Getting Legal Help

Toronto and Area

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.

Central Toronto

Downtown Legal Services

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

University of Toronto, 655 Spadina Ave., M5S 2H9

416-978-6447

http://dls.sa.utoronto.ca

Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services

489 College St., Suite 205, M6G 1A5

416-924-4244

www.kbcls.org

Neighbourhood Legal Services

333 Queen St. E., M5A 1S9

416-861-0677

www.nlstoronto.org

Services d'aide juridique du Centre francophone de Toronto (CFT)

22 College St., Suite 401, M5G 1K2

416-922-2672, ext. 300 Toll-free: 1-800-268-1697

Summary legal advice in French (Toll-free): 1-877-966-7345

www.centrefranco.org/daide-juridique

East Toronto

East Toronto Community Legal Services

1320 Gerrard St. E., M4L 3X1

416-461-8102

www.etcls.ca

Flemingdon Community Legal Services

1 Leaside Park Drive, Unit #1, M4H 1R1

416-441-1764

Intake: 416-441-0969 TTY: 416-441-9156

www.flemingdonlegal.org

Satellite Office:

Crescent Town Club, 2A The Market Place, M4C 5M1 416-441-1764 ext. 28

Scarborough Community Legal Services

695 Markham Rd., Unit 9, M1H 2A5

416-438-7182

www.scarboroughcommunitylegal.ca

West Scarborough Community Legal Services

2425 Eglinton Ave. E., Suite 201, M1K 5G8 **416-285-4460**

www.westscarboroughlegal.ca

North Toronto

Community and Legal Aid Services Programme (CLASP)

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, 4700 Keele St., M3J 1P3 416-736-5029

www.osgoode.yorku.ca/clasp

Community Legal Clinic of York Region

21 Dunlop St., Suite 200, Richmond Hill, L4C 2M6

905-508-5018

Toll-free: 1-888-365-5226

www.clcyr.on.ca

Downsview Community Legal Services

540 Finch Ave. W., M2R 1N7

416-635-8388

www.downsviewcommunitylegalservices.com

Jane Finch Community Legal Services

1315 Finch Ave. W., Suite 409, M3J 2G6

416-398-0677

www.janefinchcommunitylegalservices.ca

Satellite Office:

20 Falstaff Ave., M6L 2C8 Call 416-398-0677 to inquire

Rexdale Community Legal Clinic

Rexdale Community Hub, 21 Panorama Court, Suite 24, M9V 4E3 416-741-5201 www.rexdalecommunitylegalclinic.ca

Willowdale Community Legal Services

245 Fairview Mall Dr., Suite 106, M2J 4T1 416-492-2437 www.willowdalelegal.com

West Toronto

Parkdale Community Legal Services

1266 Queen St. W., M6K 1L3 416-531-2411 www.parkdalelegal.org

South Etobicoke Community Legal Services

5353 Dundas St. W., Suite 210, M9B 6H8 416-252-7218 www.southetobicokelegal.ca

Unison Health and Community Services Keele-Rogers Site

1651 Keele St., M6M 3W2 416-653-5400 www.unisonhcs.org

West Toronto Community Legal Services

2333 Dundas St. W., Suite 404, M6R 3A6 **416-531-7376**

How to find a community legal clinic

This handout presents contact information for community legal clinics in Toronto and area. 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