



# CHUMIR ETHICS FORUM



## Sheldon M. Chumir Foundation— Ethics in Leadership

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### President's Message

Welcome to the second edition of the Sheldon Chumir Foundation's newsletter, *CHUMIR ETHICS FORUM*. For anyone who did not receive the first issue, you may call or e-mail our office and we will send you a copy. Our third issue for 2001 will be published in October.

The work of the Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership has proceeded at a rapid pace over the past few months. Following our very successful Inaugural Symposium on December 2-3, 2000, we have instituted a series of Community Forums, described on page 8. Two have been held to date, and we plan to continue them over the course of the next year. As always, we welcome your comments on the forums as well as your suggestions for topics to be covered in future and your participation. We are also considering ways of supplementing the forums with informal discussions, presentations in schools and by other means.

As I indicated in my message in the first newsletter, the most significant element of our initial work has been educational in a broad sense. The Forums fit into this mandate, as do our major symposium, our internship and fellowships, the material we post on our website and the support we provide to organizations from the Alberta Girls' Parliament to the Queen's University Business Ethics competition. Several new initiatives are described in these pages, and we hope you will enjoy reading about them.

Following a very successful year for Intern Lindsay Gluck and Fellows Gail Hulnick and Stuart Whitley, May was "selection time" at the Foundation. Our

new Intern, David Hughes, comes to us in September with many exciting ideas about his organizational and research role. As well, we have two new Fellows, Alison Jeffrey and Jennifer Williams (see page 2). You will be hearing more from them in future newsletters. Many thanks to selection committee members Brenda Baker, Gary Dickson and Sandy Kalef (Internship); Ron Ghitter, Janet Keeping, Brian Long and Bob Ware (Government Fellowship); and Peter Desbarats, David Gell and David Taras (Media Fellowship).

As the Foundation's work becomes better known, we are receiving requests from a variety of organizations for information and presentations. The presentation by former MLA Gary Dickson to the Alberta Girls' Parliament (see page 2) was so well received that the organizers have indicated a strong wish to include the topic of "Ethics in Government" again at next year's Parliament. In May, I spoke in Winnipeg to the National Association of University Board Chairs and Secretaries on the topic of "Ethics in Leadership", and also to a meeting of the Knights of the Round Table in Calgary. Several fall presentations are currently being planned.

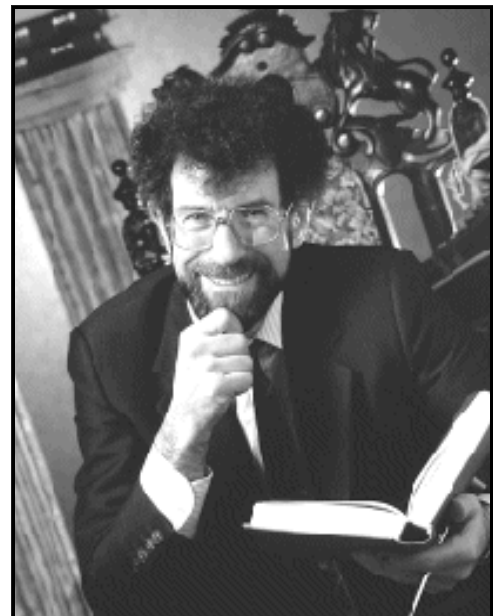
Our second major symposium and gala dinner will be held in April, 2002. Watch our website and the next newsletter for details.

Finally, as always, I want to thank each of you for your interest in and support of the Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership. We look forward to your continued involvement.

Marsha P. Hanen,  
President

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**Sheldon M. Chumir**  
Founder, Sheldon M. Chumir Foundation  
for Ethics in Leadership

## Sheldon M. Chumir Foundation Announcements...

The Sheldon M. Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership is delighted to announce that **The Honourable Ron Ghit-ter, Q.C., LLD**, former Alberta MLA and former Senator joined the **Board of Directors** this spring. Well known as a person deeply committed to human rights, Ron received the Alberta Human Right Award in 1990. First elected to the Provincial Legislature for Calgary Buffalo in 1971, Ron sponsored the Individual Rights Protection Act in 1972 and was Chairman of the Minister's Consultative Committee on Tolerance and Understanding, structured to provide Alberta's Minister of Education with ways and means by which the school system can better encourage tolerance and understanding in the province. Ron is pleased to be joining current directors Joel Bell, Dr. Betty Flagler and Cliff O'Brien, Q.C. to help advance the mandate of the Chumir Foundation.

Also, as the current Intern and Fellows finish up their terms with the Chumir Foundation, we are pleased to announce the incoming Fellows and Intern:

### The 2001-2002 Media Fellowship

has been awarded to **Jennifer Williams**, a journalist with over ten years experience in editing and writing. Ms. Williams, based in Vancouver, will undertake a study tentatively entitled, *Staking An Ethical Claim: The Rush To Institutionalize Codes of Ethics and The Reality of Whistleblowers*, in which she will examine institutional codes of ethics and interview ethics officers and whistleblowers in order to connect ways in which they express a commitment to the common good.

The 2001-2002 **Government and Public Service Fellow** is **Alison Jeffrey**, a recent graduate of the University of Al-

berta's Master of Business Administration program. Ms Jeffrey has held positions within the federal and provincial government with assignments in trade policy, energy policy and intergovernmental affairs. She will work on a project entitled, *Seeking the Common Ground: The Convergence of People, Politics and Profit*, in which she will explore the perceived disparity among public, private and community sectors in the age of "globalization."

**David Hughes** has been awarded the 2001-2002 Chumir Foundation's **Internship**. Mr. Hughes has completed both

For the second year, the Chumir Foundation was a major sponsor of the **Alberta Girls Parliament**, held in Edmonton at the end of March. We were especially pleased that Gary Dickson, former MLA for Calgary Buffalo, engaged the participants in an interactive problem solving session on ethical issues faced by MLAs. Alberta Girls' Parliament is a project of the Alberta Council of the Girl Guides of Canada.

The Chumir Foundation has also agreed to support five groups of **Scouts About**, a new after-school initiative of Scouts Canada. We will support four groups in Calgary and one in Edmonton involving

a total of 175 – 275 boys and girls between ages 5 and 10. The project is specifically aimed at helping develop values and skills in children who may be less advantaged than others, or who may be at risk after school.

This year, under our sponsorship, Jewish Family Services is presenting the **Sheldon M. Chumir Foundation Retreat: "Integrating Ethics and Leadership for Immigrant Youth."**

The retreat, for immigrant youth, takes place in August at Camp B'nai B'rith and presents an

orientation to multiculturalism, as well as discussions of human rights, civil liberties, leadership and volunteerism in the Jewish and greater Calgary Community. There will also be a chance for leisure and entertainment.

Finally, the Foundation will help support the employment of **2 law students** at the **Alberta Civil Liberties Association** this summer. The students have just finished their first year at the Universities of Calgary and Alberta. Over the summer they will contribute to the Association's Research and Education Programs and focus on areas concerning civil liberties and human rights law.



Representatives of Alberta Girls Parliament, supported by the Chumir Foundation.

BA and MA degrees in Political Science at the University of British Columbia, as well as having undertaken Peace and Conflict Studies at Uppsala University in Sweden. Additionally, he has worked as a research assistant in the South East Asian Program at Uppsala University and has been the recipient of a number of academic awards and scholarships. Mr. Hughes exhibits a deep commitment to the idea that ethical leadership must be encouraged not only among traditional leaders, but among all citizens.

Expect to hear more from each of these dedicated people during the coming year.

## Alleviating the Malaise Towards Civic Involvement and Canadian Politics

There has been much talk lately about the general malaise with which Canadians have been approaching traditional party politics and civic involvement. A growing lack of engagement is especially notable in the younger generation, who are the newer phase of voters, as well as among students and a large population of the anti-globalization movement. As a member of this group of younger citizens, this is of particular interest to me as there is a sense in which the continuing lack of interest might lead to an absence of an effective way of engaging with the political system altogether. What is especially worrying is the possibility that Michael Adams puts to us- that the avoidance of “ordinary” politics by younger Canadians now may not be just a passing phase, but rather a fundamental orientation that they will carry through life. While it is true that there are ways other than party politics to go about engaging in society, it is important that people feel they have a role to play in the traditional political system. Without this traditional form of political engagement there is no guarantee that citizens will be heard, let alone taken seriously, and the well being of Canadian citizens and Canada itself depends on a system in which all citizens can contribute meaningfully to the political process.

The rejection of the political process is clearly visible in the inability of some political parties to attract new members. As main political parties search for a relevant identity within the current political scheme and reach out to the newest group of political Canadians, it becomes clear that this group is decreasingly committed to, or interested in, party politics. For instance, “The [NDP] would love to reach out to the leftist young people who have led the fight against corporate-driven globalization... but many of the movement’s leaders see the NDP and Parliament as archaic instruments that are ill-equipped to fight for the cause.”

So, what has changed within party politics that has led to this malaise, and to

the sentiment that traditional politics are not as effective as they used to be?

It could be that what used to be a balance of power between government and big business has shifted in favor of the corporations. There is a sentiment that working through the traditional modes of parliamentary politics is futile because the shift in power has decreased government’s

*The avoidance of politics by younger Canadians may be a fundamental orientation they will carry through life.*

ability to change or control what goes on in Canada. As Globe and Mail reporter Heather Scoffield suggests, government no longer holds the upper hand in making sure corporate interests do not predominate over the interests of society as a whole.

There is also an increasing concern that democratic institutions are out of sync with the values and interests of Canadian people. This leaves us feeling that meaningful representation by politicians within traditional party politics is inaccessible. Peter Lougheed suggests that, “our parliamentary democracy is based on the linked concepts of responsible government and representative government.” Responsible government is one which is representative of the concerns of its people, while likewise, a representative government is one which is responsible for listening to, and acting upon, what they need and value. Clearly, lack of representation is detrimental to the political system. Often, it seems as though politicians are elected into their respective governments and then go on to toe party lines instead of listening to, and working for, what it is that their constituents really value. There is also serious concern about the move to centralist governing that has been apparent over the last decade. Centralist, non-confrontational policies are not representative of an active, engaged citizenry who wish to have their values and ideals represented by governments. The concern is that when meaningful representation falls by the wayside, citizens are left wondering how the system is working for them

as individuals and as Canadians.

In terms of responsibility, there are certain obligations that politicians must meet in order to encourage the engagement of citizens. In a talk about engaging Canadians, Jocelyne Bourgon, former Clerk of the Privy Council, suggests that, “the relationship between government and citizens can be viewed as a continuum, one which begins with transparency though information-sharing, to accountability in the reporting of results and consultation.” There is also a governmental responsibility to allow citizen participation, not exclusively, but as a factor in all aspects of political issues, such as defining problems, debating options and taking actions. These responsibilities that governments have to their citizens have been obvious recently in concerns about the democracy of the Summit of the Americas and with regard to the details of the Free Trade Area of the Americas. Many citizens felt that the government failed in ensuring a democratic political process by refusing to release, until very late, the details of the agreement and by erecting a fence to avoid the perceived disruption of citizen participation in all stages of the Summit. Faith in the government and in parliamentary democracy will continue to erode as long as the citizenry feels that the government is shirking its duty to listen and be accountable and to explain how the values of those citizens have been considered and reflected in the political process.

Finally, it is possible that in this day and age of perceived corporate takeover and increased branding, the younger generation of citizens is choosing to shun the labels of partisan politics just as they shun other kinds of labels. And, even if those citizens aren’t label-phobic, one can understand the increasing tendency to align with a particular ideological cause instead of with a party that spends much of its time worrying about who is the more terrible leader. This way, instead of supporting a party that only partially represents them, and has very little power against the corporate giants anyway, citizens can pick and choose what they value

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## News Media Have to Choose between Public's Right to Know and Individual's Right to Privacy

A tornado hits a trailer park in Pine Lake, Alberta. A television crew shows up to cover the story and finds residents standing in a group, looking at the devastation. The journalist does not know that these people have relatives among the 11 people killed. When he walks up to ask for an interview they become upset and ask him to leave, saying they don't want to be on television.

The reporter is in an ethical dilemma. On the one hand, people who are grieving deserve to have their privacy respected, but on the other, his viewers and his employer expect him to gather information and pictures of a major event.

What if he went back to the TV station news van and had the cameraman take pictures from a distance? What if he knew ahead of time that these were survivors who had lost family members and therefore shot video from a distance, approaching later to ask for an interview? If they refuse an interview, is it still ethical to use the long-shot pictures? What if they not only refuse an interview but also stated, in very strong terms, that they do not want to be on television? Should he hunt for other people, survivors who might be more willing to give permission to film or ask questions? But what if there is not enough time to ask anybody else? What if these were the only survivors that night? Is it right to use the pictures? What if it is the only way to get the job done?

For many readers, the first and most obvious inclination would be to empathize with the victims of the tragedy and to criticize the media intrusion on their privacy. But an effort to see the situation from the reporter's point of view, motivated by the pressure to do his job and satisfy the public's right to know, may modify the reader's perspective. If one then considers the situation from a third perspective, (and the one represented in the largest numbers),

that of the viewer, listener or newspaper reader who is expecting to see and hear details of the tornado, does one then reach the conclusion that the greater good outweighs the potential harm?

The essential question for journalists may be stated as: how do I do my job well without being unnecessarily intrusive, unfair or unethical? For members of the public, it may be framed as: how do I preserve my privacy and my dignity, while not impeding the openness, freedom of communication and opposition to secrecy necessary for a democracy to survive?

This article describes some of the ethical dilemmas that arise from the conflict between the public's right to know and the individual's right to privacy or anonymity. The author's full research paper on this subject may be viewed on the Foundation website at [www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca](http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca) (click on "downloads".)

### *Ethical Decisions*

Journalists must make ethical decisions in two areas: the content of the news story or pictures; and the way the content is gathered. In both categories of decision-making, the treatment of public figures may differ from the treatment of private individuals, depending on the journalist or newsroom making the call.

With regard to content, one of the most controversial areas for the privacy issue is the coverage of tragedy. Many viewers or readers find it difficult to watch and feel that grief is often exploited by the news media. Others are not so sensitive, as is revealed in the experience of one of the news directors interviewed for this paper: "We had great pics of a man arriving at the scene of an accident where two of his kids had been run down in a crosswalk. They both died. He was distraught. We ran the pictures sound up and got many complaints. People felt we exploited his grief. But I spoke with him and he had no complaints. He felt the coverage accurately portrayed what happened at the accident scene and would get a lot of

drivers to be more careful at crosswalks."<sup>1</sup>

The first decision to be made on any story is whether to cover it at all. Although news directors and editors usually make the decision on whether to air graphic material based on the actual content of the material, there may be a certain momentum that stories acquire, once the assignment has been made to a reporter. If the newsroom has committed the time and resources of a reporter, and perhaps a photographer or cameraman, to a particular news event or story, there is a resistance to 'dropping' the story, and having to fill the air time or page space with something else; the arguments in favour of dropping the story have to be extremely compelling.

Thereafter, numerous decisions follow, centering on the methods of news gathering, the explicitness of the written or broadcast copy, the photographs, and the extent of identification of victims, sources, and other people associated with the story.

Decisions about identification and naming names usually rest on newsroom policy. Most newsrooms have a policy against naming children and youth arrested or convicted of a crime, rape victims, juvenile victims of crime, and sources who have been promised confidentiality in return for information.

In the case of juvenile victims, the concern is that the child often is not in a position to think about or give informed consent to the use of his name or likeness in the media, yet the implications of fame can affect him for years afterward. Many journalists express a concern for the child's future peace of mind, in that they may be subject to teasing and ridicule long after the news event has passed. In some cases, the police and authorities are the ones who

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are putting the children in the public view, by putting out news releases or introducing them at press conferences. Most newsrooms will run with the information at that point, although some journalists still express unease under those circumstances and may consider keeping the child's identity confidential.<sup>2</sup>

In some cases, as in the story of a young boy abandoned in a Calgary supermarket, identification in the media is considered necessary at the time in order to complete an investigation or provide medical assistance. But even the authorities are sometimes overwhelmed by the intensive and scope of media interest in certain stories and the lengths to which some journalists will go to turn up personal facts not yet revealed by their competitors.

The names of juveniles accused or convicted of crimes are routinely shielded. Another particular privacy problem stems from pre-trial publicity that arises from the practice of naming the names of accused people who are adults. The right to a fair trial may be damaged and the family may suffer embarrassment or harassment. In some jurisdictions, a high percentage of arrests do not result in convictions or even charges, and therefore people question the ethics of publishing the names of the accused. Some may also consider the effect, given the social stature and impact of the media in our culture, of publication or broadcast of the names of the accused; many people will assume there is guilt, just because of the publicity, particularly if it is unusually widespread and lengthy (and if it develops the character of a "trial by media").

The danger, of course, is that non-publication of the names of accused and the associated secrecy will lead to injustice, even tyranny. But at an Ontario Press Council symposium on the subject, held in the mid 1980s, speakers drew a distinction between having 'open court' with access to information (thereby satisfying the public's right to know and the

desire to avoid secrecy and injustice) and having 'publicity' (open access for the media.) Media people equate the two, but these speakers rejected the notion of the news media as the public's surrogate.<sup>3</sup>

Private information about medical or legal affairs sometimes comes into the hands of journalists and they must decide how to handle it. The first step is

*The primary dilemma arises because the information was once private and is about to be made public.*

usually to contact the individual to verify the information; most say they will publish only if they receive permission. There is much more likely to be media interest if the individual is a person who is either in public life or whose name is well-known.<sup>4</sup> Journalists are particularly likely to give the story 'heavy play' if the information in some way has a negative effect on the individual's ability to do his (taxpayer-funded) job or if the information reveals hypocrisy on the part of the individual.

The primary dilemma arises here because the information once was private and is about to be made public. But there is a second dimension that occurs when the information is so sensitive the journalist knows the individual may be hurt by its publication. The subject of the information may know the journalist has it and may try to prevent its publication or broadcast. Sometimes, the effort comes in the form of threats to cut off advertising to the newspaper or broadcasting station. The decision whether to publish becomes gut-wrenching, however, when the threat is not monetary but emotional; some veteran journalists have had the experience of having the subject of a story call and threaten to commit suicide if the information is made public.

A third factor arises if there are family members or friends (who may not be people with any reason to be in the public eye) who may be hurt by the disclosure. Journalists must also decide in situations where some people will be hurt, but others will be helped.<sup>5</sup>

A further complication is added by the 'pack' or 'herd' characteristic of journalism. Occasionally, information that one newsroom may believe to be unethically obtained (or not sufficiently verified) is published or broadcast far and wide by another newsroom. After a certain length of time, when the information is considered to be 'in the public arena' to such a degree that there is no basis for regarding it as 'private' any longer, the original outlet may join the group and go ahead and publish the material. Journalists regard this as a matter of acknowledging the reality that the individual's privacy has already been lost, and there is no further harm to be done, so they may as well carry the information, too. They often do not realize that it is there is a cumulative effect, of many newspapers and broadcasts repeating the information, that may lead to an impression of truth or merit in the information or allegations, that would have no effect, if there weren't so many outlets carrying the same story.

An aligned issue is the question of whether the story was obtained using ethical or unethical methods. If a piece of information is true, fair, and necessary, but was not handed out by an official, and was obtained through methods such as stealing a document, going through a wastebasket (or even a dumpster!) or lying about one's identity, is it ethical to publish or broadcast it? Is it stealing, if it is a public document, written using taxpayer funds by people who salaries are paid using taxpayer funds? Is it stolen, if the journalist does not actually take it, but received it from a person who does not have the authority to reveal it?

Some ethically dubious methods include: reading documents upside down while seated across a desk from an interview subject; impersonation or wearing disguises (in Paris, an unemployed journalist and two students got jail sentences for wearing medical white coats and going into a hospital, looking for a sick actor)<sup>6</sup>; setting up an 'ambush', where the reporter and/or photographer hide, and lie in wait for a person they want to catch off guard; the surreptitious recording (including the

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‘Trojan horse’ method of leaving a briefcase with a running tape recorder in a meeting room.)

During interviews for this paper, journalists disclosed tactics used by other reporters that they find odious: “I hate it when reporters stand on the doorstep of a grieving relative, while wearing a radio mic and with a cameraman across the street so the person doesn’t realize they are on TV.” “I object to reporters offering to go ‘off the record’ with somebody, then printing their comments anyway, claiming they never promised to go ‘off the record.’” “I don’t agree with ‘sneak photos’ – except of people accused of crimes.” One news director drew this line: “I did have a crew get some family pictures once by entering a home that was left unlocked. We did not use those pic-

tures.” While legal prohibitions against wire-tapping, trespass, libel and defamation, theft, and even fraud may deter the more egregious transgressions, the law is not designed to plug every hole, and indeed in about freedom of expression may infuse a countering force, particularly in some cases, constitutional concerns where the method of obtaining the information cannot be determined with certainty.

As a community, we must rely on the ethical judgments of journalists and their newsroom supervisors and executives. There are no polls taken in advance of publication or broadcast, and often reporters have very little time to make their newsgathering decisions. A community with a high level of media literacy, mechanisms for public involvement in the evaluation of the ethical standards of the news media, and an effective sys-

tem for training and certifying reporters would provide a climate in which a satisfactory balance between public disclosure and privacy rights could be maintained.

**Gail Hulnick**

Media Ethics Fellow  
2000-2001

<sup>1</sup>Survey of Canadian journalists. Gail Hulnick. 2001.

<sup>2</sup>Survey of Canadian journalists. Gail Hulnick. 2001.

<sup>3</sup>Ontario Press Council (1984). *Trial by Media: An Account of an Open Forum on Pre-Trial Publicity*.

<sup>4</sup>Survey of Canadian journalists. Gail Hulnick. 2001.

<sup>5</sup>Survey of Canadian journalists. Gail Hulnick 2001.

<sup>6</sup>Russell, Nick (1994) *Morals and the Media: Ethics in Canadian Journalism*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press. p. 128.

## ALLEVIATING THE MALAISE...

*Continued from page 3*

and then go to work advancing those causes in whatever way they see as effective.

So, what steps can be taken by traditional politics in order to regain some of the lost momentum? To begin, it needs to restore the faith that a Canadian political system can keep the reins on big business. The balance of power needs to be recalibrated so that control is equalized between corporations and governments. This is because in an increasingly globalized world, there is a sense in which the power of governments has, and will continue to, decline. For instance, while the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission was once able to regulate most of what went on in the media, it is apparent that the Internet and continually merging media “conglomerates” are out of reach for such regulation. This lack of faith in the government’s power is likely contributing to the increase in the values of autonomy and independence. Only after the government regains some control will Canadian citizens feel that through party politics they can have a

voice in deciding what happens. Additionally, we need to see the government focus more on the world and on Canada’s place in the world and its relationship with other countries. Then, perhaps, Canadians will begin to feel a greater engagement in the goings on of a global system and Canadian politics. What is certain, though, is that without a restored faith in the ability of government to maintain a balance of political control, Canadians will be compelled to continue to search for alternative, more autonomous ways of engaging in civil society.

In order to reshape political ideals so that they appeal more broadly to Canadians, it would also be appropriate to have more rocking of the boat. As I heard one journalist say, “the days of big activist government are gone.” It would be valuable to hear more about the issues that are important to Canadians. That means more transparent discussions and then *action* on things that matter to us. Canadian citizens also want a more substantive involvement in the political process and a commitment by the government that they will be listened to.

Overall, a greater sense of balance between the government and big business

and an increased understanding of Canada’s place in a globalized world in addition to a greater effort to narrow the increasingly widening ideological gap between Canadian ideals and the political system would be good first steps towards a more broadly appealing political system. The interests of Canadians, and younger Canadians in particular, must be recaptured to ensure a healthy, well functioning system of politics in which citizens feel meaningfully engaged.

**Lindsay Gluck**

Intern  
2000-2001

<sup>1</sup>Michael Adams (2000), *The Revolt of the Voting Classes*. Environics Research Group. <http://erg.environics.net/news>

<sup>2</sup>Mark MacKinnon, NDP *A Cause in Need of A Rebel*. The Globe and Mail. 03/19/01.

<sup>3</sup>Hugh Winsor, *Saving the Enfeebled Parliamentarian*. The Globe and Mail. 04/02/01.

<sup>4</sup>Jocelyne Bourgon (1998), *A Voice for All: Engaging Canadians for Change*. Citizen Participation Centre [www.policity.com](http://www.policity.com)

<sup>5</sup>Michael Adams (2000), *The Revolt of the Voting Classes*. Environics Research Group. <http://erg.environics.net/news>

<sup>6</sup>Michael Adams (2000), *The Revolt of the Voting Classes*. Environics Research Group. <http://erg.environics.net/news>

## 2000-2001 Media Ethics and Public Affairs Fellows: A Profile

Between them, the 2000-2001 Fellows in Media Ethics and Public Affairs have over 40 years of experience in their chosen fields.

Our Media Ethics Fellow is Gail Hultnick, an independent consultant and writer with 23 years of experience in the media as a broadcaster, journalist, writer, consultant and speaker. Gail hails from North Vancouver, British Columbia where she worked for CBC radio for eighteen years before branching out independently. She holds a BA in Sociology and Psychology and an MBA from the University of Alberta and also has a Masters Degree in Journalism from the University of Western Ontario.

Gail came to the Foundation with a particular interest in media ethics in terms of where the line must be drawn between the public's right to know and the individual's right to privacy. Over 250 print and broadcast journalists and managers were surveyed on questions relating to the news media ethical decision-making process as a part of her research for the Foundation. One result of the research is the conclusion that the primary influences on the outcomes of ethical dilemmas are individual conscience, management leadership and peer pressure. A short version of Gail's work for the Foundation is featured in this newsletter on pages 3-4.

The 2000-2001 Public Affairs Fellow is

Stuart Whitley, former Deputy Minister of Justice for the Yukon and former Assistant Deputy Attorney General for Manitoba. More recently, Stuart has been doing work for the federal Department of Justice. Stuart holds a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Manitoba and a Master of Laws degree from Dalhousie University. In the past, Stuart has held lecturing positions at several educational institutions, including the University of Manitoba, Yukon College and the Canadian Police College. He has taught in a variety of areas, from constitutional and criminal law, to legal and ethical issues for educators and administrators.

Stuart has shown concern for human

rights and community, through his memberships with the Canadian Human Rights Foundation and Amnesty International and as a Board Member with the United Way of Yukon. For his project with the Foundation, Stuart worked from his perspective as a civil servant and wrote about the ethical dilemmas surrounding the duty to resign following the betrayal of the public interest by politicians.

It is important that the research and conclusions that are amassed by each of the fellows be internalized by the foundation. In addition to making their projects available to the foundation, each fellow will spend some time consulting with the foundation on the topic of their research.

If you wish to read about the research completed by our fellows, you will find a short version of Stuart's paper featured in the Winter 2001 edition of the newsletter at pages 3-4, as well as a short version of Gail's paper in this edition at pages 3,4,6.

Additionally, both Gail's and Stuart's completed fellowship projects can be viewed on our website at [www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca/download](http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca/download)



Foundation Staff Linda, Ingrid and Lindsay register guests at the Gala Dinner in December.

### EVENTS TO WATCH FOR

<i>Forum Series...</i>	Fall, 2001
<i>Newsletter - Volume 1, No. 3...</i>	Fall, 2001
<i>Symposium and Gala Dinner...</i>	April, 2002

Stay posted about these and other events on our website at [www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca](http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca)

## A Series of Public Forums on Ethics Begins with Success

The Sheldon Chumir Foundation **Forum Series** is well under way these days, after the successful completion of our first two forums.

In pursuit of action that exemplifies ethical principle, one focus of the foundation is to support the open expression and dissemination of ideas and tolerant discussion.

By providing a forum for open dialogue on relevant ethical topics, from various backgrounds and points of view, we feel we can help foster principled, community-minded values and action that reflect a concerned, and ethical leadership.

Our first forum was held at the downtown campus of Mount Royal College on February 26th, 2001. The focus of the forum was corporate accountability and community involvement and we presented a panel ranging from the corporate sector to the community sector. The speakers included, Susan Quinn, an ethics consultant with her own company, "Just Solutions," Dr. Randy Gossen, Vice President at Nexen Inc. who spoke from the corporate perspective, and Ruth Ramsden-Wood, President of the Calgary chapter of the United Way.

There was interesting discussion around the responsibilities facing corporations and the way in which community organizations and non-profits can work hand in hand with corporations in order to have a more efficient process for maintaining corporate responsibility and accountability.



Friend of the foundation, Frances Wright and staff member, Elaine Wojtkiw at a foundation event.

The second forum took place at the W.R. Castell Public Library on May 15th, 2001.

Attendance doubled from the first forum to the second forum and we are excited to be able to spark an interest in ethics in an increasing number of community members!

At this forum, entitled "Reflections on Quebec City and Beyond: Rights, Responsibilities and Globalization," we reflected upon what happened prior to, and during, the FTAA meetings in Quebec City. We also discussed some of the rights and responsibilities surrounding globalism from both a national and community perspective. There was much discussion following the presentations by the speakers, and those who attended were quite engaged in working towards moving forward in the debates.

The speakers at this forum included Mark MacKinnon, an award winning reporter for the Globe and Mail, who was in Quebec City reporting on that event, and Dr. Robert Ware, professor of Philosophy at the University of Calgary and a strong proponent of community engagement and participation.

We have had some constructive feedback following each of the forums. As we continue with this series into the fall, we hope that more and more of you will be interested in attending some of these open and engaging discussions on topics in ethics and leadership.

Please feel free to contact the foundation if you feel especially interested in discussing a particular topic- we look forward to hearing your feedback. See you in October!

The **Sheldon M. Chumir Foundation** is a Calgary based, non-profit Foundation whose vision is: "An active, involved citizenry in a society characterized by principled and trustworthy leadership." The Foundation aims to promote ethical action through the provision of ethical education, increased public discussion and increased demand for ethically responsible behaviour and accountability.

This is the beginning of the second issue of our newsletter, **CHUMIR ETHICS FORUM**. Publication will continue on a regular basis and the newsletter will also be available on our web site. If you have any comments or suggestions of topics to be covered in future editions of this newsletter, or if you know someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please contact **us**.

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