



J U S T I C E C A N A D A

# *Outreach Activities* Department of Justice

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JUSTICE CANADA



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Ministère de la Justice  
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While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the contact information in this publication, over time this information may change. Should you not be able to contact a program with the information provided, please contact general inquiries at (613) 957-4222; TDD/TTY: (613) 992-4556.



# Introduction

The justice system affects us every day in many ways. In particular, it serves to articulate and balance the rights and responsibilities we share with our fellow citizens. Maintaining a vital justice system that serves all those living in Canada is a major concern of the Department of Justice Canada. The Department strives to ensure that our legal system remains fair, accessible and efficient as it evolves to reflect changes in Canadian society.

To carry out this role, the Department needs to be continually reaching out to the public, sharing information and listening to the views of key stakeholders, experts in various areas, and ordinary citizens. In recent years, the Department has become involved in a wide range of outreach activities in the form of numerous programs and partnerships that reflect Justice's different roles and responsibilities.

The Outreach and Partnerships Initiative has therefore prepared this booklet, which identifies and describes many of the activities being carried out across the Department. Our aim is to give you the information you need to better understand the legal system and related programs and services available in your community.

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## Opportunities to take part in Justice program and policy development

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### Outreach and Partnerships

The Department of Justice seeks a diversity of views and opinions to help us respond to today's challenges with forward-looking and innovative laws and policies. With partners from academia, the private bar and the corporate sector, we are working on policy development and law reform. Our partners inform us and contribute to the manner in which Canadian laws are crafted; in turn, they gain a useful perspective on how the Department works.

**Web site:** [www.canada.justice.gc.ca/outreach](http://www.canada.justice.gc.ca/outreach)

**Contact:** Fax: (613) 952-2178; E-mail: [liaison@justice.gc.ca](mailto:liaison@justice.gc.ca);

**Address:** Outreach and Partnerships, Department of Justice Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8



## Consultation/Citizen Engagement

The Department of Justice wants to involve individual Canadians and intermediary organizations in the development, design and evaluation of public policies, programs, legislation and services. Accordingly, Justice holds consultations on many topical policy issues, and maintains an index of current consultations on the Internet site. Consultation, citizen engagement, and other public participation processes must be transparent, accessible, accountable, supported by reliable information, and inclusive of the broad diversity of Canada. The Department is also committed to reporting back to Canadians on how their views have been considered in the decision-making process.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/cons/index.html>

**Contact:** Tel : (613) 946-9282; Fax : (613) 941-4165;

E-mail: [consultations@justice.gc.ca](mailto:consultations@justice.gc.ca);

**Address :** Department of Justice Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

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## The Department of Justice in the community

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### Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund

The Department of Justice Canada works with a wide range of partners on projects that contribute to policy development and test fresh approaches to improving Canada's justice system. Non-profit organizations and community groups working on justice-related issues may apply for funding for activities that support fund objectives. The fund also supports the development of innovative approaches to justice in Nunavut communities.

Examples of funded projects include workshops, symposiums and seminars for those involved in the justice system; research and feasibility studies; short-term pilot projects; and development and dissemination of information materials that address justice-related concerns.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/pb/fsinnovation.html>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 941-4193; Fax: (613) 941-2269;

E-mail: [prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca](mailto:prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca)



## Youth Justice Renewal Fund

The Youth Justice Renewal Fund supports non-governmental organizations and Aboriginal organizations in developing measures outside the formal court process to address youth crime more effectively; establish a more targeted approach to the use of custody for young people; improve the system's ability to rehabilitate and reintegrate young offenders; increase the use of community-based sentences for non-violent youth crime; establish special measures for violent offenders that focus on intensive supervision and treatment; and increase public confidence in the youth justice system. Aboriginal communities may also apply for grants and contributions to enhance their ability to develop such youth justice options as alternatives to pre-trial detention, community reintegration and community-based sentences. The fund is an important part of the Youth Justice Renewal Initiative, which calls for a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach to youth justice.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/yj/initiat/initiat.html>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 954-3174; Fax: (613) 954-3275;

E-mail: [youth-jeunes@justice.gc.ca](mailto:youth-jeunes@justice.gc.ca)

## Child-Centred Family Justice Fund

This fund, which will help provinces and territories introduce family programs and services, is part of the overall review of custody and access issues. It has three components: family justice initiatives; incentives for special projects; and public legal education and information for professional training. Individuals, non-profit organizations, societies or associations, educational institutions, provincial and territorial government departments and agencies, and private sector organizations sponsoring non-profit projects in partnership with federal, provincial, or territorial governments can apply for project funding.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/pad/index.html>

**Contact:** Toll Free: 1-888-373-2222 or (613) 946-2222; Fax: (613) 946-2211;

E-mail: [cca-dgve@justice.gc.ca](mailto:cca-dgve@justice.gc.ca);

Address: Family, Children and Youth Section, Department of Justice  
Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8



## Family Violence Initiative

This initiative seeks to prevent and respond to violence in the home. It concentrates on promoting public awareness of the problem as well as public involvement in the response to family violence; strengthening the criminal justice and housing systems' responses to family violence; and undertaking data collection, research and evaluation to identify effective interventions. The Department of Justice is a key participant in this federal initiative led by Health Canada. Justice's focus is on strengthening the criminal justice system's response to family violence through activities in five key areas: policy, research, project funding, public legal education, and information and evaluation. Non-profit organizations and community members whose projects contribute to reducing family violence in Canada may be eligible for project funding.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/fm/index.html>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 946-2222 or 1-888-373-2222; Fax: (613) 946-2211;

E-mail: [fv-vf@justice.gc.ca](mailto:fv-vf@justice.gc.ca)

Address: Family, Children and Youth Section, Department of Justice Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## Aboriginal Justice Strategy

The Aboriginal Justice Strategy (AJS) is a partnership between federal, provincial and territorial governments and Aboriginal communities or organizations. Its objectives are:

- to support Aboriginal communities as they take greater responsibility for the administration of justice;
- to foster improvements in the justice system that respond to the justice needs and aspirations of Aboriginal peoples; and
- to help reduce crime and incarceration rates in communities that run justice programs.

First Nations, Tribal Councils, community groups, urban Aboriginal coalitions and other non-profit organizations may receive funding for programs that relate to alternative justice measures, community sentencing, mediation in family and civil cases and Justices of the Peace courts. Participating communities have seen a reduction in crime, as well as lower recidivism and incarceration rates.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/ajln/strat.html>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 941-9298; Fax: (613) 957-4697;

E-mail: [ajs-sjaa@justice.gc.ca](mailto:ajs-sjaa@justice.gc.ca);

Address: 100 Metcalfe St., 7th Floor, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8





## Aboriginal Justice Learning Network

A broad-based voluntary network of representatives of the conventional justice system and Aboriginal communities, the Aboriginal Justice Learning Network (AJLN) acts as a vehicle for information sharing, evaluation, and education, and for developing alternative, restorative justice processes consistent with Aboriginal values and traditions. The AJLN works with an advisory committee of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community justice workers, lawyers, judges, policy makers, police officers and corrections officers from across the country. The network provides training to communities and groups that want to bring about change in the administration of justice within Aboriginal communities.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/ajln/strat.html>

**Contact:** Fax: (613) 957-4697; E-Mail: [ajln-rja@justice.gc.ca](mailto:ajln-rja@justice.gc.ca);

Address: 100 Metcalfe St., 7th Floor, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## Native Courtworker Program

The Native Courtworker Program (NCWP) is an ongoing program funded through agreements between the federal Department of Justice and the provincial/territorial governments. The program operates in all provinces and territories except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. The Native Courtworker Program helps Aboriginal people who are in conflict with the criminal justice system. All Aboriginal people in need, regardless of status or residency, are eligible for this program if it is available in their area. The native courtworker serves as a bridge between the mainstream criminal court system and Aboriginal communities. Services include the provision of in-court information, referrals to community resources, facilitation of alternative justice models, and coordination of client participation in diversion programs.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/pb/ncw.html>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 957-4711; Fax: (613) 941-5446;

E-mail: [prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca](mailto:prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca);

Address: Native Courtworker Program, 284 Wellington Street,  
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8



## National Crime Prevention Strategy

The National Crime Prevention Strategy funds projects that help communities find solutions to problems that contribute to crime and victimization, with a focus on children, youth, women, Aboriginal persons, seniors, ethno-cultural communities, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations. It also aims to increase public awareness and knowledge about crime and effective responses to it. Non-profit organizations, community coalitions, non-profit business and professional associations and non-governmental organizations may apply for funding for projects that address the underlying causes of crime and victimization.

**Web site:** <http://www.prevention.gc.ca/en/index.html>

**Contact:** Toll Free: 1-877-302-NCPC (6272);

E-mail: [info@prevention.gc.ca](mailto:info@prevention.gc.ca) ;

Address: National Crime Prevention Centre, 123 Slater Street, 8th floor, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## Policy Centre for Victims Issues

The Department of Justice is committed to ensuring that victims of crime have a voice in the criminal justice system. The Policy Centre for Victim Issues coordinates federal victim-related initiatives. Its mandate is to ensure that victims are aware of their role in the criminal justice system and of the services that are available to them; to raise awareness about victims' needs; and to develop policy and legislation that take into consideration the perspective of victims. The Centre also manages the Victims Fund, which provides funding to the provinces to implement legislation to help victims of crime; gives support to the provinces, territories and non-government organizations to create innovative pilot projects to help victims; and provides limited emergency financial assistance to individuals in need.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/victim>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 952-1103; Fax: (613) 952-1110;

E-mail: [voc-vac@justice.gc.ca](mailto:voc-vac@justice.gc.ca);

Address: Departmental Programs and Initiatives Victims of Crime, Department of Justice Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8



## Public Legal Education and Information

Public Legal Education and Information (PLEI) organizations help ensure that Canada has an accessible, efficient and equitable system of justice. The Department provides annual funding to one designated PLEI organization in each province through the Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund, while PLEI in the territories is funded through Access to Justice Agreements. These annual contributions are used in turn to fund select organizations that have a major stake in the justice system and work with the government to further its priorities in this area. This network of organizations plays a valuable role in informing Canadians, especially those who lack access to other resources, of their legal rights and responsibilities in various aspects of the law so they can make informed decisions. PLEI groups provide background on new legislation and information on child support guidelines, victims' rights, family violence, and youth justice, among other things.

In addition to funding PLEI organizations, the Department itself engages in a broad range of PLEI activities designed to support the objectives of the special initiatives and programs described in this section of the brochure. These initiatives draw on the expertise of the designated PLEI organizations, as well as other members of the Public Legal Education Association of Canada, to assist them in informing Canadians about changes in laws that may have direct impact on their lives.

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 957-2482; Fax: (613) 941-2269;  
E-mail: [prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca](mailto:prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca)

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## Information on Canada's laws, the justice system and the Department of Justice

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The Department of Justice Canada offers information and expertise on a wide variety of topics related to the justice system. In addition to making law and developing policy, our experts are available to share their knowledge with your class, association, group or community. The following is a brief description of the areas of expertise housed at the Department of Justice, including Web site and contact information.



## Speakers Bureau

The Speakers Bureau is an initiative of the Department's Communications Branch. It facilitates an outreach program connecting departmental experts with community groups across Canada. The Bureau offers services in both official languages in formats to suit the requirements of service clubs, schools, boards of trade, chambers of commerce and other similar groups.

**Web site:** [www.canada.justice.gc.ca/speakers](http://www.canada.justice.gc.ca/speakers)

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 954-5756; Fax: (613) 948-2983;

E-mail: [speakers-conferenciers@justice.gc.ca](mailto:speakers-conferenciers@justice.gc.ca);

Address: Speakers Bureau, Communications Branch, Department of Justice, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## Information on the Internet

The **Department of Justice Canada Web site** provides free access to many materials, including the Consolidated Statutes and Regulations of Canada, which are updated three times per year. Reports, up-to-date information on various government initiatives (such as victims of crime and youth justice), news releases and related backgrounders, judicial appointments, speeches, departmental publications, some case law and summaries of decisions, and access to databases and directories of information, as well as preliminary access to the Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance service of the Department can all be found here.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/index.html>

The publication *Justice at Work* gives visitors an opportunity to see the inner workings of the Department through stories about some of the people on our team and the innovative work they do.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/dept/pub/recru/>

*justice canada* is a quarterly newsletter which provides up-to-date information and thoughts from experts on a wide range of legal subjects.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/dept/pub/jc/index.html>

The **Research and Statistics** site features a user-friendly interface and a searching capability as well as hundreds of research and statistical documents produced by Justice on a variety of issues, including biotechnology, alternative approaches to justice, and firearms control.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/rs/index.html>



## Justice and the Law

The Justice and the Law program makes use of integration and collaboration across the Department and the justice portfolio, as well as partnerships with other members of the Canadian justice community, to give the public justice-related information that is timely and accurate. The program reflects the Department's efforts to make Canada a recognized leader in providing direct access to justice information and services.

**Web site:** <http://jl-jd.gc.ca>

**Contact:** Tel: 1-877-532-3376; E-mail: [justice@communication.gc.ca](mailto:justice@communication.gc.ca)

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## Career planning and development

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### Civil Law / Common Law Exchange Program

The objective of this program is to increase understanding of Canada's civil law and common law systems. The student exchange program provides an opportunity for students in either a common law or a civil law program to spend one full university session studying the other system of law. The Council of Canadian Law Deans is responsible for this program, but it is funded by the Department of Justice.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/dept/sb/bourse.html>

**Contact:** Tel: 1-888-606-5111 or local calls: (613) 941-0388;

E-mail: [prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca](mailto:prgmbranch@justice.gc.ca);

Address: Programs Branch, Department of Justice Canada,  
284 Wellington Street, 6th floor, Ottawa, ON K1A 0H8

### Legal Excellence Program

The Legal Excellence Program (LEP) is a unique national program that aims to build the future strength of the Department by supporting the development of professional excellence through a structured articling program and continuing professional development for junior lawyers. The LEP recognizes and responds to the needs of students and junior lawyers, and provides a solid basis for a challenging and rewarding career in the Department of Justice. The Program benefits civil law and common law students, notaries and those in the combined Civil / Common Law.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/dept/lep-pea/about.html>

**Contacts:** Tel: (613) 946-4749 or (613) 954-6711; Fax: (613) 941-9955;

E-mail: [LEP-PEA@justice.gc.ca](mailto:LEP-PEA@justice.gc.ca);

Address: Legal Excellence Program, Urbandale Bldg.,  
100 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0H8



## Legal Studies for Aboriginal People Program

The Legal Studies for Aboriginal People Program (LSAP) is available to Métis and Non-Status Indians. The program is designed to promote equitable representation of Aboriginal people in the legal profession by providing financial assistance to those who wish to enter a law school program in Canada.

Through the LSAP, the Department of Justice awards a limited number of bursaries each year (these may be renewed). An applicant to the program must be a Métis or Non-Status Indian of Canadian citizenship, living in Canada, who has been accepted at a Canadian law school.

**Web site:** [http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/pb/legal\\_sap.html](http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/ps/pb/legal_sap.html)  
**Contact:** Toll Free: 1-888-606-5111 or local calls: (613) 941-0388;  
Fax: (613) 941-2269; E-mail: LSAP@justice.gc.ca;  
Address: LSAP Program, Department of Justice Canada,  
284 Wellington Street, EMB-6th floor, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## Criminal Law Placement - International Assistance Group, Federal Prosecution Service

This program is designed to expose a civil law student from the University of Ottawa to some of the work done by the part of the Department of Justice that handles all incoming and outgoing extradition requests to and from Canada and all Mutual Assistance Requests requiring compulsory orders. One student per semester is assigned to work with counsel from the International Assistance Group (IAG), conduct research in the area of international criminal law issues, and accompany a prosecutor from the Federal Prosecution Service's Ottawa-Hull office to court. Students gain valuable experience in being exposed to treaty, extradition, mutual assistance and related international criminal law.

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 957-4832; Fax: (613) 957-8412; E-mail: cdcentralauthority@justice.gc.ca; Address: Director, International Assistance Group, Department of Justice Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8



## **Civil Law School Student Placement - Ottawa-Hull office of the Federal Prosecution Service**

Each year the Ottawa-Hull office of the Federal Prosecution Service (FPS) offers a placement to a student in the Civil Law Program at the University of Ottawa. The student works in the Ottawa-Hull office one day a week, attends court with prosecutors, helps lawyers and articling students with research, and drafts legal opinions. The placement offers law students hands-on experience with a myriad of criminal law issues.

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 941-8749; E-mail: [CivilLaw@justice.gc.ca](mailto:CivilLaw@justice.gc.ca);  
Address: Director, Ottawa-Hull Prosecutions, Department of Justice Canada, St. Andrew's Tower, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## **Secondary School Placement - Ottawa-Hull office of the Federal Prosecution Service**

This cooperative program exposes students from the Ottawa-Carleton District Roman Catholic High School Board to the work of a busy prosecution office. Selected students attend court with counsel and help articling students with legal research and clerical staff with file management and updating. Lawyers assist the students with career planning and university choices. Generally, students in the placement have expressed an interest in learning more about the law and in becoming lawyers. The placement lasts for four months, and each student works in the Federal Prosecution Service office every morning or afternoon as their schedule permits.

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 941-8749; E-mail: [HighSchool@justice.gc.ca](mailto:HighSchool@justice.gc.ca);  
Address: Director, Ottawa-Hull Prosecutions, Department of Justice Canada, St. Andrew's Tower, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8



## Professional Opportunities Program

This innovative professional development program aims to promote unilateral and reciprocal exchanges between the Department of Justice Canada and its many partners within the public, private and academic sectors, both national and international. Participants take on temporary assignments in a different sector for anywhere from a few weeks to several years. The program provides both the Department of Justice and participating external organizations with the opportunity to learn from one another and create intellectually rich and diverse work environments.

E-mail: [pop@justice.gc.ca](mailto:pop@justice.gc.ca)

Address: Professional Opportunities Program, Department of Justice Canada, 284 Wellington Street, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0H8

## Program of Research Contracts on Canadian Bijuralism

This program was established to assist the Department of Justice Canada in its work of harmonizing Canada's two coexisting private law systems: civil law and common law. This annual program is directed at law students enrolled full time, either in their final undergraduate year or in a graduate studies program, to enable them to obtain degrees in both common law and civil law. The program promotes the development of expertise in Canadian bijuralism among law students and contributes to the body of knowledge on the subject matter through publication of legal texts.

Information regarding the Research Contracts Program, as well as the application form, may be found on the Department of Justice Web site.

**Web site:** <http://canada.justice.gc.ca/en/dept/rc/index.html>

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 941-1105; Fax: (613) 954-1209;

E-mail: [contractsbijuralism@justice.gc.ca](mailto:contractsbijuralism@justice.gc.ca)

## Visiting Scholar Initiative

The Visiting Scholar Initiative was launched in 1998. Each year, the Research and Statistics Division brings in one or two academics to work with the research team on a part-time basis. The visiting scholars engage in a variety of activities, including collaborating with in-house research staff on research projects, co-authoring research reports, and coaching and mentoring junior research staff.

**Contact:** Tel: (613) 941-3213; Fax: (613) 941-1845;

E-mail: [roberta.russell@justice.gc.ca](mailto:roberta.russell@justice.gc.ca)





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## Regional Office Initiatives

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While the Department of Justice Canada is headquartered in Ottawa, it also has regional offices in Atlantic Canada, British Columbia, the North, Ontario, the Prairies and Quebec. While many outreach and partnership activities are delivered to Canadians in the regions through joint efforts with Headquarters, the regional offices also offer unique programs and opportunities. Some of these are listed below. For information on other regional office activities, please contact the appropriate number below:

General Inquiries	or	Atlantic Regional Office (902)426-3260
Communications Branch		Office of the Northern Region (867) 667-8100
(613) 957-4222		Prairie Regional Office (780) 495-2983
TDD/TTY: (613) 992-4556		Quebec Regional Office (514) 283-9465

### **British Columbia Regional Office**

The Vancouver Regional Office is actively involved in outreach activities with various communities and organizations. The Office has an active National Crime Prevention Centre and a Policy and Programs Unit. The Office is involved in educational training in schools, outreach activities with Aboriginal youths (both on and off reserve), and has played a central role in the Vancouver Agreement, a multiparty agreement aimed at addressing social problems in Vancouver's downtown Eastside.

**Contact:** Policy and Programs Branch, British Columbia Regional Office,  
(604) 666-2061 or (604) 666-6842;  
E-mail: [stu.whitley@justice.gc.ca](mailto:stu.whitley@justice.gc.ca);  
Address: Robson Court, 900-840 Howe Street, Vancouver,  
British Columbia, V6Z 2S9



## Ontario Regional Office

The Ontario Regional Office plays a prominent role in a range of outreach activities. Three notable examples are:

### **Law Society of Upper Canada Equity and Diversity Mentoring Program**

Each year, the Law Society of Upper Canada organizes various events for high school students to increase diversity in the legal profession. These events are held during Black History Month, International Women's Day and Women's History Month, and Aboriginal Month. The Ontario Regional Office is also a key partner in the Law Society's Equity and Diversity Mentoring Program. Justice lawyers in Toronto from different areas of practice serve as mentors to high school students from a variety of cultural backgrounds. The Mentorship Program lasts throughout the school year, and has been a tremendous success since it began in 2001.

### **Law Students from France Program**

A partnership between the Ontario Regional Office and Osgoode Hall Law School, this program allows two law students from Aix-Marseille III University in France to split their summers between the law firm of Shibley, Righton and the Ontario Regional Office.

### **Pro Bono Students of Canada Program**

The Ontario Regional Office is an active participant in the Pro Bono Students of Canada Program, which was created by the Faculty of Law of the University of Toronto in 1996. This program draws on a network of lawyers, law schools and community organizations that encourages and facilitates pro bono work by law students. Each semester, pro bono students in either their first or second year of law at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School contact the Ontario Regional Office to offer their services. Since its inception, the Ontario Regional Office has welcomed over 25 pro bono students at varying stages of their study.

For these and similar activities, contact the Ontario Regional Office's Professional Development Directorate at (416) 973-0942.