



BY MEGAN EJACK  
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## BACKING THE PAC, A TLABC TRADITION

Megan Ejack has been the Development Director at TLABC for the past 5 years. She facilitates both the Public Affairs Committee (PAC) fund and new media initiatives for the association. She holds a BA (Hon) from the University of Alberta and has a strong background in fine arts and communications. Megan has spoken at the National Association of Trial Lawyers Executives (NATLE) annual conventions and at the CBABC Women's Forum and is a freelance writer for several outlets. She is also the Creative Director of locally-run, Wink Productions. Megan has travelled the world and is fluent in French, Spanglish and sarcasm. She is passionate about football, sunshine and wine and is currently working towards her certification at the acclaimed International Sommelier's Guild (ISG).

Every couple of months I sit down to write this column for you, hoping to highlight elements of my job that feel like they might bring a little bit of value, (at the very least,) and offer some insight into the work we do here, at best.

Over the years, I've compared the BC justice system to many things – from the wild west to a football game – and likened the PAC fund to an earthquake kit, a pirate ship, and perhaps most accurately, personal practice insurance.

Clearly, I'm not a lawyer. This, I have found to be both an interesting challenge... but mostly, an incredible asset.

Here's why... perspective.

When you're constantly surrounded by people who do exactly what you do, there are times that you can find yourself inside of a specific world. Now, this world might make sense to you, and might support your long-founded beliefs, ideals, and ideologies, but before you know it, it can be easier not to look too far outside that bubble. In fact, you might not even realize you're doing it. Perspective is key.

Indulge me for a minute...

I was a dancer and performer for a long time. Many people view artists in a certain light – passionate and elusive - a bizarre mix of peculiar, creative tendencies. The perceptions, however, don't always match the reality. Just like any other profession, when you are surrounded by your colleagues, it's easy to get lost in the work. Days are spent in the bubble of the craft, the theory, the structure, and it's strangely easy to miss what the audience sees – the beauty and passion of it all.

"All the world's a stage..."

At TLABC I get to have a unique perspective. In this world I am, at times, your audience. As lawyers, I see you also getting lost in the work, so I am here to remind you of the beauty of your own performances.

So, consider this a shout-out to all of the passionate, dedicated lawyers I am honoured to collaborate with. There is so much that happens behind the scenes here, but I can assure you that your effort does not go unnoticed. The countless hours spent on projects and campaigns, sometimes quietly over many years, or on an important issue that arises at a moment's notice, certainly deserve applause.

The Public Affairs Committee (PAC) is a fine example of this.

PAC is always working 'backstage' to raise funds to protect the practice of law in our province. The passion and commitment of this committee is what fuels the strategy so that everyone can continue to act for the clients, in a system that is fair and just.

Over the past few months, I have seen this association come together with a renewed sense of purpose. The work has been inspired and inspiring.

"Fundraising is not really about money – it's about people."

- Johnson

Huge thanks also goes out to our indispensable PAC donors, who go above and beyond to show their commitment to justice in BC. When our system faces crises of any kind, these dollars are what allow us to step up and work towards a better future – and because of these valuable contributors, our future is strong. The support we receive makes me incredibly proud to be a part of an organization that clearly values the rights of our citizens. After all, I'm a citizen too.

One of the best parts of my job is getting to say thank you. So, thank you. To the donors, to the committee and to everyone who will be involved in the future. If you ever have questions about how you can help, what we're working on, or just need a little perspective from 'the audience'... have your people call my people.√



Left: Join the club and become a PAC donor!  
Right: (left to right) TLABC Staff Erin Monahan, Valeska Gonzalez & Megan Ejack dressed in red in support of International Women's Day.