

Getting legal help

Community Legal Clinics

in

Ontario



CLEO

March 2009

Community Legal Education Ontario
Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario

Community Legal Clinics in Ontario

	Pages
Toronto Area	4-6
Central Ontario	7
Eastern Ontario	7-11
Northern Ontario	11-15
Southwestern Ontario	15-20
Specialty Legal Clinics	20-25

Free legal help in Ontario

Legal Aid Ontario receives funding from the provincial government to provide legal services to people with low incomes. Legal Aid Ontario has two main parts:

- the community legal clinic system, and
- the legal aid certificate program.

Community legal clinics

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.

Legal clinics provide information, representation, and advice on various kinds of 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. If staff at a particular legal clinic cannot help you, they will try to refer you to someone who can.

To receive services from a legal clinic, you must live in the area it serves. Some clinics also offer satellite services in neighbouring towns, most of which are listed in this pamphlet. Ask your community legal clinic for more information.

Your problem must be one of the kinds the legal clinic handles, and your income and

assets cannot be above a certain level. To find out if you qualify for services, contact your local legal clinic. Most legal clinics provide brief advice, or “summary advice”, without asking about your financial situation.

In addition to general service legal clinics, the community legal clinic system also includes specialty legal clinics. Specialty legal clinics serve a particular community or focus on a specific area of law. Unlike general service legal clinics, most specialty legal clinics are not limited to serving a particular geographic area.

Many legal clinics also offer workshops, information sessions, and other community development activities.

Several legal clinics offer all or some of their services in French. If a clinic cannot offer you services in French, they may be able to refer you to someone who can.

Legal aid certificates

You may be able to get a legal aid certificate to pay for a private lawyer’s services. Certificates are only available for legal problems in certain areas of law, such as criminal, family, and immigration and refugee. This is not a complete list. Contact your local Legal Aid office about your particular case.

To apply for a legal aid certificate, you have to go to your local Legal Aid office. Before you go, call the local office to tell them about your type of legal problem and to find out what information and documents you will need to bring with you.

Legal Aid has also set up special law offices in some cities in Ontario. You can find out if there is a Family Law Office, Criminal Law Office, or Refugee Law Office in your area when you apply for a legal aid certificate.

How to find a Legal Aid Ontario office or community legal clinic

Look under “Legal Aid” in your phone book or visit the Legal Aid Ontario web site at <www.legalaid.on.ca>. You can also call:

Toronto area	416-979-1446
Outside Toronto	1-800-668-8258
TTY Toronto area	416-598-8867
TTY outside Toronto	1-866-641-8867

The Lawyer Referral Service can also give you names of lawyers who accept legal aid certificates. They can refer you to a lawyer in your area for a free half-hour consultation. Call the Lawyer Referral Service at **1-900-565-4577**. There is a \$6.00 charge for this service unless you are in a crisis situation.

If you speak French, in many cases you have the right to government services and legal proceedings in French, including hearings before Francophone decision-makers. If you have a legal problem, you can ask a lawyer or a community legal clinic about your French language rights.

Toronto and Area

Most community legal clinics serve a large area around their location. To find out which one serves your area, call a clinic close to you or contact Legal Aid Ontario ([see page 3](#)).

Central:

Downtown Legal Services

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

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

416-978-6447

Kensington-Bellwoods Community Legal Services

489 College St., Suite 205, M6G 1A5

416-924-4244

Neighbourhood Legal Services

333 Queen St. E., M5A 1S9

416-861-0677

Services d'aide juridique du CFT

22 College St., Suite 305, M5G 1K2

416-922-2672, ext. 300

Toll-free: 1-800-268-1697

East:

East Toronto Community Legal Services

1320 Gerrard St. E., M4L 3X1

416-461-8102

Flemingdon Community Legal Services

49 The Donway W., Suite 205, M3C 3M9

416-441-1764

Intake: 416-441-0969

TTY: 416-441-9156

Scarborough Community Legal Services

695 Markham Rd., Unit 9, M1H 2A5

416-438-7182

West Scarborough Community Legal Services

2425 Eglinton Ave. E., Suite 201, M1K 5G8

416-285-4460

North:

Community and Legal Aid Services Programme (CLASP)

York University, Osgoode Hall Law School,
4700 Keele St., M3J 1P3

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

416-736-5029

Community Legal Clinic of York Region

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

905-508-5018

Toll-free: 1-888-365-5226

Downsview Community Legal Services

893 Sheppard Ave. W., M3H 2T4

416-635-8388

Jane Finch Community Legal Services

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

416-398-0677

Rexdale Community Legal Clinic

The Woodbine Centre,
500 Rexdale Blvd., M9W 6K5

416-741-5201

Willowdale Community Legal Services

245 Fairview Mall Dr., Suite 106, M2J 4T1

416-492-2437

West:

Parkdale Community Legal Services

1266 Queen St. W., M6K 1L3

416-531-2411

South Etobicoke Community Legal Services

5353 Dundas St. W., Suite 210, M9B 6H8

416-252-7218

West Toronto Community Legal Services

672 Dupont St., Suite 315, M6G 1Z6

416-531-7376

York Community Services

1651 Keele St., M6M 3W2

416-653-5400

Central Ontario

Most community legal clinics serve a large area around the city or town in which they are located. To find out which one serves your area, call a clinic close to you or contact Legal Aid Ontario ([see page 3](#)).

Orillia:

Community Legal Clinic - Simcoe, Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes

71 Colborne St. E., Box 275, L3V 6J6

705-326-6444

Toll-free: 1-800-461-8953

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

Eastern Ontario

Most community legal clinics serve a large area around the city or town in which they are located. To find out which one serves your area, call a clinic close to you or contact Legal Aid Ontario ([see page 3](#)).

Belleville:

Community Advocacy & Legal Centre

158 George St., Level 1, K8N 3H2

613-966-8686

Toll-free: 1-877-966-8686

•continued next page

TTY: 613-966-8714

Toll-free TTY: 1-877-966-8714

Satellite Offices:

- Bancroft: 1-877-966-8686
- Madoc: 1-877-966-8686
- Napanee: 1-877-966-8686
- Picton: 1-877-966-8686
- Trenton: 1-877-966-8686

Cobourg:

Northumberland Community Legal Centre

1005 Elgin St. W., Suite 301, K9A 5J4

905-373-4464

Toll-free: 1-800-850-7882

Satellite Offices:

- Brighton: 1-800-850-7882
- Campbellford: 1-800-850-7882
- Colborne: 1-800-850-7882

Cornwall:

Clinique juridique Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Legal Clinic

1 McConnell Ave., K6H 4K8

613-932-2703

Toll-free: 1-800-267-2434

Satellite Offices:

- Alexandria (Glengarry County):
1-800-267-2434
- Williamsburg (Dundas County):
1-800-267-2434

Hawkesbury:

Clinique juridique populaire de Prescott et Russell Inc.

352 Main St. W., Suite 201, K6A 2H8

613-632-1136

Toll-free: 1-800-250-9220

Kingston:

Kingston Community Legal Clinic

345 Bagot St., K7K 6T8

613-541-0777

Queen's Legal Aid

Queen's University, Faculty of Law,
Room 406, Macdonald Hall,
128 Union St., K7L 3N6

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

613-533-2102

Satellite Office:

- Napanee: 613-533-2102

Oshawa:

Durham Community Legal Clinic

Oshawa Centre, 419 King St. W.,
Unit 3512, L1J 2K5

905-728-7321

Toll-free: 1-888-297-2202

Ottawa:

Clinique juridique francophone de l'Est d'Ottawa

290, rue Dupuis, K1L 1A2

613-744-2892

**Community Legal Services
Ottawa Centre**

1 Nicholas St., Suite 422, K1N 7B7

613-241-7008

**South Ottawa Community Legal
Services**

1355 Bank St., Suite 406, K1H 8K7

613-733-0140

TTY: 613-733-4113

West End Legal Services of Ottawa

1301 Richmond Rd., K2B 7Y4

613-596-1641

University of Ottawa Legal Clinic

17 Copernicus St., K1N 6N5

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

613-562-5600

Perth:

Lanark, Leeds & Grenville Legal Clinic

10 Sunset Blvd., K7H 2Y2

613-264-8888

Toll-free in 613 area code: 1-800-597-4529

Satellite Offices: (by appointment only)

- Brockville: 1-800-597-4529
- Carleton Place: 1-800-597-4529
- Smiths Falls: 1-800-597-4529

Peterborough:

Peterborough Community Legal Centre

150 King St., 4th Floor, K9J 2R9

705-749-9355

Renfrew:

Renfrew County Legal Clinic

236 Stewart St., Suite 101, K7V 1X7

613-432-8146

Toll-free: 1-800-267-5871

Sharbot Lake:

Rural Legal Services (North Frontenac)

14064 Road 38, Box 359, K0H 2P0

613-279-3252

Toll-free in 613 area code: 1-888-777-8916

Satellite Office: (by appointment only)

- Northbrook: 613-279-3252
(Toll-free: 1-888-777-8916)

Northern Ontario

Most community legal clinics serve a large area around the city or town in which they are located. To find out which one serves your area, call a clinic close to you or contact Legal Aid Ontario ([see page 3](#)).

Bracebridge:

Lake Country Community Legal Clinic

8-B Ontario St., P1L 2A7

705-645-6607

Toll-free: 1-800-263-4819

Satellite Offices: (by appointment only)

- Huntsville: 705-645-6607
(Toll-free: 1-800-263-4819)
- Parry Sound: 705-774-9325
- South River: 1-800-263-4819

Elliot Lake:

Elliot Lake & North Shore Community Legal Clinic

31 Nova Scotia Walk, Suite 300, P5A 1Y9

705-461-3935

Toll-free: 1-800-465-2479

Satellite Offices:

- Blind River: 1-800-465-2479
- Cutler: 1-800-465-2479
- Spanish: 1-800-465-2479

Fort Frances and Kenora:

Northwest Community Legal Clinic

Fort Frances Office:

601 Mowat Ave., 2nd Floor, P9A 1Z2

807-274-5327

Toll-free: 1-800-799-2485

Satellite Office:

- Atikokan: 807-597-2811

Kenora Office:

Suite 6, 308 Second St. S., P9N 1G4

807-468-8888

Toll-free: 1-800-403-4757

Satellite Offices:

- Ear Falls: 1-800-403-4757
- Red Lake: 1-800-403-4757

Kapuskasing:

Clinique juridique Grand-Nord/ Grand-Nord Legal Clinic

2 Ash St., P5N 3H4

705-337-6200

Toll-free in 705 and 807 area codes:
1-800-461-9606

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Satellite Offices: (by appointment only)

- Cochrane: 1-800-461-9606
- Hearst: 1-800-461-9606

Kenora: See Fort Frances and Kenora

Little Current:

Manitoulin Legal Clinic

Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation
R.R.#1, Box 30, POP 1K0

705-368-3333

Moosonee:

Keewaytinok Native Legal Services

40 Revillon Rd. N., Box 218, P0L 1Y0

705-336-2981

Toll-free: 1-866-336-2981

Satellite Office:

- Moose Factory: 705-658-4010

North Bay:

Nipissing Community Legal Clinic

107 Shirreff Ave., Suite 214, P1B 7K8

705-476-6603

TTY: 705-476-5370

Satellite Office:

- Sturgeon Falls: 705-476-6603

Sault Ste. Marie:

Algoma Community Legal Clinic

473-477 Queen St. E., Suite 301, P6A 1Z5

705-942-4900

Toll-free: 1-800-616-1109

Satellite Office: (as needed basis)

- Wawa: 1-800-616-1109

Sudbury:

Sudbury Community Legal Clinic

Rainbow Centre, 40 Elm St., Unit 272,
2nd Floor, P3C 1S8

705-674-3200

Toll-free: 1-800-697-8719

Satellite Offices:

- Espanola: 1-800-697-8719
- St. Charles/Noelville: 1-800-697-8719

Thunder Bay:

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic

86 South Cumberland St., P7B 2V3

807-344-2478

Toll-free: 1-888-373-3309

Satellite Offices:

- Armstrong: 807-583-2631
- Geraldton: 807-854-1278
(Toll-free: 1-866-875-4952)
- Marathon: 807-229-2290
(Toll-free: 1-866-389-1477)
- Nipigon: 807-887-0487
(Toll-free: 1-866-875-4900)

Timmins:

Timmins-Temiskaming Community Legal Clinic/Clinique juridique communautaire Timmins- Témiskamingue

119 Pine St. S., Suite 202, P4N 2K3

705-267-0300

Toll-free: 1-866-382-0300

Satellite Office:

- New Liskeard: 1-866-382-0300

Please note:

There are two Legal Aid offices in northern Ontario that provide some legal clinic services:

- Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation - **Thunder Bay**
- Legal Aid Ontario - **Sioux Lookout**

To find out more, see the contact information for Legal Aid Ontario listed on [page 3](#).

Southwestern Ontario

Most community legal clinics serve a large area around the city or town in which they are located. To find out which one serves your area, call a clinic close to you or contact Legal Aid Ontario ([see page 3](#)).

Brampton:

North Peel & Dufferin Community Legal Services

24 Queen St. E., Suite 601, L6V 1A3

905-455-0160

Toll-free: 1-866-455-0160

Brantford:

Community Legal Clinic - Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk

1100 Clarence St. S., Suite 203, N3S 7N8

519-752-8669

Toll-free from 905 and 519 area codes:
1-888-341-5021

Satellite Offices:

- Dunnville: 1-888-341-5021
- Simcoe: 1-888-341-5021

Chatham:

Chatham-Kent Legal Clinic

6 Harvey St., P.O. Box 97, N7M 5K1

519-351-6771

Satellite Offices:

- Moravietown: 519-692-3936
- Tilbury: 519-682-2268
- Wallaceburg: 519-627-7882

Georgetown:

Halton Community Legal Services

72 Mill St., L7G 2C9

905-877-5256

Toll-free from Oakville and Burlington:
905-875-2069

Guelph:

Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington County

11 Wyndham St. N., P.O. Box 1683,
N1H 6Z9

519-821-2100

Toll-free from Wellington county:
1-800-628-9205

Hamilton:

Dundurn Community Legal Services

110 King St. W., Jackson Square,
Plaza Level, L8P 4W9

905-527-4572

Hamilton Mountain Legal & Community Services

550 Fennell Ave. E., Suite 16A, L8V 4S9

905-575-9590

McQuesten Legal & Community Services

1440 Main St. E., L8K 6M3

905-545-0442

Kitchener:

Waterloo Region Community Legal Services

170 Victoria St. S., N2G 2B9

519-743-0254

Satellite Office:

- Cambridge: 519-743-0254

London:

Neighbourhood Legal Services (London & Middlesex) Inc.

Market Tower, 151 Dundas St.,
Suite 507, N6A 5R7

519-438-2890

Community Legal Services

University of Western Ontario,
Faculty of Law, Room 120, N6A 3K7

Services provided by law students supervised by lawyers.

519-661-3352

Mississauga:

Mississauga Community Legal Services

130 Dundas St. E., Suite 504, L5A 3V8

905-896-2050

Owen Sound:

Grey-Bruce Community Legal Clinic

945-3rd Ave. E., Suite 2, N4K 2K8

519-370-2200

•continued next page

Toll-free from Grey and Bruce counties:
1-877-832-1435

Satellite Offices: (please call the main office at 519-370-2200 or toll-free at 1-877-832-1435 to set up an appointment)

- Flesherton
- Hanover
- Kincardine
- Port Elgin
- Wiarton

St. Catharines:

Niagara North Community Legal Assistance (NNCLA)

8 Church St., Box 1266, L2R 7A7

905-682-6635

Satellite Offices:

- Grimsby: 905-682-6635
- Niagara Falls: 905-682-6635

St. Thomas:

Elgin-Oxford Legal Clinic

P.O. Box 517, 98 Centre Street, N5P 3V6

519-633-2638

Toll-free: 1-866-611-2311

Satellite Offices:

- Aylmer: 1-866-611-2311
- Ingersoll: 1-866-611-2311
- Tillsonburg: 1-866-611-2311
- West Lorne: 1-866-611-2311
- Woodstock: 1-866-611-2311

Sarnia:

Community Legal Assistance Sarnia

201 North Front St., Suite 100, N7T 7T9

519-332-8055

Toll-free: 1-888-916-2527

Stratford:

Huron/Perth Community Legal Clinic

59 Lorne Ave. E., N5A 6S4

519-271-4556

Toll-free: 1-866-867-1027

Satellite Offices: (please call for an appointment)

- Clinton: 1-866-867-1020
- Exeter: 1-866-867-1020
- Goderich: 519-524-4406
- Listowel: 1-866-867-1020
- Seaforth: 1-866-867-1020
- Wingham: 1-866-867-1020

Welland:

Community Legal Services of Niagara South

3 Cross St., 2nd floor, L3B 5X6

905-735-1559

Toll-free: 1-877-801-5956

Satellite Office:

- Ridgeway: 905-894-4775

Windsor:

Community Legal Aid

University of Windsor, Faculty of Law,
2475 University Ave. W., N9B 3P4

Services provided by law students supervised by
lawyers.

519-253-7150, ext. 3904

Legal Assistance of Windsor

85 Pitt St. E., N9A 2V3

519-256-7831

TTY: 519-256-5287

Windsor-Essex Bilingual Legal Clinic/ Clinique Juridique Bilingue (WINE)

595 Tecumseh Rd. E., Suite 3, N8X 2S1

519-253-3526

Specialty legal clinics

Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto (ALST)

Offers legal assistance to Aboriginal people living
in Toronto. Youth, criminal, and family court
workers also provide services. ALST operates an
alternate justice program, and prepares “Gladue”
reports.

415 Yonge St., Suite 803,
Toronto, M5B 2E7

416-408-3967 or 416-408-4041
(accepts collect calls)

Advocacy Centre for the Elderly (ACE)

Provides summary advice and representation to men and women over 60 years of age who cannot be served by their local clinic or a private lawyer.

2 Carlton St., Suite 701,
Toronto, M5B 1J3

416-598-2656

(call your local clinic first)

Advocacy Centre for Tenants - Ontario (ACTO)

Represents the interests of lower-income tenants across Ontario in legal proceedings, law reform, and policy development in housing law. (Does not give direct individual service.)

425 Adelaide St. W., 5th Floor,
Toronto, M5V 3C1

416-597-5855

Toll-free: 1-866-245-4182

African Canadian Legal Clinic

Uses test case litigation to address anti-Black racism and other forms of systemic and institutional discrimination. Also provides public education about racial discrimination in Canada.

18 King St. E., Suite 901,
Toronto, M5C 1C4

416-214-4747

Toll-free: 1-888-377-0033

ARCH Disability Law Centre

Provides information, summary advice and some representation to people with disabilities and to lawyers representing them. Also provides public legal education, undertakes law reform, and conducts test case litigation.

425 Bloor St. E., Suite 110,
Toronto, M4W 3R5

416-482-8255

Toll-free: 1-866-482-2724

TTY: 416-482-1254

Toll-free TTY: 1-866-482-2728

Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA)

Provides legal services to individuals and groups with environmental legal problems, and seeks to improve environmental protection through legislation.

130 Spadina Ave., Suite 301,
Toronto, M5V 2L4

416-960-2284

Centre for Spanish-Speaking Peoples

Provides summary advice and assistance, with particular emphasis on immigration matters and workers' rights, to the Spanish-speaking community of Toronto.

2141 Jane St., 2nd Floor,
Toronto, M3M 1A2

416-533-8545

CLEO (Community Legal Education Ontario/Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario)

CLEO develops materials and projects to help low-income and disadvantaged communities understand their legal rights. CLEONet is a web site with legal information, news, and events from agencies across Ontario.

119 Spadina Ave., Suite 600,
Toronto, M5V 2L1

416-408-4420

HALCO - HIV & AIDS Legal Clinic (Ontario)

Provides legal information, advice, and representation for people in Ontario who are affected by HIV/AIDS. Also produces materials, conducts public education, and engages in test cases/law reform.

65 Wellesley St. E., Suite 400,
Toronto, M4Y 1G7

416-340-7790

Toll-free: 1-888-705-8889

TTY: 416-922-2352

Toll-free TTY: 1-866-513-9883

Income Security Advocacy Centre (ISAC)

Works with clinics and anti-poverty groups using litigation, policy development, advocacy and organizing to address income security programs and root causes of poverty. (Does not give individual service.)

425 Adelaide St. W., 5th Floor,
Toronto, M5V 3C1

416-597-5820

Toll-free: 1-866-245-4072

Industrial Accident Victims' Group of Ontario (IAVGO)

Provides information, advice, and representation to injured workers. Provides public legal education to workers and community groups, and produces publications for workers and advocates. Operates a satellite student legal clinic.

489 College St., Suite 203,
Toronto, M6G 1A5

416-924-6477

Toll-free: 1-877-230-6311

Injured Workers' Consultants (IWC)

Provides information, advice, and representation to injured workers. Works with injured worker and community organizations seeking improvements to the workers' compensation system.

815 Danforth Ave., Suite 411,
Toronto, M4J 1L2

416-461-2411

(call your local clinic first)

Justice for Children and Youth

Provides summary advice, referrals, and legal education. Offers case service and test case litigation for children and young people under 18 years of age.

415 Yonge St., Suite 1203,
Toronto, M5B 2E7

416-920-1633

Toll-free: 1-866-999-5329

Landlord's Self-Help Centre

Provides information and advice to small homeowner landlords with problems under landlord and tenant law.

•continued next page

425 Adelaide St. W., 4th Floor,
Toronto, M5V 3C1

416-504-5190

Metro Toronto Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic (MCSA)

Provides advice and representation to low-income Chinese, Vietnamese, Laotian, and Cambodian immigrants in the Greater Toronto Area. Conducts public education and advocacy activities on issues affecting these communities.

180 Dundas St. W., Suite 1701,
Toronto, M5G 1Z8

416-971-9674

(walk-in 1pm - 4pm every Wednesday)

South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario (SALCO)

Provides advice and representation to low-income South Asians in the Greater Toronto Area. Also conducts public education, reform, and community development activities in the South Asian communities throughout Ontario.

1992 Yonge St., Suite 205,
Toronto, M4S 1Z7

416-487-6371

Toronto Workers' Health & Safety Legal Clinic

Takes on health and safety cases and workers' compensation cases for workers who do not have union representation. Also provides education on safety legislation and workplace hazards.

180 Dundas St. W., Suite 2000,
Toronto, M5G 1Z8

416-971-8832

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