



CBA President Terry Kimpinski with CLASSIC students Ryan LaRose and Trent Adamus.

Good Times at Gown to Gown

Stephanie Hodgson

Gown to Gown, the 1st Annual Lawyers' Charity Gala, was held on Friday, January 29th at TCU Place in Saskatoon, raising over \$40,000 in funds for CLASSIC. The event was sponsored by the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) Sask. Branch, the Law Society of Saskatchewan, and the College of Law, University of Saskatchewan. The Gala was coordinated by CLASSIC and the CBA. Over 250 lawyers, judges, law students and community leaders attended this glittering event, replete with good food, great music and a program that managed to be as funny as it was touching.

As one of the volunteer coordinators for CLASSIC's Legal Advice Clinic (LAC), I was happy to be one of the student volunteers attending the Gala. As I entered the upstairs salons at TCU place, I was astounded to see just how many seats were ready to be filled by members of the legal community and their guests, all there to support CLASSIC. At the LAC and while working on client files as part of the clinical law

program, we are not always aware of how much support we receive from lawyers in Saskatoon. Having the pleasure of greeting many of the guests on Friday night showed me that the entire community is rooting for our success.

The dinner served was delicious. Even the vegetarians in the group were happy (a fact made up for by the festival of meats that everyone else enjoyed). Brent Gough Q.C. and Rick Danyliuk Q.C. were excellent and hilarious MCs. I understand that they kept their program PG-rated for the masses, but a director's cut DVD will be available in the coming weeks. Solstice gave an inspiring performance and the dance band, Special Event, let us all get our polka out (while sadly ignoring my repeated requests for *Free Bird*). It was wonderful to see everyone having such a great time. My favourite part of the night was assisting Charmaine Panko in presenting the Pro Bono Service award to Terry Zakreski. Terry and fellow nominee Don McIver are true anchors of the LAC and it was wonderful to see them being honoured for the amazing work that they do.

All in all, the Gala was a rousing success. Regina has a very tough act to follow for next year. On behalf of all the law students who participate in the programs at CLASSIC, I would like to thank everyone who attended and donated to the cause. CLASSIC is very important to all of us and, thanks to your support, we are excited to see it grow in the future.