u>7,608</u>	<u>23,427</u>	<u>96,125</u>

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO - LEGAL CLINIC

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2007

1. Basis of Presentation

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto is a local organization operating as a legal aid clinic. The statements pertain to funds received from Legal Aid Ontario and not to other activities unless otherwise noted.

These financial statements are prepared using the accrual method with capital assets being recorded as assets and amortized over their useful lives.

2. Significant Accounting Policies and General

a) Fund accounting

These financial statements are prepared following the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. All the funds described below, except as noted, are restricted as to use by various agreements between the clinic and Legal Aid Ontario and title to the clinic assets vests with the funder.

i) General Fund

These funds are used to provide a range of legal and paralegal services, including information, advice and representation, to low-income individuals and families.

ii) Legal Disbursements Fund

These funds are used to provide for certain direct expenses incurred in representing clinic clients in legal proceedings.

iii) Capital Fund

This fund holds the capital assets of the clinic that have been funded by Legal Aid Ontario.

iv) Court Challenges Fund

These funds were received from the Court Challenges Program of Canada to fund specific court challenges.

v) Law Foundation Fund

These funds are received from the Law Society of Ontario to fund the Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship.

vi) Non LAO Fund

These funds are received from non LAO sources and are used to fund expenditures as approved by the board of directors.

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO - LEGAL CLINIC
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

March 31, 2007

2. **Significant Accounting Policies and General (continued)**

b) **Management estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

c) **Financial instruments**

The carrying amount of the organization's financial instruments, consisting of cash and short-term investments, accounts receivable, GST receivable and accounts payable approximate their fair value unless otherwise noted.

d) **Capital assets**

Capital assets are recorded at cost. The capital assets are being amortized on a straight-line basis as follows:

Leasehold improvements	- 5 years
Computer equipment	- 3 years
Office equipment	- 5 years

3. **Capital Assets**

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2007 Net	2006 Net
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Leasehold improvements	73,835	73,835	-	-
Computer equipment	83,351	76,672	6,679	12,588
Office equipment	28,945	28,945	-	-
	<u>186,131</u>	<u>179,452</u>	<u>6,679</u>	<u>12,588</u>

4. **Indirect Payments**

Legal Aid Ontario administers and makes payments on behalf of the clinic for the following expenditures:

General Fund

Pension and group insurance	\$ 17,877
Supplies and services	3,422
Travel and communications	625
Library	<u>1,849</u>
	<u>\$ 23,773</u>

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO - LEGAL CLINIC

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

March 31, 2007

5. Lease Commitments

The clinic is committed to lease its premises until October, 2010. Minimum lease payments are as follows:

2008	\$	61,350
2009		61,350
2010		<u>35,787</u>
	\$	<u>158,487</u>

6. Statement of Cash Flows

A statement of cash flows has not been presented because the information it would provide is readily apparent from the financial statements presented.

7. Comparative figures

Financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2006, were audited by another firm of chartered accountants.

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified from those previously presented to conform to the presentation of the 2007 financial statements.

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP

Chartered Accountants

JOHN P. HILBORN GARY W. WEDDEL
P. DOUGLAS HOLT I. BLAIR MacKENZIE
CARMELO LINARDI KEN HYNES

MARION S. MacDONALD
LISA J. SAUNDERS

401 Bay Street, Suite 3100, P.O. Box 49
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2Y4
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PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

October 30, 2007

The Board of Directors
Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.
415 Yonge Street, Suite 803
Toronto, Ontario
M5B 2E7

re: Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.

Dear Board Members:

The objective of an audit is to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of any material misstatement and it is not designed to identify matters that may be of interest to management in discharging its responsibilities. Accordingly an audit would not usually identify all such matters.

During the course of our audit of the financial statements of Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc. for the year ended March 31, 2007, we did not encounter any significant matters, which we believe should be brought to your attention.

This communication is prepared solely for the information of the Board of Directors and is not intended for any other purposes. We accept no responsibility to a third party who uses this communication.

We would like to express our appreciation for the cooperation and assistance, which we received during the course of our audit from the team at Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.

We shall be pleased to discuss with you further, any matters mentioned in this report at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP

P.D.Holt/jl

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2007

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP
Chartered Accountants
Toronto, Ontario



Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP
Chartered Accountants

Auditors' Report

To the Directors of
Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.

We have audited the statement of financial position of **Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc.** as at March 31, 2007 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at March 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Hilborn Ellis Grant LLP

Toronto, Ontario
July 13, 2007

Chartered Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Statement of Financial Position

March 31	2007 \$	2006 \$
ASSETS		
Current assets	197,851	200,435
Cash	84,603	60,611
Accounts receivable	10,153	4,463
Prepaid expenses		
	<u>292,607</u>	<u>265,509</u>
Capital assets (note 3)	56,481	30,531
	<u>349,088</u>	<u>296,040</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities	22,432	60,212
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	44,400	111,328
Deferred contributions (note 4)	27,299	-
Due to Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic		
	<u>94,131</u>	<u>171,540</u>
SURPLUS	<u>254,957</u>	<u>124,500</u>
	<u>349,088</u>	<u>296,040</u>

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Members

Members

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31	2007 \$	2006 \$
Revenues		
Court Challenges Program Canada	13,521	-
Department of Justice	74,428	79,898
Department of Justice Conference income	-	35,440
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada	63,042	-
Legal Aid Ontario	167,000	167,000
Ministry of the Attorney General	572,402	185,140
Ministry of Children and Youth Services	133,000	119,500
Miziwe Biik, Aboriginal Employment and Training	225,466	-
Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres	-	259,277
Ontario Secretariat for Aboriginal Affairs	50,000	-
Donations and other income	81,002	78,025
Interest income	45	492
	<u>1,379,906</u>	<u>924,772</u>
Expenses		
Accommodation	74,522	55,456
Amortization	20,315	5,535
Fundraising	10,820	10,457
Insurance	7,137	4,606
Materials and supplies	46,623	34,090
Office and general	88,713	61,872
Professional fees	25,943	15,757
Project expenses	31,095	21,046
Salaries and related benefits	964,088	619,328
Staff training	6,257	13,730
Telephone and utilities	25,461	20,701
Travel	14,041	16,308
	<u>1,315,015</u>	<u>878,886</u>
Excess of revenues over expenses for year	<u>64,891</u>	<u>45,886</u>

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31	2007 \$	2006 \$
Surplus, beginning of year	124,500	78,614
Excess of revenues over expenses for year	64,891	45,886
Funds transferred from Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic	65,566	-
Surplus, end of year	<u>254,957</u>	<u>124,500</u>

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31	2007 \$	2006 \$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Excess of revenues over expenses for year	64,891	45,886
Item not affecting cash		
Amortization	20,315	5,535
	<u>85,206</u>	<u>51,421</u>
Change in non-cash working capital items		
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable	(23,992)	14,179
Increase in prepaid expenses	(5,690)	(1,417)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(37,781)	23,492
Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions	(66,928)	69,578
Increase in due to Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic	54,838	-
	<u>5,653</u>	<u>157,253</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of capital assets	(46,265)	(20,070)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Funds transferred from Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto - Legal Clinic	38,028	-
Increase (decrease) in cash	(2,584)	137,183
Cash, beginning of year	200,435	63,252
Cash, end of year	<u>197,851</u>	<u>200,435</u>
Supplementary Disclosure of Cash Flow Information		
	2007 \$	2006 \$
Interest paid	-	-

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2007

1. **Nature of operations**

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto Inc. is incorporated without share capital under the laws of the Province of Ontario. The corporation was formed to provide court worker services assisting Aboriginal people to deal with the criminal, family and young offender courts in Toronto. It also provides Alternative Justice Programs as an alternative to the court systems.

The corporation qualifies as a not-for-profit organization incorporated under the Income Tax Act and is exempt from corporate income tax.

2. **Significant accounting policies**

(a) **Revenue recognition**

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

(b) **Management estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(c) **Capital assets**

Capital assets are recorded at cost and are being amortized over their estimated useful lives on the following basis. The annual amortization rates and methods are as follows:

Furniture and fixtures	20% declining balance
Computer equipment	30% declining balance

(d) **Financial instruments**

The carrying amount of the organization's financial instruments, consisting of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, approximate their fair value unless otherwise noted.

It is management's opinion that, unless otherwise noted, the organization is not exposed to significant interest rate, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

March 31, 2007

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(e) Contributed services

Volunteers contributed time to assist the organization in carrying out its programs. Because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

3. Capital assets

	Cost \$	Accumulated Amortization \$	2007 Net \$	2006 Net \$
Furniture and fixtures	36,484	14,695	21,789	16,037
Computer equipment	59,955	25,263	34,692	14,494
	<u>96,439</u>	<u>39,958</u>	<u>56,481</u>	<u>30,531</u>

4. Deferred contributions

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Ministry of the Attorney General - Aboriginal Victims Rights Caseworker Pilot Project	44,400	56,249
Legal Aid Ontario - Gladue Program	-	41,751
Other	-	13,328
	<u>44,400</u>	<u>111,328</u>

5. Lease commitments

The organization is committed to lease its premises until October 2010. Minimum lease payments are as follows::

	\$
2008	61,349
2009	61,349
2010	61,349
2011	<u>35,787</u>
	<u>219,834</u>

ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES OF TORONTO INC.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

March 31, 2007

6. **Comparative figures**

Financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2006 were audited by another firm of chartered accountants.

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified from those previously presented to conform to the presentation of the 2007 financial statements.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2007

A) INTRODUCTION

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto (ALST) has had its busiest year since its inception in 1990. The agency has continued to grow in its programming, staff and workload. This growth is a strong indicator of the agency's success. ALST's success is attributed to the relentless dedication of the Board of Directors, the staff and our community volunteers. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone for their ongoing commitment to ALST and to the community. Some highlights of the work that ALST performed in the past year are highlighted below.

B) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto continues to operate 5 programs: the Aboriginal Courtworker Program, the Community Council Program, the Gladue (Aboriginal Persons) Court Assistance Program, the Legal Advocacy Program and the Victim Rights Program.

1) Aboriginal Courtworker Program

The Aboriginal Courtworker program has been in existence since before ALST was founded. Aboriginal courtworkers explain legal rights and obligations to their clients. They assist in securing legal counsel, with pre-sentence reports, bail hearings, and referrals.

ALST continues to operate the program with five courtworkers and one liaison worker. ALST has a criminal courtworker that covers the perimeter courts (1000 Finch, 2201 Finch, and Scarborough), a courtworker at Old City Hall and at College Park. In addition, there is a youth courtworker and a family courtworker at 311 Jarvis.

All of the courtworkers continue to experience a high volume of clients. Courtworkers play an important and essential role in relation to our Gladue Program and our Community Council Program. This past year, the courtworkers served 2200 clients. An enormous volume of client files for only five staff. ALST will continue to look for ways to increase the staffing component of this vital program.

2) Community Council Program

The Community Council is a criminal diversion program for Aboriginal offenders - adult and youth - who live in Toronto. The project takes Aboriginal offenders out of the criminal justice system and brings them before members of the Aboriginal community. The members of the Council are men and women who represent a cross-section of Toronto's Aboriginal community. The focus of the Community Council is to develop a plan by consensus that will allow the offender to take responsibility for his/her actions, address the root causes of the problem, and reintegrate him/her into the community in a positive way.

The Community Council Program continues to experience a high volume of clients. ALST's program is the busiest alternative justice program in Canada. The program conducted approximately 250 hearings and re-hearings this past year. We are currently on track to holding over 300 hearings for this fiscal year (April 2007- March 2008).

A significant new development this year was the implementation of the Child Welfare Community Council Program. (CCWC) Funding for this program was secured from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. The purpose of the Child Welfare Community Council (CWCC) is to allow parents, children, child welfare authorities and others with concerns about the child's future to meet to develop a plan that will meet the needs of the children with the co-operation and support of all parties. The CWCC is designed to allow all parties to have a voice in a setting where they feel that they can be heard. In such a place, real discussions regarding the root causes of problems can take place – and solutions can be developed. The rationale behind the CWCC is that the Aboriginal community best knows how to reach Aboriginal families in crisis. Currently ALST is recruiting and training community members to sit on the Council and we hope to have our first hearing in January 2008.

3) Gladue (Aboriginal Persons) Court Assistance Program

The first Gladue (Aboriginal Persons) Court in Canada is located in Courtroom 126 at Old City Hall Court House. The court derives its name from the 1999 decision of the Supreme Court of Canada - *R v. Gladue*, a case that ALST participated in as an Intervener. The decision sets out the parameters of section 718.2(e) of the *Criminal Code* regarding the sentencing of offenders, and in particular, Aboriginal offenders. Additional Gladue Courts now operate at College Park Court, and at 1000 Finch Court.

ALST employs three Gladue Caseworkers who write reports at the request of defence counsel, the Crown Attorney or the judge on the life circumstances of an Aboriginal offender. These reports also contain recommendations that the court can consider in sentencing in light of the circumstances of the offender. The Gladue Caseworkers mostly write reports for Toronto Gladue Court matters, and for Hamilton/Brantford courts.

However, ALST has also written reports for other courts upon request. The Gladue Caseworkers prepared 105 reports between October 2006 and September 30, 2007.

In addition to the Gladue caseworkers, ALST employs two Gladue Aftercare workers to work with the clients once they have been sentenced by the courts. The role of the Aftercare worker is essential as their assistance ensures that community members are able to meet their sentencing terms and avoid being charged with breaching court orders.

There has been, and continues to be, a lot of interest in ALST's Gladue Program. ALST has conducted educational sessions on Gladue in various locations such as Sudbury and Thunder Bay. ALST has also formalized a working relationship with the Biidabban program at Mnjikinang First Nation to supervise the writing of Gladue Reports for their community members. To date ALST has assisted with the writing of three reports for this community.

Given that the demand for Gladue reports is increasing, ALST has submitted a funding proposal for the expansion of the program to assist community members in Southern Ontario.

4) Legal Advocacy Program

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto provides summary legal advice and representation in the following primary areas of law: tenant rights, social assistance, employment insurance, Canada Pension Plan, *Indian Act* matters, provincial and federal human rights, criminal injuries compensation, and police complaints.

In addition to summary advice and casework, the clinic performs law reform, public legal education, community organizing, and test case litigation.

The clinic program is currently operating with a staff of 11- 3 lawyers, 1 articling student, 1 community legal worker, 1 Membership Clerk, 1 tenant rights worker, 1 victim rights worker, and 3 administrative support workers.

The following sections highlight some of the interesting and important cases and projects that the staff in this program clinic have worked on since November 1, 2006 until present.

a) Summary Information, Casework, and Outreach Statistics

From November 1, 2006 until October 30, 2007 ALST opened 328 new case files and provided brief services to 290 clients, summary advice to 500 clients and provided referrals to 294 clients.

Several public legal education presentations in areas such as Indian status, tenant rights, residential school settlement, and criminal injuries compensation were conducted. Several law reform presentations and briefs were prepared in the area of policing, victim

rights, and Aboriginal justice. ALST participated in several community development initiatives and was active on various advisory committees

b) Ipperwash Inquiry

As reported at last year's AGM, ALST applied for and was granted standing at the Ipperwash Inquiry in both Phase One and Phase Two. The inquiry commenced on July 13, 2004 and concluded in September 2006. ALST made both written and oral submissions at the conclusion of the Inquiry. The final report from the Commission was released on May 31, 2007. The Report contains several excellent recommendations in relation to policing matters in the Aboriginal community. ALST's future work is to ensure that the recommendations get implemented by the provincial government. The report is available on-line at ipperwashinquiry.ca.

c) Supreme Court of Canada Interventions

ALST appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada in November 2006 to make oral arguments in *Jason Hill v Hamilton Wentworth Regional Police Services*. In this case the court had to determine whether an individual can sue the police for negligent investigation. The Court released its ruling on October 4, 2007 and held that police can be sued for negligent investigations. The court's ruling can be found on ALST's website.

d) Inquest Services

Since November 2006, ALST completed three Coroner's Inquests:

Inquest Examining the Death of Harvey Barkman. This Inquest examined the death of Mr. Barkman, an eighteen year old who, while serving a youth sentence, was charged with an adult sentence and then transferred to the Sudbury District Jail, an adult facility. Several recommendations were made by the Jury, including a recommendation that the Ministry of Children and Youth Services develop a policy that would specify options on where a person should be placed to serve their sentences. Another significant recommendation that was made by the Jury was to expand the Native Inmate Liaison Officer (NILO) program to every youth and adult correctional facility where the Aboriginal population exceeds an annual average of 30%.

Inquest Examining the Death of Raymond Dubois. Raymond Dubois was a 23 year old Aboriginal male from Regina, Saskatchewan, who died in custody at the Thunder Bay District Jail on the October 13, 2006. The inquest reviewed several policies and procedures relating to the provision of mental health services in adult jail facilities, and made recommendations for improvement.

Inquest Examining the Death of Sean Trudeau. This Inquest examined several areas, including the delivery of mental health service to First Nation communities, and First Nation police services' training in mental health issues. The Jury made

several recommendations, including the recommendation that the Special Investigations Unit have authority to investigate First Nation police services when someone dies in their custody. The Jury also recommended the expansion of the Native Correctional Community Workers program.

Currently ALST represents 8 families that are awaiting Coroner Inquests into the death of their loved one. ALST continues to travel all over the province to assist on Coroner's Inquests. This continues to be a strain on ALST's budget, and the agency continues to look for alternative ways to fund this work.

e) Public Inquiries

ALST is currently a party with standing at two separate public inquiries:

Inquiry into Pediatric Forensic Pathology in Ontario: ALST, in Coalition with Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, has standing at this Inquiry which is currently taking place in Toronto. The purpose of the Inquiry is to enhance public confidence in the Coroner system in relation to pediatric deaths. As part of our work on the Inquiry, ALST and NAN hosted Justice Goudge, the Commissioner in charge of the Inquiry, on a trip to two remote First Nation communities. Justice Goudge met with the Leadership in each community and then spoke with families that have experienced the death of a child. It has become clear from our work that the Coroner system is failing the Aboriginal community. The ALST-NAN Coalition will be urging the Inquiry to make recommendations to improve death investigation services in the Aboriginal community. The Inquiry is expected to run until the spring 2008.

Inquiry into the Death of Frank Paul: ALST has standing at this Inquiry being held in Vancouver, British Columbia. Mr. Paul was an Aboriginal man who was left, by the Vancouver Police Department, to die in an alley on a cold night in December 1998. Mr. Paul died of hypothermia. The Aboriginal community has been calling for a Public Inquiry since 1998. The British Columbia government finally called the Inquiry in the spring of 2007. The Inquiry is examining several institutions including the Vancouver Police Department, the British Columbia police complaint system, and the Coroner system. ALST will be advocating for a recommendation that police officers should not have the authority to arrest people for being intoxicated, but rather should be taking people for medical treatment. The Inquiry is expected to run until the spring of 2008.

f) Gladue Sentencing Appeals

As a result of ALST's work in relation to Gladue and the sentencing of Aboriginal people, ALST has started to take on sentence appeal cases. This last year, ALST argued two Court of Appeal sentence appeals successfully on behalf of Aboriginal offenders. This area of work is increasing for ALST, and we are looking at innovative ways to respond to the demand.

5) Victim Rights Program

The Victim Rights Program ended on October 31, 2007, as it was a three year pilot project. However, ALST has been able to secure some funding from Mizwe Biik to continue to operate the program until March 31, 2008. The program is currently being evaluated by an independent consultant, and the preliminary evaluation indicates the program was successful. ALST is currently looking for core funding to continue this important program past March 31, 2008. Currently the program allows for one victim rights advocate to work mostly on criminal injuries compensation applications, residential school matters and assisting the Community Council Program with contacting victims to explain the Council Program. The program had a steady increase over the term of the three year pilot project. Currently ALST handles over 80 victim files at any one time.

C) FUTURE CHALLENGES

As usual, the future challenge for ALST is how to expand our services to respond to the ongoing increase in demand. ALST must obtain funding for the following:

1. Expansion of the Gladue Program to increase the number of caseworkers and after care workers;
2. Continuation and expansion of the Victim Rights Program;
3. Expansion of the Courtworker Program to add an additional courtworker, and to obtain administrative support;
4. Expansion of the Community Council Program to add staff so that more hearings can be completed in a year;
5. Creation of an Inquest Services position/program to adequately address issues relating to Aboriginal deaths in custody; and
6. Strengthen administrative capacity within the agency by increasing support staff and management.

D) ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Board and staff of ALST would like to acknowledge our current funders and express our sincere gratitude. Our community benefits enormously from the programs that we are able to provide because of the support we receive from the following:

Department of Justice - Canada
Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General
Legal Aid Ontario
Ministry of Children and Youth Services
Miziwe Biik Aboriginal Employment and Training
Urban Aboriginal Strategy'
Individual donors

Nai:wen

Kimberly Murray
Executive Director

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

November 27, 2007

The function of the Nominating Committee is to seek appropriate candidates to stand for election at the Annual General Meeting.

The current members of the Nominating Committee are Carol Montagnes and Anne Solomon.

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto is governed by a board of 10 Directors. The current Board of Directors consists of the following 9 people (there is 1 unoccupied position):

Rose Cameron*
Steve Chabbert*
Derek Chum*
Margaret Froh*
Maggie Went*
Marisha Roman
Anne Solomon
Carol Montagnes
Roberta Wraith

Those Directors whose terms expire at this Annual General Meeting are indicated with an asterisk.

Six positions for Directors are available to be filled at this Annual General Meeting to complete a board of 10 Directors.

The Nominating Committee nominates the following candidates for the Board of Directors: Margaret Brigham, Rose Cameron, Derek Chum, Margaret Froh, Maggie Went*, Kimberley Wolfe.