

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

## Real World Solutions

### Policy Best Practices for the Housing Crisis in Vancouver

#### Award Description

Pivot Legal Society, a non-profit advocacy organization located in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside presents the Pivot Award for Policy Innovation. Encouraging students to research progressive international best practices on issues facing the Downtown Eastside and create policy proposals based on that research, this new award provides a **\$2,000 prize** for the first place proposal and two \$500 dollar prizes for runner-up proposals.

The top six papers, as judged by a panel of professional developers, government planners, and academics, will be published by Pivot Legal Society in a Special Report on Housing Solutions for the Downtown Eastside, presented at a public meeting on the housing crisis in Vancouver.

#### Solving the Downtown Eastside Housing Crisis

As one of few remaining undeveloped areas in Vancouver's downtown core, the Downtown Eastside provides low-income housing and a network of social services to more than 5000 of the City's poorest residents. However, the neighborhood is facing rapid erosion of that housing as a result of gentrification pressures.

Entrants are invited to submit a proposal outlining potential policy responses to this problem. Specifically, proposals should not exceed 4000 words in length and should answer the following question:

**What innovative approaches to creating supportive and social housing could succeed in the Downtown Eastside?**

Special consideration and preference will be given to proposals that:

- (1) Have been implemented and are successful in other jurisdictions;
- (2) Involve partnerships between government and developers; and,
- (3) Respect the needs of the existing low-income community in the area and do not displace, either directly or indirectly, that community.

**DEADLINE:** Proposals must be received by Pivot no later than April 30, 2007. For contest rules visit [www.pivotlegal.org](http://www.pivotlegal.org). Please mail all proposals to Pivot Legal Society 678 East Hastings St. Vancouver BC, V6A 1R1, or email them to [policy@pivotlegal.org](mailto:policy@pivotlegal.org).



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#### Contest Rules

1. Papers must be academic. Choice of format is limited to APA or MLA. References should be included as endnotes.
2. Papers must be no longer than 4000 words, excluding references.
3. All papers must be written in 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, with one-inch margins.
4. All papers must include an Abstract of no more than 150 words.
5. The cover page should include the title, the author's name, email and phone number. The second page should contain the Abstract.
6. Papers will be reviewed by a selection committee and the top 12 papers will be forwarded to a judging panel composed of experts from government, academia and the private sector.
7. The Judging panel will select the top 6 essays.
8. First place will be awarded a \$2000 prize.
9. Second and third place winners will be awarded a \$500 prize.
10. Award monies can be spent at the discretion of winners and are not restricted to tuition costs.
11. There are no restrictions on who may enter the contest.
12. The top 6 essays will be published by the Pivot Legal Society in a special report on housing.
13. Pivot will retain an unrestricted right to edit and publish all essays. Authors will be credited.
14. Authors will retain the unrestricted rights to publish their essays.
15. All essays must be received no later than 5pm, April 30th, 2007.
16. Papers should be submitted by email to [policy@pivotlegal.org](mailto:policy@pivotlegal.org) or delivered to 678 East Hastings Street Vancouver V6A 1R1
17. Winners will be publicly announced on June 19th, 2007
18. By submitting an essay to Pivot Legal Society, applicants agree to be bound by these rules.