

CLF Local Chapter Taskforce Report



Canadian leaders meet in London Ontario, May 9-10, 2008 to convene historic taskforce.



CLF Local Chapter Taskforce Report

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Acknowledgements:

On behalf of the Christian Legal Fellowship, we would like to thank the Bridgeway Foundation for their ongoing generous support to CLF in its efforts to better serve Christian legal professionals throughout Canada and the Christian community at large. We are especially grateful for the priority afforded this matter by the Bridgeway executive in terms of timeliness in their reviewing and approving our application for funding. The importance of this project cannot be over-estimated and we appreciate the confidence Bridgeway has placed in the Christian Legal Fellowship.

We would also like to thank all of the Local Chapter Workshop participants for their sincere commitment and profound contribution to this important initiative. Also, we wish to thank their families/spouses for allowing the participants to be away from their home and loved ones on Mother's Day in order to allow them to participate in this task.

1) Introduction

In September, 2005, a workshop was conducted in Mississauga, Ontario, as a prelude to the Annual Conference. The purpose of the session was to develop a five (5) year Mission/Vision plan for the organization, with the participation of CLF board members and representatives from most of the major cities across Canada. The results of the workshop were set out in a manifesto and subsequently approved by the CLF Board of Directors and appropriate action plans put in place to effectively implement. The main themes and focus of CLF were described as the "Five Pillars", namely:

- 1) Fellowship
- 2) Advocacy & Intervention

- 3) Law Student Ministries
- 4) Networking
- 5) Evangelism & Outreach

In 2007, an application was submitted to the Bridgeway Foundation for funding to support a project entitled: ***Going Deeper; Impacting Longer***. This was on the understanding that a group discussion/workshop with members of our local chapters was vital to achieving our 5 year mission/vision relative to strengthening/enhancing such activities as Networking, Law Student Ministries and Evangelism & Outreach.

In essence, the workshop was structured so as to develop ways/means to increase the effectiveness of CLF's ministry to Christian law students while simultaneously addressing the needs of lawyer members and increasing the potential of long-term sustainability of the organization. ***Going Deeper*** will build CLF's ministry by providing local chapter leadership for such purposes as: augmenting mentoring, extending professional networking and increasing spiritual/social connection for legal professionals with the mind, will and conviction to engage popular culture and the legal system.

The Bridgeway Foundation subsequently approved the application, "to provide assistance in establishing and enhancing local chapters of Canadian Christian lawyers through a project of mentoring, professional networking and spiritual/social connection for law students". Appropriate steps were taken to convene an intense two day Local Chapter Workshop in London, Ontario May 9-10, 2008 for this purpose.

The workshop was attended by upwards of thirty-three (33) participants, with several spouses joining us for additional functions, as well as various CLF board members. Representation was from across Canada, ranging from urban to rural settings. A list of attendees is attached as Appendix "A".

The process used was to circulate a pre-workshop questionnaire to all attendees in advance of the session, which was used to provoke discussion/thought during the workshop. A copy of the questionnaire is attached as Appendix "B". The consolidated responses to the questionnaire are also attached, as Appendix "C" and some of the information will be found in the report relevant to the various matters discussed as a group.

2) Background

The Christian Legal Fellowship was founded by a small group of law students and lawyers in the early to mid 1970's and was incorporated as a national organization in 1978. Over the course of the intervening 30 years, the organization saw its membership grow to its current level of 542 active members.

Local CLF Chapters meet regularly in Vancouver; Calgary; Edmonton; Winnipeg; Toronto; London; Kitchener/Waterloo; Ottawa and Fredericton. As well, ad hoc gatherings take place in Kelowna; Regina; Saskatoon; Mississauga; Brampton; Oshawa, Niagara Falls; Halifax and St.

John's. Law Student Chapters have also been formed in a majority of the seventeen (17) law schools in Canada.

Approximately one-third of the CLF members live in smaller communities/rural areas which do not have formal CLF local chapters and their participation/fellowship is confined to events such as the CLF Annual Conferences; Church and the Law seminars; More Excellent Women seminars, etc.

The Local Chapter groups generally convene a luncheon meeting four (4) times per year and have an average attendance of 6-12 members. Activities generally involve opening prayer, followed by a meal and a guest speaker. Some of the local chapters also have a Christmas banquet and/or a barbeque event, which is attended by the spouses.

Emphasis is on fellowship and introducing law students/other Christian lawyers to the organization, as well as evangelism & outreach. Local chapters which are situated near law schools invite law students to attend and are open to mentoring.

All of the local chapter events/functions/social gatherings are self-funded. In other words, there are no local membership dues or general source of funds to cover expenses such as meals/speakers/honorariums, etc. other than "pay as you go".

Communications re invitations to events, coordinating venue, speakers, etc. is generally handled by one of the local chapter members, sometimes with the assistance of CLF National Headquarters staff. Job postings/opportunities are similarly funneled through the National Headquarters group. Otherwise, there is no structured networking/communication process aside from the National website and e-newsletters.

In terms of operating procedures, these are mostly ad hoc aside from the Ottawa/Gatineau local chapter which has recently developed a comprehensive set of guidelines/procedures to facilitate their efforts in growing the membership and reaching out to francophone legal professionals in the area.

3) Group Discussion

Question No. 1: "Why should CLF strengthen local chapters?"

However, prior to responding to this question, the group instead preferred to address a question from the floor, namely, "**Why CLF?**" In other words, why does CLF exist and why would legal professionals want to become part of our organization? The response was overwhelmingly unanimous:

CLF has three (3) constituencies:

- 1) Christian lawyers (fellowship; spiritual growth; mentorship; networking)
- 2) Non-Christian lawyers (outreach to them – unique) and;
- 3) The Church (interventions)

Excellence is determined by its purposes. What are our (local chapter) purposes? – To allow Christian lawyers to more effectively express their passions – locally, by chapter!

In terms of how we can use the local chapter concept to help achieve these goals, the following points were made:

- Outreach meetings to invite non-Christian lawyers;
- Referrals;
- Fellowship; connecting with other believers; identify with like-minded believers; synergy.
- Support – we may feel isolated;
- Mentoring;
- Learning what it is to integrate our Christian faith with the law;
- Prayer;
- Education/Learning/Relevant Information (CLE's, great speakers).
- God's calling;
- Be a light in a secular society;
- Link to national group, receiving emails; being updated on CLF's involvements;

Following on, the group then responded to the earlier question:

“Why should CLF strengthen local chapters?”

Group response – simply stated – **Acts 1:8**, which reads:

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” (KJV)

Question No. 2: “What is Needed to Strengthen the CLF Local Chapters?”

Responses:

- Clarify what our goals are
- Keep contact with students once they get called to the bar
- Continued mentoring with articling students, one-on-one
- Have key personalities to invite people, keep chapter going
- Leadership and administration: leadership – someone needs to pull the activities together. In US, it was often the chaplain who pulled people together for Bible studies.
- When you get together, emphasize Christ and not law
- Acts 2:42-47 & how to execute Acts 1:8
- Teaching
- Fellowship
- Breaking of Bread/Lunch/Food
- Prayer
- Giving to others/Sharing/Contribute to the locality

- “Everything in common” – unity and purpose, sense of sacrifice
- Place to meet – challenge of getting everyone together, often downtown and on campus – considering time involved to meet – CLS: groups that flourish are within 10 minute radius – cell groups needed to keep each other accountable, to love each other. But what about members in more rural areas? Perhaps, twice a year have a provincial meeting/conference.
- The apostolic doctrine is emphasize in this verse
- What we all bring to the table is our problems, in smaller groups there is room for discussing them, support, etc.
- We don't need another institution, we need to work through the church – chaplains can often find the common space
- We don't necessarily need to meet all of these needs as we are members of churches and other groups – rather application for Christian lawyers.
- Every group will have different interests at different times (speakers, testimonies, etc.) – but have an activity that will draw people.
- Determine which speakers are traveling at which points – to take advantage of those opportunities
- Other organizations developing chapters for Christian law students (IJM, etc.) – need to work together
- Availability – all we need to create a place for people to meet, etc. blueprint for future events, which leads to multiplication
- If you have a passion for something, you willingly do it – unless we can identify, locally, what are passions are, it will be difficult to keep people involved – finding common passions with non-believers as well (ex. Justice) – creates outreach opportunities
- Periodic survey of members to determine how we can better meet their needs/passions – keeps group focused. Also helps to determine why some members are no longer involved.
- Can CLF say that every Canadian lawyer is aware of CLF? They are our target market – how can we do so? How do we shout loud enough to be heard ...magazine which pays for itself, advertising so we can send it out to different people – difficultly find advertising – 4 times a year – be strategic about who we send the journal to
- Provide information on local chapters, members and activities.
- Different seasons in members' lives – relational, acquiring, and contemplative, etc.
- Summary: communicate more effective, find ways to make ourselves known (mailing out of journal, CLF send local chapters additional journals, package with brochures for joining)
- Passion: impact in community, marketplace miracles, justice → give focus to a chapter if not in a city with a law school
- Element of social action for each chapter – committee – not necessarily a lawyer – but could get in touch with committees across Canada, get reps at our quarterly meetings → they would love to have a lawyer involved – point of unity

Question No. 3: “Who is needed to implement this plan most effectively? What skills are needed?”

Plan: Acts 2:42-47 & how to execute Acts 1:8:

Teaching
Fellowship
Breaking of Bread/Lunch/Food
Prayer
Giving to others/Sharing/Contribute to the locality
“Everything in common” – unity and purpose, sense of sacrifice
Place to meet.
Outreach/evangelism

Suggested categories:

- Fellowship for local bodies,
- Speakers for the body (CLF members experts in certain areas of law) and speakers for the marketplace (CLF members can speak to groups and weave in testimony)
- Outreach: 2 dinners: one for lawyers and law students, and one for non-Christians
- Educate the community – brochures, info on websites (pastors can refer people to our members)
- Website directory – find Christian lawyers in various areas of law

Website: privacy concerns, specific log-in area for our members; perhaps certain members can determine whether they want to be on the site or not

CLS Template:

- groups in metropolitan areas: 1 meeting a month in prestigious, safe area which is welcoming – large group meeting. Chaplains involved at this point. Topics: What’s it like to be the (speaker profile) , etc.
- Small group meetings: place of real interaction, in a firm, on a Thursday or Friday in the morning (10 minute circle).
- One-on-one ministry with other lawyers – mentoring relationships.
- CLE: once a quarter – ‘public service’ for lawyers, for others as well – held in churches, ex. Biblical peacemaking...
- Outreach Event/Dinner – UK – once a year, high end, world class speaker, Easter, Christmas
- Family function: summer camp, opportunity for spouses and children to get to know each other, needs to be attractive to the whole family, to reach new lawyers and their young families – relational growth
- Outreach – position on interventions
- *Drupal* – website: determine a web design at CLF National level, each chapter has distinct website: 3 columns: 1 for national news (interlinked), etc. – Keep it simple: quote of the day, best link, next meeting, get ready for conference, job market, seeking assistance (Denver as example), blog, survey, cost: minimum – connection with national and local chapters

What are the 3 biggest mistakes small groups make:

- Start a small group because there is a small group – Sam Casey: don’t need to start a small group until a leader is called. Small group ministry is an art.

- Sam Casey: Lack of chaplains: we didn't have chaplains until 2000, we presumed the spiritual discipleship and membership of the local bar was the same thing, presumed local church was preparing our members for this. Need for a local chaplain/shepherd in each chapter. What is your outreach to women, minorities, etc.? Fellowship is not an end, it's a means (not spiritual country club). Cal finds the push back is from the older members: burn the old list, pray over all our students, we have to examine our motives for doing this. For too long, the 'spark plug' members in our chapters are burning out – find a local church which provide mentors, volunteers, prayer cover – *Go through the church, not around it.*
- Start local groups by just having people incorporate chapters. Rather, go to see city and ask for prayer for city for a year, based on three or four families to protect against burn-out. Don't be in a rush – don't want hollow chapter. Build chapter on prayer. Let God do it – they'll call you back.
- We may not be asking the right question: what should CLF be doing with the chaplaincy position – how to strengthen the local chapters

4) Team Breakout Session: “Who/What/Where/When/How”?

Team 1: (Upstairs group):

In many areas across Canada, there is not much significant happening for CLF. We need to get a group together to pray and think about what to do. These can be locally organized between lawyers thinking about CLF chapters.

1. ALPHA FOR LAWYERS: This could be organized for lawyers, church does the meals (volunteers from local churches help advertise and cook meals) or in a boardroom. Alpha for Professionals in Regina: held in a hotel for \$15 for lunch. In and out in an hour: Executive Version.
2. DISCIPLESHIP: 1) More one-on-one for deeper discipleship; 2) minister to larger group
3. PRE: LAW OUTREACH—lunch on campus (one or two lawyers, with a couple of law students); not just universities, but also Bible colleges and Christian high schools—a tour of them, promoting CLF.
 - a. Tips for writing the LSAT: Prepared by Geoff Trotter & Maria Vanderspec. On the website. This could catch people's interest.
 - b. God Rocks weekend: In the spring, all of the colleges invite the Grade 11 and 12's.
4. OUTREACH BANQUET: Toronto does this at the end of November. They have a banquet in a large firm boardroom. One possibility is to have it in a hotel or restaurant; we can invite Christian lawyers, whether they are CLF members or not, to invite their lawyer friends.

5. CHAPLAIN: This would be really essential. We need to think about finding suitable candidates, perhaps retired pastors or missionaries or lawyers. We should consider payment for them as well.
6. CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATION PRESENTATIONS: To raise awareness for the CLF: what it is, how Christian lawyers can help them/their members, and for recruiting lawyers.
7. MEDIA PUBLICITY ABOUT CLF: BC CHRISTIAN News, Christian Week, websites, etc.

HOW DO WE DO THIS

1. Speaker's Roster: people like Georgiale Lang, a Christian family lawyer that runs Alpha in the workplace. Ed Silviso would be a great candidate. Kevin Sawatsky, dean of Trinity Western University, could be a good contact.
2. Church presentations: DVD Presentation about 1 minute for presentation in churches.
3. Writing articles on CLF for publication, on what it means to be a Christian lawyer, on the CLF.
4. CBA Law Week in February, we could participate in this.
5. Missionfest participation: We could have speakers talk about what it is like to be a Christian lawyer.
6. Chaplains: Brenda has a friend who was a lawyer, now in ministry. We need to pray about this and look locally. We can go to ministerial associations. Cal noted that he meets with Reid every week. We should look at some compensation for the Chaplain. Paul Stevens, who is a leader in Workplace ministry, may be a good candidate.
7. Prayer Covering for CLF and our local chapters. We need this, and we may be able to ask local churches for this.

GENERAL NOTES

1. Ambrose University College: is the Alliance and Nazarene University College. Are a tremendous source of pre-law students.
2. Often churches in cities with law schools will have more of a focus on law students.
3. Geoff Trotter is on Vancouver Island now.
4. FRASER VALLEY CHAPTER: Shawn could coordinate something, perhaps in Surrey Langley.

Team 2: (Downstairs group):

- identify law school leaders and meet with them to support them in next year

- at beginning and end of year post events for young lawyers/law students .. this is meant for centers w/o law schools
- call people individually to ask where they are in CLF and in applying their faith to practice of law ... start with people who regularly attend meetings
- who would be more effective to call prospective members/attendees? Chaplain or lawyer? Likely non-lawyer
- use letter to invite to discussion meeting to brain-storm ideas ... invite couple of local pastors as well ... goal to obtain committed core
- wording of letter of invitation is important is speaking to their interests, needs, and methodology of addressing those needs
- alternatively, use questionnaire but one that is very directed and not open-ended to prevent making mistakes CLS or CLF have already discovered
- ask if there is any contact out there that may be willing to assist with CLF local chapters in various cities
- older lawyers should have enough experience and gifting in themselves to be able to pray for law students
- Ottawa area is well blessed with high profile speakers but with limited availability so meetings have to be booked well in advance keeping in mind that higher profile speakers will need more lead time
- do advertising well in advance for this reason
- -how many of us like receiving questionnaires? Often our tendency is to toss them due to busyness ... "too much" ... do not ask too many questions
- is better method to ask those Q's by one-on-one discussion by phone
- email suggesting "interview" followed up by phone call
- who are we sending those questions to? Why not send it to all lawyers in geographical area and ask if they would be interested in being a part of a Christian lawyer's chapter?
- would be useful to be able to massage this mailing/emailing effort thru national website
- -fortunately, we are not concerned with results, or numbers ... Lord does not expect us to be successful, only obedient ... leaving voice mail is not a failure for all we know that lack of response could indicate lack of interest
- to respect their busyness, brevity is important
- take advantage of internet technology to establish and maintain contact with those who express interest
- speaker selection: identifying higher profile Christians who can be speakers
- speakers can be selected for content of message they will present to act as bridges to particular ministry need identified – e.g. Speaker who speaks of how they overcame marriage issues
- **TOPICS TO COVER IN Q'AIRE OR INTERVIEW**
- lead in: your name, your practice, identified need for Christian lawyers to get together
- how best to approach the contact? Phone call with interview? By advance email? Combination of both? Age dependant?

- younger practitioner might prefer to deal by way of email, older one might prefer telephone interview ... either way it has to be personalized and not generic
- ask for permission or preference as to how contact prefers to proceed?
- invite out to information night
- tell them of various speakers already planned
- what do we want to accomplish with that first contact? Get them to be part of chapter or just to commit themselves to one meeting?
- London: examine Scripture from point of view of jurisprudence ... how the Word particularly applies to lawyers
- establish small initial core of like-minded people or larger, more diverse group? Primary Q of why group is forming
- take core of committed Christian lawyers to reach those not yet believers? Should this be one of priorities common to each group or not necessarily?
- CHAPLAINCY –
- acknowledgement as to diversity of profile within Christian legal community ... sensitivity not to alienate given that wide variety of experience
- if every chapter had chaplain, whether paid or not, that can bring ecclesiastic weight to discussion, to integrate law and faith, will guard against alienation and foster understanding from interdenominational perspective
- we do not want to stray from Word of God nor lose sight of confession of supremacy of Scripture in whatever initiatives we take

5) Conclusions/Recommendations

Since its founding in 1978, the Christian Legal Fellowship, as an organization, has increasingly provided a means and a forum for Christian legal professionals in Canada to network and be more informed as to the issues facing the Christian community and to educate/encourage others in their efforts to integrate their Christian faith with the practice of law. Throughout this period, members of CLF local chapters, (as well as their colleagues from other urban/rural areas where no local chapters exist), have played a vital role by providing actual, on the ground leadership, fellowship and support to legal professionals. Stated differently, CLF local chapters are the arms and legs of the organization “on the front lines”.

This workshop has served to demonstrate the length, breadth and depth of commitment CLF members have insofar as meeting God’s call on their lives.

Given the individual and collective comments of the group, there is a demonstrated need and indeed, an emphatic collective will, to take the organization to the next level, i.e., to strengthen the local chapters and effectively equip and empower them to effect God’s call on their lives as set out in Acts 1:8.

Having said that, the consensus of the workshop group seemed to be that the time is right and the path is clear. What is needed now, in order to move forward, is a formal action plan, some networking between various local chapter groups, and some clerical assistance from CLF National Headquarters and provision for access to the CLF website for individual local chapters.

Based on our group discussions and the various recommendations/suggestions advanced as part of the team breakout session, there are two basic constituencies to focus on. One is the large urban centers where local chapters either already exist or cities where one has not yet been organized. The other is smaller urban and rural areas where geography and demographics do not lend themselves to forming a Local Chapter as we currently know it.

Following is an abbreviated list of suggestions/recommendations from the breakout teams, not necessarily in priority order, and comments as to a proposed action plan to be considered as part of our moving forward, recognizing that not all local chapters will have the same focus/priorities at any given time:

- 1) Identify law school leaders and meet with them to support them in coming year.
- 2) At beginning and end of year, post events for young lawyers/law students (for centers without law schools)
 1. **Website** - Aaron Mix-Ross – CLF Website Manager, to work with Faye Sonier, CLF Member, Ottawa-Gatineau, in progressing, at the earliest and on a pilot basis, website access for the Ottawa-Gatineau local chapter. Following appropriate trial period, local chapter access provision to be extended to all local chapters on a first-come, first-served basis.
 2. **Alpha for Lawyers** – Each of the Local Chapters to consider the appropriateness/timing and leadership candidate(s) for a local chapter Alpha course. Details as Alpha may be obtained directly from Elwood Mean – Email: elwoodmean@alphacanada.
 3. **Discipleship/Mentoring** – each of the local chapters to review its current make-up (lawyers/ recent calls/law students) and assess the need/capability for discipleship/mentoring within the local chapter and beyond – particularly to non-Christians and law students.
 4. **Pre-Law Outreach** – This already forms part of the portfolio currently assigned to Cal Beresh, Director of Law Student Ministries, as well as Tim Stonhouse, Regional Director, Western Canada. Propose to have these gentlemen collaborate in the preparation of a brief overview of what this entails, steps taken thus far, and proposed next steps, including the role local chapters can play in advancing this initiative.
 5. **Outreach Banquet (or BBQ)** - Propose that each of the local chapters discuss this approach to evangelism and consider adopting this as an annual event for purposes of evangelism.
 6. **Chaplaincy-Local Chapters** - Propose that each of the local chapters consider whether this is desirable/feasible within the context of their chapter and if so, how/when to progress, as well as designating a member or members to take leadership role in advancing this initiative. In the meantime, Pat Ross to provide each of the local chapters with background information as to role of Chaplain (draft Job Document), information on funding; as well as selection profile.
 7. **Church and Christian Organization presentations:** CLF Website Manager Aaron Mix-Ross and CLF member Derek Mix-Ross to collaborate and prepare a

short DVD Presentation (one minute) to be used by local chapter members in presentations to local churches and organizations introducing CLF, who we are, what we do. Also a short DVD to be used for MissionFest, describing what it is like to be a Christian lawyer.

8. **Speakers Roster** – Ruth Ross to consult with other members such as Kevin Sawatsky, dean of Trinity Western University, and prepare a list of speakers as a reference guide to local chapters. Also, to coordinate speakers' talks to the local chapters so that more than one local can be included on the same trip and thereby optimize exposure and reduce costs.
9. **CBA Law Week** – Proposal is that CLF could participate in this event, which takes place in February of each year. Pat Ross to consult with CLF member Gerald Chipeur, who has expressed an interest in this initiative in prior discussions, and prepare a discussion paper to set out what this would entail.
10. **Prayer Covering for CLF and Local Chapters** – This is essential and needs to be addressed by each local chapter. The objective would be to identify an individual prepared to take on the role of Prayer Leader in the group.
11. **Personal Contact with non-members** - The objective here is extend invitation to attend a CLF meeting and to recruit new/lapsed members as well as non-Christians. CLF member Gord Mamen (Ottawa-Gatineau) to provide suggested script/telephone for use by email and/or telephone.
12. **Write-ups in Christian and secular publications:** The objective here is to write articles on CLF for publication, on what it means to be a Christian lawyer, and on CLF in general. Pat Ross to work with CLF member Jeffrey Lowe in preparing a short discussion paper on this initiative, with a view to providing local chapters a road map or blueprint as to contacts, who to contact, etc.
13. **Approaching ministerial associations for broader base outreach:** This would require that each of the local chapters identify which ministerial associations reside in their particular city/area and to make contact with appropriate leaders for purposes of determine what synergies can be achieved by working together in reaching out to the community.
14. **Identify Law School Leaders and Meet With Them:** The objective here is to gain a higher profile in terms of what CLF is all about, to make law students aware of the local chapter's interest in their advancement in their career as Christians, to invite them to local chapter meetings and to introduce them to mentors. Cal Beresh and Tim Stonhouse can include this in their write-up referred to in Action Item No. 4 above, dealing with Pre-Law.
15. **Posting of Job Opportunities:** This to make CLF members aware of job openings, as well as provide a medium for those seeking positions to advertize. CLF Website Manager Aaron-Mix Ross to work with CLF member Fay Sonier in including this feature in the CLF website local chapter access as per action item No. 1 above.
16. **Local Chapter Operating Manual** – Recognizing that each of the local chapters have their unique needs/processes and schedule of events/priorities, etc., the pre-workshop questionnaire indicated that there would be a benefit to having a CLF

Local Chapter Operating Manual. This to cover such things as speaker rosters, outreach activities, invitation to meetings, annual banquets, etc. The Ottawa-Gatineau local chapter has done much in this area and it is proposed that Pat Ross work with CLF members Faye Sonier, Gord Mamen and Karrine Gratton in exporting this material to other local chapters in the form of a Local Chapter Operating Manual.

17. Formalize local chapters – Historically, CLF local chapter meetings have been taking place in major centers for many years. Perhaps the time has come to officially recognize various local and law student chapters in the form of a certificate of some sort and including a process for organizing, establishing and running a local chapter in the Local Chapter Operating Manual referred to in Item 17 above. Pat Ross to work with various CLF local chapter leaders across the country and prepare a discussion paper for this purpose.

18. Adopt a City/Town/Rural Area Program – While CLF local chapters have been prominent in a number of cities for many years, there are some major cities/population areas which have either not yet been reached or tend to be more of a challenge to organize, notwithstanding the very best efforts of very committed local CLF members. Examples would include such locations as Montreal, Moncton, Halifax, St. John, etc. One way to reinforce their efforts is to inject momentum from adjoining cities where local chapters are very active and have much in common. For example, if the Ottawa-Gatineau local chapter were to lend its support (physically and otherwise) and address the Montreal situation. Similarly, if the Fredericton local chapter were to throw its weight behind organizing a local chapters in Moncton and Halifax, as well as St. John, Nfld. This could be achieved by advising/supporting CLF members in those locales in terms of organizing local chapter meetings, sending out email/or making telephone contacts; attending meetings, arranging for speakers, etc. Comments from local chapter leaders and CLF members in these cities are invited accordingly, and should be addressed to Ruth Ross, attention – Pat. A follow up report on this item will be prepared accordingly.

Submitted – 2 June 2008

Ruth Ross, CLF Executive Director

Pat Ross, CLF member

Schedule "A"
Participants to the Local Chapter Taskforce
May 9-10, London

BERESH, Cal (& Jan)
BERNAKEVITCH, Wayne
CASEY, Sam
CHANG, Michael (& Prayer
Team)
COOKE, Reid (& Esther)
CRIEBARDIS HYER, Stellanie
DAVIS, Shannon
GNYS, Ashley (& Valerie)
GRIGORAS, Denis
HILDEBRANDT, Brenda, QC
KEHLER, Jarett
KENNEDY, Scott
LAVIGNE, Christopher
LOWE, Jeffrey
MACK, Paul
MAMEN, Gord
MCMANUS, Lisa (& Greg)
MCMATH, David
REYNOLDS, Robert
ROSS, Pat
ROSS, Ruth
SMITH, Ron
SMITH, Shawn
SONIER, Faye
STEPHENSON, Helen
STONHOUSE, Tim (& Marija)
VALOIS, Aida
VON NIESEN, Martha