

Community Legal Clinics

Community legal clinics provide information, advice, and representation on various legal issues, including social assistance, housing, refugee and immigration law, employment law, human rights, workers' compensation, and the Canada Pension Plan. Some legal clinics do not handle all of these issues, but staff may be able to refer you to someone who can help.

Community legal clinics are staffed by lawyers, community legal workers, and sometimes law students. Each legal clinic is run by a volunteer board of directors with members from the community. All help is **private and confidential** and provided **free of charge**.

To qualify for community legal clinic services:

- your legal issue must be one the clinic handles,
- you must live in the area the clinic serves, and
- your income and assets cannot be above a certain level.

To find out if you qualify, contact your local legal clinic. Most legal clinics provide brief advice, or "summary advice", without asking about your financial situation. Some legal clinics also offer workshops, information sessions, and other community development activities.

Most legal clinics serve a large area around their location and many clinics offer satellite services in neighbouring towns.

Orillia

Community Legal Clinic – Simcoe, Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes

71 Colborne St. E., Box 275, Orillia L3V 6J6
705-326-6444
Toll-free: 1-800-461-8953
www.communitylegalclinic.ca

Satellite Offices:

Alliston: 1-800-461-8953
Barrie: 1-800-461-8953
Beausoleil First Nation Christian Island:
1-800-461-8953
Collingwood: 1-800-461-8953
Haliburton: 1-800-461-8953
Lindsay: 1-800-461-8953
Midland: 1-800-461-8953
Minden: 1-800-461-8953

How to find a community legal clinic

This handout presents contact information for community legal clinics in Central Ontario. To find the legal clinic that serves a different region, you can phone Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) at one of the numbers listed below. Or, you can go to www.yourlegalrights.on.ca and click on “Services”. You can also go to the LAO website at www.legalaid.on.ca.

Legal Aid Ontario (LAO)

LAO provides legal assistance for low-income people. Services include:

- legal representation for eligible clients who appear in court without a lawyer,
- legal aid applications and information over the phone,
- legal resources and referrals to other social assistance agencies, and
- a certificate program for complex and serious cases.

If LAO cannot help, they will refer you somewhere that can.

To get legal aid services, your legal issue must be one that LAO covers, and you must be financially eligible.

For more information visit www.legalaid.on.ca or call:

Toll-free: 1-800-668-8258

Toronto area: 416-979-1446

Toll-free TTY: 1-866-641-8867

Toronto area TTY: 416-598-8867

Law Society Referral Service

The Law Society Referral Service will give you the name of a lawyer or paralegal within or near your community, who will provide a free consultation of up to 30 minutes. You can also ask for a lawyer who will accept legal aid certificates or who will offer their services at a reduced price.

Visit the Law Society website at <http://lsrs.lsuc.on.ca/lsrs/>, or call them at:

Toll-free: 1-800-268-8326

Toronto area: 416-947-3330

JusticeNet

JusticeNet is a not-for-profit service helping people in need of legal expertise, whose income is too high to access legal aid and too low to afford standard legal fees. JusticeNet is currently available to anyone living in Ontario. Visit their website at www.justicenet.ca, or call them at:

Toll-free: 1-866-919-3219

Toronto area: 416-479-0552