



Happy New Year!

Indigenous Peoples and Governance wishes to all researchers, collaborators, partners, students and the persons involved a happy new year 2010. May it brings you health, stimulating challenges, satisfying results and, of course, a lot of happiness.

Some changes were made to the web site. We invite you to daily visit our new website for further information: <http://www.pag-ipg.com/en/index.htm>.

News about the theme conferences

Last fall was punctuated by meetings among the various committees responsible for organizing the theme conferences provided for in our project's three year plan. The purpose of the meetings was to set the parameters for each of the conferences. Given the organizing committees' plans, our team is going to have two productive, stimulating years!

The conferences are all very different, owing to the themes and topics, but also to the participants, partners and target audiences. The perspectives and approaches will thus be very diverse and diversified. Some of the activities will be on a large scale with many speakers, while others will be more like round table workshops with a small number of participants. A number of activities will also be organized in partnership with Aboriginal communities and organizations. Nonetheless, in the end, each activity will play a role in the collective reflection that we are undertaking together on the central problem of governance.

In due time, each organizing committee will contact the whole PAG team with information on and/or an invitation to attend its event. Each organizing committee is aware of the

interests of the researchers and students on our team, especially those who expressed interest in participating in specific themes at the October 2008 mid-term meeting. In order to help you plan your next two years and future travel, here is a short summary of some upcoming activities.

Please note that activities have already taken place on certain themes (1 and 6), so they do not appear in the summary. The project's international closing conference (theme 8) also does not appear. Finally, beware: some dates and venues are not yet definitive.

Theme 3 : Pratiques de gouvernance, politiques publiques et gestion des programmes et services/ Governance Practices and the Definition and Implementation of Policies, Programs and Services

When: Autumn 2010

Place: Montreal (TBC)

Organizing Committee: Carole Lévesque, Daniel Salée, Julie Cunningham

Theme 4: La participation politique et les processus décisionnels au sein des communautés autochtones/ Models of political Participation and decision-making in Aboriginal Communities

When: Autumn 2010

Place: Sault Ste Marie (TBC)

Organizing Committee: Melissa Williams, Michael Coyle, Victoria Freeman, Rauna Kuokkanen

Theme 5 : Les dynamiques d'inter-gouvernance et le fédéralisme/ Dynamics of Inter-governance and Federalism

When: March 12, 2010

Place: Ottawa

Organizing Committee: Martin Papillon, Ghislain Otis, Jacques Kurtness, Jean Leclair

Introducing an ally

Indigenous Bar Association



Objectives of the Association:

1. To recognize and respect the spiritual basis of our Indigenous laws, customs and traditions;
2. To promote the advancement of legal and social justice for Indigenous peoples in Canada;
3. To promote the reform of policies and laws affecting Indigenous peoples in Canada;
4. To foster public awareness within the legal community, the Indigenous community and the general public in respect of legal and social issues of concern to Indigenous peoples in Canada;
5. In pursuance of the foregoing objects, to provide a forum and network amongst Indigenous lawyers: to provide for their continuing education in respect of developments in Indigenous law; to exchange information and experiences with respect to the application of Indigenous law; and to discuss Indigenous legal issues;
6. To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

Every year, the Association holds a Conference. The 21st Annual IBA Conference on the theme: "Aboriginal, Civil & Human Rights: Intersection & Interrelationships", took place last October in Vancouver, British Columbia.

For more info on the next Annual Conference:

<http://www.indigenousbar.ca/conferences/index.html>