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Nouvelles-ACJP, le 29 mai 2008

1. Youth court statistics -2006/2007-StatsCanada

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There were 56,463 youth court cases completed during the 2006/2007 fiscal year. Although virtually unchanged from the previous year, this amount was 26% lower than in 2002/2003, the year prior to the enactment of the new legislation.

2. Adult criminal court statistics -2006/2007- StatsCanada

Cases in adult criminal courts are taking longer to complete. In 2006/2007, it took on average eight months to dispose of a case in adult court. This was considerably longer than the average of six months five years earlier.

Longer times to complete cases may be in part due to an increase in the proportion of cases involving multiple charges. Cases involving multiple charges represented 60% of the adult caseload in 2006/2007, compared with 57% five years earlier and 53% a decade earlier.

Fewer cases are being disposed of in adult criminal court each year, in light of the increased case complexity and duration, as well as a long-term downward trend in police-reported crime statistics.

In 2006/2007, just over 372,000 cases were disposed of in adult criminal courts, down 7% from five years earlier.

3. LEAF National has an opening for a DIRECTOR OF FUND DEVELOPMENT

The Women's Legal Education and Action Fund Inc. (LEAF), is seeking a full-time Director of Fund Development (DOF) to assist the organization in achieving its short and long term fund development goals.

4. Hausse de la criminalité juvénile

Le nombre d'homicides commis par des mineurs a atteint des sommets en 2006, alors que le taux de criminalité chez les jeunes de 12 à 17 ans était en hausse de 3 % par rapport à 2005.

5. LE GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA CONTRIBUE À LA LUTTE CONTRE LA TOXICOMANIE CHEZ LES JEUNES AUTOCHTONES

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PROVIDES FUNDING TO HELP STEER ABORIGINAL YOUTH AWAY FROM ILLICIT DRUGS

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1. Youth court statistics -2006/2007-StatsCanada

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The youth court caseload has declined in every province and territory since the introduction of the YCJA. There were five jurisdictions in which the caseload in 2006/2007 was at least 30% lower than in 2002/2003: the Northwest Territories (-52%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-47%), Yukon (-45%), British Columbia (-37%) and Ontario (-30%).

Over the same period, declines of between 21% and 24% occurred in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Alberta and Nunavut. In the remaining provinces (Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan), the youth court caseloads declined by less than 20%.

Since reaching a high of 70% in 1998/1999, the proportion of cases in which the young people either pleaded guilty, or were found guilty, has been gradually declining. In 2006/2007, the proportion was about 60%, the lowest since 1991/1992 when youth court data became available for all provinces and territories.

One of the concerns with the Young Offenders Act (YOA), the predecessor of the YCJA, was overuse of custody. A key objective of the YCJA was to decrease the use of custody.

In line with that objective, fewer youth are being sentenced to custody. In 2006/2007, about 17% or 5,640 of all guilty cases resulted in a custodial sentence. This compares with 13,246 or 27% of all guilty cases in 2002/2003.

This decline was apparent in all provinces and territories. The largest impact occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, where the number of cases in which youth sentenced to custody in 2006/2007 was only about one-quarter of the number in 2002/2003. In all other jurisdictions, the number was less than half that in the last year of the YOA.

Historically, judges have sentenced convicted youth to probation more than any other type of sentence. This was still true in 2006/2007, as 59% of guilty youth cases resulted in probation. However, this proportion was 11 percentage points lower than in 2002/2003.

This drop may be due in part to the fact that under the YCJA, youth are subject to a period of mandatory community supervision following their release from custody. Under the YOA, youth custody sentences were often followed by a probation order.

The YCJA introduced a number of new sentencing options for judges including, among others, intensive support and supervision orders, deferred custody and supervision orders, and orders to attend a non-residential program.

Since their introduction, the new sentences have not been commonly used. In 2006/2007, deferred custody and supervision orders were handed down the most frequently in only about 3% of guilty youth court cases, or 1,080.

Note: Statistics in this release should not be compared with those in releases prior to October 2007. Data have been revised to account for a new case definition, which more closely reflects court processing. These statistics are based on data collected through the Integrated Criminal Court Survey and the Youth Court Survey.

Table: Cases in youth court

	2002/2003	2002/2003	2005/2006	2005/2006
	number of cases	% of total	number of cases	% of total
Canada	76,153	100	56,271	100
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,403	1.8	753	1.3
Prince Edward Island	263	0.3	178	0.3
Nova Scotia	1,942	2.6	1,672	3.0
New Brunswick	1,551	2.0	1,225	2.2
Quebec	7,689	10.1	6,930	12.3
Ontario	35,710	46.9	25,084	44.6
Manitoba	3,506	4.6	2,995	5.3
Saskatchewan	6,377	8.4	4,855	8.6
Alberta	10,439	13.7	7,919	14.1
British Columbia	6,473	8.5	4,111	7.3
Yukon	164	0.2	82	0.1
Northwest Territories	385	0.5	242	0.4
Nunavut	251	0.3	225	0.4
			2005/2006 to 2002/2003	
	2006/2007	2006/2007	2006/2007	2006/2007
	number of cases	% of total	% change	% change
Canada	56,463	100	0.3	-25.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	738	1.3	-2.0	-47.4
Prince Edward Island	209	0.4	17.4	-20.5
Nova Scotia	1,798	3.2	7.5	-7.4
New Brunswick	1,174	2.1	-4.2	-24.3
Quebec	6,653	11.8	-4.0	-13.5
Ontario	25,102	44.5	0.1	-29.7
Manitoba	3,076	5.4	2.7	-12.3
Saskatchewan	5,165	9.1	6.4	-19.0
Alberta	8,016	14.2	1.2	-23.2
British Columbia	4,065	7.2	-1.1	-37.2
Yukon	90	0.2	9.8	-45.1
Northwest Territories	186	0.3	-23.1	-51.7
Nunavut	191	0.3	-15.1	-23.9

Note: Figures may not add up to due to rounding.

2. Adult criminal court statistics -2006/2007- StatsCanada

Cases in adult criminal courts are taking longer to complete. In 2006/2007, it took on average eight months to dispose of a case in adult court. This was considerably longer than the average of six months five years earlier.

Longer times to complete cases may be in part due to an increase in the proportion of cases involving multiple charges. Cases involving multiple charges represented 60% of the adult caseload in 2006/2007, compared with 57% five years earlier and 53% a decade earlier.

Fewer cases are being disposed of in adult criminal court each year, in light of the increased case complexity and duration, as well as a long-term downward trend in police-reported crime statistics.

In 2006/2007, just over 372,000 cases were disposed of in adult criminal courts, down 7% from five years earlier.

Nearly half of the cases completed in 2006/2007 involved crimes against the person (25%) and crimes against property (24%). Administration of justice offences involved 17%, and Criminal Code traffic offences, 14%. The remaining 20% involved other Criminal Code and federal statute offences.

Almost two-thirds (65%) of adult cases received a guilty disposition in 2006/2007. In a large majority of these cases (89%), the accused had pleaded guilty. The Criminal Code traffic offences category had the highest share of cases with a finding of guilt (79%). The lowest (53%) occurred in crimes against the person.

In 2006/2007, probation was the most frequently imposed sanction (43%) in cases having a guilty finding. Custody was imposed in 34% of cases, and a fine in 30%.

The proportion for prison was up slightly from what it was five years earlier, while the percentage for fines was somewhat lower, and the proportion for probation virtually unchanged.

Data for the fiscal year 2006/2007 represent approximately 98% of the national adult criminal court caseload in all provinces and territories. Trend analysis for this release was performed on a five-year time series (2002/2003 to 2006/2007) composed of all provinces and territories with the exception of Manitoba, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Note: The concept of a case has changed, and to account for the new case definition, adult court data dating back to 1994/1995 were revised in the release of October 23, 2007. Statistics in this release should not be compared to statistics from releases dated prior that date.

Table: Cases in adult criminal courts: Type of decision, 2006/2007

	Total	Guilty(1)	Guilty(1)	Acquitted
	number	number	%	number
Total offences	372,084	242,194	65	13,485
Crimes against the person	91,363	48,089	53	6,291
Crimes against property	89,319	59,085	66	1,536
Administration of justice(3)	64,990	46,296	71	961
Other Criminal Code	30,832	19,559	63	1,214
Criminal Code traffic	51,473	40,418	79	2,474
Other federal statute(4)	44,107	28,747	65	1,009
	Acquitted	Stay/withdrawn	Stay/withdrawn	
	%	number	%	
Total offences	4	110,286	30	
Crimes against the person	7	35,152	38	
Crimes against property	2	27,413	31	
Administration of justice(3)	1	16,597	26	
Other Criminal Code	4	9,417	31	
Criminal Code traffic	5	7,990	16	
Other federal statute(4)	2	13,717	31	
	Other(2)	Other(2)		
	number	%		
Total offences	6,119	2		
Crimes against the person	1,831	2		
Crimes against property	1,285	1		
Administration of justice(3)	1,136	2		
Other Criminal Code	642	2		
Criminal Code traffic	591	1		
Other federal statute(4)	634	1		

3. LEAF National has an opening for a DIRECTOR OF FUND DEVELOPMENT

The Women's Legal Education and Action Fund Inc. (LEAF), is seeking a full-time Director of Fund Development (DOF) to assist the organization in achieving its short and long term fund development goals.

LEAF has a mature national fund development program that includes direct mail campaigns, major gifts, special events and grants solicitation. Over the next year, the DOF's work will have particular emphasis on establishing a national fundraising strategy including a major and planned giving program encompassing foundation, individual and corporate gifts.

The DOF is an integral part of the LEAF staff team and plays a senior role in helping LEAF achieve its mission and goals. Reporting to the Executive Director, the DOF supervises two part-time positions, and works closely with the Fund Development Committee (FDC) and other staff to execute the fund development work and related activities articulated in LEAF's strategic and the FDC's annual development plan.

The position requires significant expertise in fundraising, outstanding communication and interpersonal skills and a proactive approach to leadership. Strategic thinking about advancing fund development within LEAF and fostering a culture of philanthropy across the organization are also among the key accountabilities for the position.

Specific Qualifications include:

1. Education: Related post-secondary education and/or equivalent combination of education and development experience. CFRE designation is considered an asset.
2. Experience: Minimum 5 years fundraising experience including major gift or campaign experience.
3. Ability to act as a team leader, to manage staff and to work collaboratively with senior volunteers and staff.
4. Demonstrated experience and success in managing a range of fundraising programs, including major gifts.
5. Experience within a national, multi-layered organization with branch or affiliate networks is considered an asset.
6. Excellent verbal and written communication skills are essential.
7. Excellent strategic, analytical and evaluation skills are essential.
8. Raisers Edge experience or experience working with prospect management tools and Excel.
9. Commitment to advocacy and women's equality and able to work well within a small team atmosphere as well as take initiative for own performance.

For a comprehensive job description please visit:
<http://www.leaf.ca/about/employment.html#target>

Location: Toronto

Compensation: LEAF is offering a competitive salary and benefits package.

Start Date: As soon as possible.

Please email cover letter and resume Monday, June 9, 2008 by 5:00 pm EST to:

The Hiring Committee
Women's Legal Education and Action Fund Inc. (LEAF)
60 St. Clair Avenue East, Suite 703
Toronto, ON M4T 1N5
Email: dofhiring@leaf.ca

LEAF encourages applications from Aboriginal women, racialized women, lesbians and women with disabilities.

LEAF is a national non-profit organization and federally registered charity. LEAF's goal is to advance the equality women and girls in Canada through litigation, law reform and public legal education. For more information about LEAF, please visit <http://www.leaf.ca>

We thank all applicants for their interest. Only candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

4. Hausse de la criminalité juvénile

La Presse canadienne
Ottawa, 17 mai 2008

Ottawa -- Le nombre d'homicides commis par des mineurs a atteint des sommets en 2006, alors que le taux de criminalité chez les jeunes de 12 à 17 ans était en hausse de 3 % par rapport à 2005.

Selon une étude de Statistique Canada se basant sur les chiffres des services de police canadiens, les crimes violents, y compris les homicides, étaient en hausse chez les jeunes.

Le taux de criminalité pour d'autres types d'infraction, comme les méfaits et le fait de troubler la paix, étaient également en hausse entre 2005 et 2006.

Par contre, le taux de criminalité chez les jeunes a connu une baisse de 6 % par rapport à la décennie précédente, et était 25 % moins important que celui observé en 1991, année record pour la criminalité juvénile.

5. LE GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA CONTRIBUE À LA LUTTE CONTRE LA TOXICOMANIE CHEZ LES JEUNES AUTOCHTONES

WINNIPEG, le 23 mai 2008 – L'honorable Rob Nicholson, C.P., c.r., ministre de la Justice et procureur général du Canada, a annoncé aujourd'hui un investissement de plus de 220 000 dollars dans un programme d'intervention pour le traitement de la toxicomanie chez les jeunes autochtones ayant des problèmes liés à la drogue et aux gangs. Le gouvernement du Canada reconnaît que les drogues illicites compromettent la santé de nos familles et la sécurité de nos communautés et aident à financer le crime organisé, a déclaré le ministre Nicholson. Ces fonds aideront à détourner les jeunes de la toxicomanie et des crimes liés aux drogues, notamment l'appartenance à une gang. L'initiative de justice communautaire *Seeing Oneself* offrira aux jeunes en détention au Centre pour la jeunesse du Manitoba un programme d'intervention pour le traitement de la toxicomanie. Le financement versé permettra de mettre à l'essai des activités et des programmes destinés à aider les jeunes toxicomanes ayant des démêlés avec la justice. Le programme, qui s'adresse aux jeunes autochtones, offrira des interventions adaptées sur le plan culturel et fondées sur la preuve afin de cibler la consommation de drogues illicites et les problèmes connexes liés aux gangs. Le personnel des services correctionnels du Centre pour la jeunesse sera spécialement formé pour coanimer le programme. Les drogues illicites font souvent partie intégrante de la criminalité chez les jeunes et des activités des gangs de rue. Ce nouveau programme contribuera à dénouer ce lien, a déclaré l'honorable Dave Chomiak, ministre de la Justice et procureur général du Manitoba. Il est important de donner aux jeunes les outils dont ils ont besoin pour se tenir loin des gangs et éviter de replonger dans la vie criminelle à leur retour dans la collectivité.

L'octroi de ce financement est une étape importante qui nous aidera à sensibiliser les jeunes et à les habiliter à prendre de bonnes décisions, ajoute Brian McLoed, président-directeur général du Strong Heart Teaching Lodge. Nos traditions nous servent de point d'ancrage pour aider nos jeunes, non seulement à survivre, mais également à prospérer en tant qu'individus et en tant que membres de la collectivité. »
Comme l'a annoncé le premier ministre Harper, le 4 octobre 2007, la Stratégie nationale antidrogue est le fruit d'une collaboration entre Santé Canada, Sécurité publique Canada

et le ministère de la Justice du Canada. Elle comprend trois grands plans d'action : prévenir la consommation de drogues illicites; traiter la toxicomanie; et contrer la production et la distribution de stupéfiants.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PROVIDES FUNDING TO HELP STEER ABORIGINAL YOUTH AWAY FROM ILLICIT DRUGS

WINNIPEG, May 23, 2008 – The Honourable Rob Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, today announced over \$220,000 in funding for a drug treatment intervention program for Aboriginal youth with drug and gang involvement.

"This Government recognizes that illicit drugs undermine healthy families and safe communities and fuel organized crime," said Minister Nicholson. "This funding will help steer youth away from illicit drugs and drug-related crime, including gang involvement."

The initiative, called Seeing Oneself Community Justice Initiative, will provide a drug treatment intervention program for youth being held in custody in the Manitoba Youth Centre. The funding will help identify and test treatment activities and programs to assist youth with illicit drug problems who are in conflict with the law. It will be aimed at Aboriginal youth and will provide culturally-relevant and evidence-based interventions to target illicit drug use and the related problem of gang involvement. Correctional personnel at the Centre will be trained to co-facilitate the program.

"Illicit drugs are often an integral part of youth crime and gang activity. This new program will help break that connection," said the Honourable Dave Chomiak, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Manitoba. "It's important to give these young people the tools to help them stay out of gangs and the criminal life when they return to their communities."

"This funding is a strong, positive step that will help us to reach youth and empower them to make good choices," said Brian McLeod, CEO and Director of Strong Heart Teaching Lodge. "Our traditions are a foundation upon which we can help youth not only to survive, but also to thrive as individuals and community members."

As announced by Prime Minister Harper on October 4, 2007, the National Anti-Drug Strategy is a collaborative effort involving Health Canada, Public Safety Canada and the Department of Justice and includes three action plans: preventing illicit drug use; treating those with illicit drug dependencies; and combating the production and distribution of illicit drugs.

Irving Kulik
Executive Director/Directeur general
CCJA/ACJP

