

Backgrounder

The Queen's Law Clinics and experiential learning

- The Queen's Law Clinics co-locates five legal aid clinics on the top floor of the LaSalle Mews Building at 303 Bagot St. in downtown Kingston.
- The 6,000-square-foot space includes 12 offices for lawyers and staff, four interview rooms, a meeting room that doubles as a classroom, and 24 student workstations.
- 100 upper-year students will be able to enrol in a clinical program when all five legal clinics have reached their target enrolment.
- At least 50 per cent of law students will have the opportunity to take a clinical course while at Queen's.
- In addition to enrolling in clinical courses, more than 60 law students volunteer with Queen's Legal Aid every year.
- Students also gain hands-on experience by completing federal government internships, working on moots and advocacy, volunteering with Pro Bono Students Canada, and contributing to publications such as Queen's Law Journal and the Canadian Labour and Employment Law Journal.

Queen's Legal Aid

- Queen's Legal Aid (QLA) provides legal services to local residents with low incomes and students at Queen's and St. Lawrence College.
- QLA offers services related to:
 - Tenants' rights matters
 - Small Claims Court matters for claims between \$1,000 and \$25,000
 - Major provincial offences
 - Social assistance, disability benefits, Canadian Pension Plan and employment insurance appeals
 - Victims' claims to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board
 - Employees' disputes with employers over wages and/or wrongful dismissal
 - Human rights complaints
 - Affidavits and notarizations

Elder Law Clinic

- QELC provides Kingston seniors with low-cost legal services related to:
 - Incapacity planning (drafting powers of attorney and advising on related issues)
 - Estate planning and wills
 - Financial exploitation
 - Family violence, abuse and neglect
 - Access to health-care services
 - Access to long-term care
 - Problems arising on discharge from hospital into inappropriate facilities.

Business Law Clinic

- Established in 2009, Queen's Business Law Clinic operates year-round to provide free legal services to a wide variety of individuals, businesses and non-for-profit organizations in southeastern Ontario who would otherwise have difficulty affording legal counsel.

Family Law Clinic

- The Queen's Family Law Clinic provides legal advice, assistance, information and representation to low-income individuals in the Kingston area involved with the family justice system.

Prison Law Clinic

- QPLC provides prisoners in Kingston-area penitentiaries with legal advice, assistance and representation in all aspects of prison law including
 - Representing clients at hearings before the Parole Board of Canada
 - Drafting grievances
 - Providing legal opinions
 - Conducting meetings with inmate groups at Kingston-area penitentiaries
 - Testing case litigation