



LEAF
FAEJ

WOMEN'S LEGAL
EDUCATION & ACTION FUND
FONDS D'ACTION ET D'ÉDUCATION
JURIDIQUE POUR LES FEMMES

NEWS RELEASE

January 28, 2021

LEAF welcomes Pam Hrick as Executive Director and General Counsel

The Women's Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) is delighted to announce that Pam Hrick has accepted the position of Executive Director and General Counsel for the organization.

Ms. Hrick joins LEAF from Stockwoods LLP, where she practiced law for the past several years. Ms. Hrick previously clerked for the Hon. Justice Thomas A. Cromwell at the Supreme Court of Canada and the Hon. Justice David Stratas at the Federal Court of Appeal. Before commencing her legal career, Ms. Hrick also served as the Legislative Advisor and Issues Manager to the Attorney General of Ontario. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Ottawa, her JD from Queen's University, and her LLM from New York University.

"LEAF's work aligns with my passion for advancing an intersectional approach to gender equity and women's rights in society. I am thrilled to be joining LEAF at this critical time for our country," said Ms. Hrick. "LEAF's role in supporting and protecting the rights of women, girls and gender-diverse people is particularly important at this moment as the COVID-19 pandemic has both highlighted and exacerbated the vulnerability of many women."

Earlier this year, LEAF also welcomed Brea Hutchinson as its inaugural Director of Operations for the organization. Ms. Hutchinson joins LEAF after holding the position of Executive Director at the Sexual Assault Centre of Kingston. The Director of Operations role will be instrumental in working with the Executive Director and General Counsel to deliver on LEAF's newly adopted strategic plan.

"These new hires are essential in building LEAF's capacity as we continue to evolve and grow," Gillian Hnatiw, Chair of LEAF, said. "I am looking forward to working closely with both Pam and Brea as we move forward with LEAF's next chapter. It is truly an exciting time for LEAF as we build on our 36-year legacy and continue to work toward realizing our vision of substantive equality in Canada."

LEAF would like to take this opportunity to once again thank Megan Stephens, the outgoing Executive Director and General Counsel, for her contributions. Ms. Hrick will be joining LEAF full-time on February 22. Ms. Stephens will be working closely with Ms. Hrick to support a smooth transition.

Women's Legal Education and Action Fund

LEAF is a national, charitable, non-profit organization, founded in 1985. LEAF works to advance the substantive equality rights of women and girls in Canada through litigation, law reform and public education using the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

- 30 -

For more information:

Brea Hutchinson

613.217.8385

h.brea@leaf.ca