

BIOGRAPHY

Joanne St. Lewis

Keynote Speaker

OFL Employment Equity Seminar

Friday, November 9, 2007 @ 7:30 p.m.

B.A. (McGill), LL.B. (B.C.) of the Law Society of Upper Canada, Assistant Professor

Ms. Joanne St. Lewis is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section. She currently teaches civil liberties, social justice, comparative South African and Canadian constitutional law and first year legislation. She has also taught courses in critical race theory, history of legal thought and criminal justice administration. She was the co-chair of the Canadian Bar Association Working Group on Racial Equality and author of *Virtual Justice: Systemic Racism and the Canadian Legal Profession*.

A bilingual lawyer, she has extensive experience in the equality rights area. She is currently a Bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada. She conducts research and consults with government, corporations and community organizations in the area of equality rights with a particular emphasis on legal culture, critical race theory and feminist legal theory. She also conducts training on anti-racist decision-making and practice with judges, other members of the administration of justice, private sector management and the human services sector.

Professor St. Lewis was the founding Director of the Education Equity Programme of the Law Faculty at the University of Ottawa. She has held positions with the Ontario Human Rights Commission and the Ontario Race Relations Directorate. She was also the Executive Director of the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF). From 1985-87, she was Special Assistant Government Affairs to the Grand Chief of the Crees of Quebec and was involved in the negotiations of the 1986 La Grande Agreement.

PANELISTS' BIOGRAPHY

OFL Employment Equity Seminar

Saturday, November 10, 2007

Lisa Addario

Lisa Addario is a well respected lawyer and employment equity officer at Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC). PSAC represents over 160,000 workers, the vast majority of whom work for the federal government, in its departments and agencies.

Catherine Dunphy

Catherine has a B.A. from St. Xavier University and a M.T.S. from the University of Toronto. She is currently working as a self-employed Vocational Rehabilitation Consultant with the Ontario Disability Supports Program where she provides employment and self-employment supports to clients. With a focus on employment for persons with disabilities, Catherine's career history also includes Labour Market Re-entry for WSIB clients and employment equity.

Sharon Hambleton

Sharon Hambleton is the OFL Vice-President representing persons with disabilities and chair of the OFL Persons with Disabilities Committee. Sharon comes to us from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) and is a long time trade union activist. At the federal level, Sharon is the CLC Vice-President representing persons with disabilities. Sharon represented the OFL on Ontario's Customer Service Standards Development Committee which recommended standards to the Ontario government, as part of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*.

Paulette Haynes

Paulette Haynes is a graduate of the University of Ottawa with a Bachelor of Social Sciences. She obtained a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1992 and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1994. Since her call to the Bar of Ontario, she has led her own boutique firm, Haynes Law Office, which provides legal representation in the areas of employment law and civil litigation with particular emphasis on wrongful dismissal, human rights and sexual harassment cases. Paulette has previously worked in the Chair's Office of the Ontario Human Rights Commission. She currently teaches Labour Law at Ryerson University.

Carol Robertson

Carol Robertson was responsible for issues regarding women's status and human rights at Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) in Quebec for more than 15 years. In this capacity she assisted in the bargaining of employment equity plans which included targets, timetables and employment systems review. She was also the principal instigator for the charter challenge of Chapter IX of the *Pay Equity Act*. She presently works for the Commission de l'équité salariale in Quebec in the capacity of Pay Equity Commissioner.

Susan Ursel

Susan Ursel is a partner with the law firm of Green & Chercover. A graduate of the University of Toronto in 1979, she received her B.A. with high honours. Subsequently, she completed her LL.B. at Osgoode Hall Law School in 1984 and was called to the Bar in 1986. Ms. Ursel has practiced in the areas of labour, employment, employment equity and human rights law.