

ACLCO Communications Policy

I/ Enabling Authority

1. The objects of the Association of Community Legal Clinics of Ontario (ACLCO) are:
 - a) to improve the legal welfare of the communities served by its member legal clinics;
 - b) to promote unity and understanding among legal clinics in Ontario;
 - c) to represent and advocate on behalf of legal clinics in Ontario;
 - d) to promote and expand the legal clinic system in Ontario.
2. The affairs of the Association, in between Members Meetings, are managed by an elected 13 member Executive, each of whom at the time of their election are members of the Board or an employee of a legal clinic which is a member of the Association. [Bylaw #1 — ACLCO Constitution]
3. At its May, 2002, Annual General Members Meeting, the ACLCO's membership passed a motion directing the Executive to develop a Communications Policy in accordance with the guidelines articulated in that motion.

II/ Principles

- The ACLCO executive, shall operate in as open and inclusive a manner as is possible.
- The ACLCO executive shall engage in regular communication with the ACLCO membership.

III/ Fundamentals of Communication

1. The executive shall distribute, in a timely manner, minutes of its meetings to the clinic system. Only those portions of those minutes dealing with confidential personnel issues will be withheld.
2. Members of the executive shall report to the regions they are elected by on at least a quarterly basis, regarding the activities of the executive, and issues the executive is dealing with. Such reports should include updates from executive committees and/or subcommittees.
3. Each region shall determine its own method of reporting from the executive referred to in section two above.
4. The executive shall from time to time communicate to the clinic system as a whole through a newsletter reporting on significant activities undertaken by the ACLCO.
5. At each ACLCO Annual General Members Meeting, the executive shall report to the membership on its activities, and provide an opportunity for the membership to provide input to the executive. In addition, the Treasurer shall present a financial report, including financial statements.

January, 2003