



CLEO

Community Legal Education Ontario
Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario

Media Release

Toronto

Your Rights. Your Language.

<http://www.yourrightsyourlanguage.ca>

“You have rights. You can get help.”

JOIN US FEBRUARY 24

*To a new Canadian, the knock at the door from the landlord or a Children’s Aid worker can be **frightening**; the **unsafe job site**, the only source of income; the child in **trouble with the law**, a shameful secret; the **sponsorship process** to be reunited with family members, impossible to understand; the **claims of refugee consultants**, **baffling**; the **illegal rent increase**, the price for staying housed; protection of Canadian residency, a **false hope**.*

FREE, legally accurate information launched February 24 makes new Canadians aware of the rights they have in Canada. After extensive research, community input and a two-year process of development, CLEO (Community Legal Education Ontario / Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario) releases accessible new legal information for Ontario’s most vulnerable and isolated new immigrants, addressing the difficulties with the law they most frequently encounter.

These targeted areas of law

- * Children’s aid: Information for parents
- * Criminal charges in Canada and your immigration status
- * Do you want to sponsor your family to join you in Canada?
- * Has your child been charged with a crime?
- * Refugee claims in Canada
- * Your rights as a worker
- * Does your landlord want you to move out?
- * Renting a place to live

Are made simple in plain language, text and audio versions of
Arabic, Chinese, Somali, Spanish, Tamil, Urdu, English, French

Along with specialized multilingual telephone support 24/7 through Findhelp, with specially trained referral specialists familiar with the CLEO legal materials: 1-866-667-5366. This service is toll-free and available across Ontario.

WHAT

A celebration and official launch with community centre b-roll and photo ops

WHO

MC: Frank Walwyn, CLEO Board member and President of the Canadian Association of Black Lawyers

Welcome and thanks: Frederika Rotter, CLEO Board Chair

Opening remarks: The Honourable Chris Bentley, Attorney General of Ontario

The reason for *Your Rights. Your Language*: Julie Mathews, Executive Director, CLEO

Why these materials are needed: Debbie Douglas, Executive Director of Ontario Coalition of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)

WHERE

Lillian H. Smith Library, 239 College Street, Toronto, M5T 1R5

WHEN

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

(pre and post interviews and b-roll)

CLEO gratefully acknowledges its community partners:

Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services, Arab Community Centre of Toronto, Catholic Cross-Cultural Services, Catholic Immigration Centre of Ottawa, Centre for Information and Community Services of Ontario, Centre for Spanish-Speaking Peoples Legal Clinic, Midaynta Community Services, New Canadians' Centre of Excellence Inc., Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants, South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario.

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Please contact Amanda Dale, 416-453-1916 amandadale92@gmail.com for more information or to set up interviews with potential users of these materials, or with any of the speakers.