



Media Release

For Immediate Release

June 26, 2007

Saskatchewan Association for Community Living elects Laurie Larson as President

The Saskatchewan Association for Community Living (SACL) is pleased to announce the election of Laurie Larson as President. Ms. Larson is a passionate and dedicated advocate and parent of two sons with disabilities, from Biggar, Sask. SACL is a family-driven organization that believes in citizenship, membership and self-determination for all people with intellectual disabilities.

Larson received mandate from the membership to move forward on the following priorities:

- Increasing support for families
- Making individualized funding an accessible option for people with disabilities and their families;
- Inclusive education;
- Improving access to respite; and
- Deinstitutionalization

“I am honoured to have the opportunity to serve SACL as President,” says Larson. “As an organization, we frequently confront injustice and take positions that aren’t always popular, but we will never settle for less than what we know is right. I am committed to supporting parents and making community living a reality for all people with intellectual disabilities in Saskatchewan.”

“As I start my term as President, I go back to SACL’s foundation—families,” says Larson. “The SACL Family Network was where I found my strength and commitment to this work and how I was able to keep my family strong. The priorities that I outlined are foundational issues to community living and what this movement was built on 52 years ago. When SACL was created in 1955, all those parents had were hopes and dreams and a belief that their children did not belong in institutions. The work that those parents did have made it possible for my own children to live at home, go to school and work and play in the community. I am proud to carry on this work.”

SACL is pleased to acknowledge the commitment of the SACL members who were elected to the SACL Board of Directors for the 2007/08 year. For the complete list of Board members, please visit www.sacl.org.

For more information contact:

Faith Bodnar, Executive Director of SACL at (306) 955-3344 or (306) 222-3326 in Regina

Saskatchewan Association for Community Living: Mission Statement

Through advocacy, education and community-building, we work to create a world where all people with intellectual disabilities are full citizens.

Helping communities to welcome people with intellectual disabilities