

Legal Centre News

Volume 64

Making a Difference in the Community Since 1989

Winter 2026



[Diversity Equity Inclusion Belonging Concept Abstract Stock Vector \(Royalty Free\) 2378874509 | Shutterstock](#)

This volume of the Peterborough Community Legal Centre newsletter features articles on a few of the many overlapping issues of inequality facing people in our community today. Some articles include:

- Can a Landlord's Eviction Application be Dismissed Due to Clerical Errors or Deficiencies?
- What Are Pronouns and Why Are They Important?
- Legal Clinic's Recommendations to the College of Physicians and Surgeons Uninsured Services: Billing and Block Fees

All images in this newsletter are credited and some articles include links to sources. These links are accessible on the digital copy of the newsletter.

Thanks for reading!

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Can a Landlord's Eviction Application be Dismissed Due to Clerical Errors or Deficiencies?



[Rent Asset Real Estate Flat Bundle Design 11410708 Vector Art at Vecteezy](#)

Evictions can be stressful. The *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA)* provides certain rights, including security of tenure, to tenants in Ontario. This means that tenants who are covered by the *RTA, 2006* cannot be evicted without due process.

Serving an eviction notice is typically the first step in the eviction process, but you don't have to move out based on the notice of eviction received from your landlord. If your landlord serves you with an eviction notice and you choose not to move out, your landlord will have to file an eviction application against you before the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB). You have a right to fight these eviction applications before the LTB. Only the LTB has the power to decide if you should be evicted or not. Your landlord cannot evict you without going through the LTB process and getting an eviction order against you from the LTB.

If your landlord has filed an application against you, the LTB will schedule a hearing of the eviction application to determine if your tenancy should be terminated based on your landlord's eviction notice. During the hearing, you can dispute the eviction notices on various grounds (e.g. if you believe you don't owe any rent arrears or if you deny or disagree with your landlord's allegations against you). However, even before going into the details of the allegations (merits of the case), you can sometimes get the landlord's application dismissed if there are errors or deficiencies in the eviction notices.

"Your landlord cannot evict you without going through the LTB process and getting an eviction order against you from the LTB."

Eviction notices should be correct in form and content. This means that landlords should use the correct eviction notice forms for seeking eviction based on specific grounds. There are specific forms for rent arrears (N4), substantial interference (N5), and repairs and renovations (N13) etc.

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Can a Landlord's Eviction Application be Dismissed Due to Clerical Errors or Deficiencies?

In addition, these forms should be correct in content, meaning they should provide accurate and sufficient details to enable you to understand the case against you so that you can respond appropriately/fight the eviction.

If the landlord uses incorrect forms or the information/content of these forms is inaccurate, the landlord's eviction application can be dismissed by the Board on a preliminary basis without going into the details of the allegations. However, not every clerical error or inaccuracy in an eviction notice will lead to dismissal of the landlord's application on a preliminary basis. For example, if the spelling of your name on an eviction notice is inaccurate but it is sufficiently clear that the notice was not confusing and was not otherwise misleading, the Board may find that the notice was in substantial compliance and the eviction hearing will proceed. On the other hand, if errors on the notice are confusing, misleading or do not meet the statutory requirements, for example, if the termination period is not in compliance with the *RTA, 2006*, chances are that landlord's eviction application will be dismissed for lack of compliance.

With new amendments to the *RTA, 2006* viz. section 212(2), dealing with substantial compliance, the Board is more likely to find that minor clerical errors like typos or misspelt names are not sufficient to have an eviction application dismissed on preliminary grounds. If the error does not significantly prejudice a party's ability to participate in the proceeding, it may be considered substantially compliant with the Legislation.

If you receive an eviction notice and believe there may be errors in the notice, contact the Legal Centre for advice right away at 705-749-9355.

If you have been unable to contact the Legal Centre ahead of your hearing, speak to the Tenant Duty Counsel (TDC) during your hearing to seek legal advice. TDC advice is free and confidential. There is no downside to free legal advice!

What Are Pronouns and Why Are They Important?

What are pronouns?

Pronouns are a part of our everyday language. They are used as a way to refer to someone other than by using their name. Often, but not always, pronouns correspond to someone's gender identity. Examples of pronouns include:

- ◆ She/her
- ◆ He/him
- ◆ They/them

Some people also use neo-pronouns, a sub-category of pronouns, which are gender neutral and used to refer to a single individual in the third-person. The list of neo-pronouns is expansive and ever-growing but some examples include:

- ◆ Ey/em/eirs
- ◆ Xem/xyr/xyrs
- ◆ Hir/hir/hirs

Almost everyone uses pronouns. It is commonly thought that pronouns are exclusive to those within Transgender and Gender Diverse communities but that is simply not true! Take a moment to recognize how you refer to yourself, and how others refer to you, and it will become clear how frequently pronouns are used in every-day language. Here are a few instances of pronouns used in a sentence:

- ◆ “Mikka must drive to work. They live an hour away from the office.”
- ◆ “Have you seen Joy? She said she would meet me here 10 minutes ago.”
- ◆ “I am so happy Liam is my friend. Ey is a really kind person.”

Why is it important to ask about someone's pronouns?

It is becoming increasingly common to be asked what your pronouns are, and for others to include their pronouns in their introduction, which is amazing! Pronouns can be a very important part of someone's identity and it can be hurtful when others get them wrong, even if just by mistake. It is good practice to ask about other people's pronouns to avoid unnecessary confusion and harm that could otherwise come as a result.

Remember, it is not offensive to be asked what your pronouns are. Most likely, it is being done out of a desire to respect your identity and not cause undue distress. Additionally, it works to normalize these types of conversations, which helps those who are often required to provide the information to avoid being misgendered.

Asking what someone's pronouns are helps everyone and harms no one.



[Even A Grammar Geezer Like Me Can Get Used To Gender Neutral Pron : NPR](#)

Trent/Swansea Dual Degree Law Program



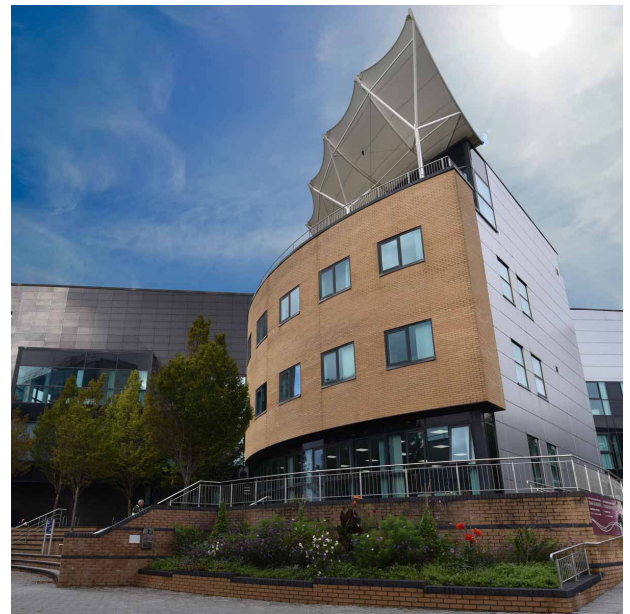
The Swansea University School of Law campus in Swansea, Wales. <https://www.swansea.ac.uk/trent/law/swansea-law/>

In 2015, Trent University launched the Trent/Swansea dual degree program. Not having a law school of its own, this program gives Trent students an opportunity to obtain a law degree from the Swansea University School of Law in Wales, UK, while concurrently completing their undergraduate degree.

A significant advantage of this program is the ability to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A) or Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A) and law degree in a condensed amount of time. Typically, it takes 7 years of school to obtain a law degree: four for an undergraduate degree followed by three for a law degree. However, in the Trent/Swansea joint program, students are able to complete both degrees in six years.

Enrolled students spend the first two years at Trent University, taking the first steps in completing a B.B.A or B.A in the discipline of their choosing. The following three years are spent studying law at Swansea University. Finally, students return to Canada for their sixth year to complete their B.B.A or B.A and engage in courses meant to prepare them for the National Committee on Accreditation (NCA) exams. The NCA exams are required for those who receive a law degree outside of Canada but wish to practice in Canada. They are meant to test your knowledge of the law to ensure you are prepared and qualified to practice in Canada.

Also in the final year, students are given an opportunity to take a placement course in which they receive academic credit to volunteer at a legal office or clinic. This allows for students to gain valuable insight into the working life of a legal professional, while also obtaining skills and knowledge that will serve them in their own careers.



Swansea School of Law building. <https://www.swansea.ac.uk>

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Trent/Swansea Dual Degree Law Program

There are many other advantages to the Trent/Swansea dual degree program. An aspect appealing to many is the ability to avoid writing the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) as law schools in the United Kingdom do not require it for admissions. Additionally, the opportunity to travel and experience life in a different country is insurmountable. Not only is the area of Swansea rich in landscape and history, but engaging with the law through British legal principals is an especially interesting experience for Canadian students, as British law is the foundation of our legal system. However, this presents its own challenges as the law is not always applicable between countries, hence the necessity to prove competency through the NCA exams upon return to Canada.

Finally, students report that the workload at the Swansea school of Law is much lighter than what is given to them during the undergrad portion of their degree at Trent. This provides an opportunity to engage in ventures outside of the classroom, such as through involvement in clubs, or 'societies' as they are called within the school. There are also several law-related activities, such as 'mooting', a term used to describe competitive and non-competitive opportunities which simulate real-world court and arbitration proceedings. Furthermore, students can volunteer with numerous organizations, such as Citizen's Advice, which provides residents with advice on a variety of legal matters. Finally, the Swansea University Legal Clinic offers significant opportunities to engage in the law, through both their Street Law program, which provides education sessions to secondary school students, and their standard mandate of providing free legal advice. It is important to note that volunteer hours are considered working hours, of which International students are only allowed to accrue 20 hours/week.



Trent University Campus in Peterborough, Ontario. <https://environmentaljournal.ca/trent-university-ranked-first-in-canada-for-sustainability-education>

As with most law school educations, the costs associated with attending the Swansea School of Law is substantial. This is exacerbated by the requirement to pay the international student rate of tuition, which is over \$20,000, as well as the purchase of health insurance as non-citizens. Additionally, the NCA exams are priced at around \$2,500. However, most students do not have to buy textbooks, and the general cost of food and housing in the UK is less expensive than in Canada.

Overall, the Trent/Swansea dual degree program is a unique and promising way to complete an undergraduate and law degree. For more information, please visit the Trent University website: <https://www.trentu.ca/law/>.

Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025: Watering Down Tenant Protections at the Landlord and Tenants Board (LTB)

The provincial government introduced Bill 60 on October 23, 2025, on the pretext of reducing delays at the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB). In fact, it is designed to water down important tenant protections that have already been whittled down over time by successive provincial governments.

Changes to the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006 (RTA)* in 2018 changed rent control rules to the disadvantage of tenants. As a result of these changes, rent control rules no longer protect tenants who moved into an apartment, condo unit or a basement unit that was first occupied as a residential space after November 15, 2018. As a result, there is no legal limit on how much the landlords can raise the rents annually for such units. This means landlords are incentivized to evict tenants in post-2018 builds so they can jack up the rent manifolds without any restrictions.

Cutting Red Tape, Building Ontario Act, 2024 further whittles down tenant protections by amending section 212 of the RTA among other changes. The amended section 212 made some mandatory provisions of the *RTA, 2006* discretionary. This means that LTB can now proceed with an eviction hearing even if an eviction notice is defective if the Board thinks that the defect will not cause prejudice to the tenant's ability to participate in the hearing. Earlier, if there was an error in the notice, it was usually not curable meaning that the hearing would not proceed.

The most serious attack on tenant protections in *Bill 60* which intends to eliminate security of tenure for tenants. Security of tenure is a legal protection against forced evictions, harassment and other threats. In Ontario, if a tenant signs a lease for a fixed term, the tenancy converts into month-to-month tenancy automatically at same rent without the need for renewing the lease and the tenant continues to have all protections under the *RTA, 2006*. It means that tenants cannot be evicted without due process which includes serving an eviction notice, going before the LTB and getting an eviction order from the Board.



A protest against Bill 60, held in Toronto. [Controversial tenancy bill passes at Queen's Park - North Bay News](#)

Under Bill 60, the government proposes to do away with security of tenure giving a right to landlords to terminate a lease and evict tenants at the end of the lease term. Essentially, it means there would be no automatic month-to-month tenancy, and the tenants would have to either negotiate a new lease at new/higher market rent or move out.

experts, some municipal leaders, tenant organizations like ACORN, Community Legal Clinics, speciality legal clinics like ACTO, and many others the government backed out on one of the most damaging proposals which is taking away the "security of tenure" but has proceeded with other changes through Bill 60 which received Royal Assent on November 27, 2025 to amend the Residential Tenancies Act, 2006. The government put forward a motion to shorten the debate on Bill 60 which meant that it didn't proceed to a committee for discussion.

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Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025: Watering Down Tenant Protections at the Landlord and Tenants Board (LTB)

The new amendments to *RTA, 2006* have brought many changes to the disadvantage of tenants some which are explained below:

Shortening Termination Periods for N4s (Eviction Notice for Rent Arrears)

Currently the termination period for an N4 notice is 14 days which means a tenant has 14 days to secure funding and make arrangements to pay off the rent arrears before a landlord can file an eviction application before the Board. Once the new amendment comes into force, it will reduce the termination period from 14 to 7 days leaving vulnerable tenants with less time to arrange financial help.

This change ignores the fact the many tenants who are vulnerable due to age, limited income or disabilities already face barriers to secure financial assistance from rent banks or social services within short time periods. Shortening the time frame even further will lead to more evictions and more homelessness.

Reducing Time to Challenge Eviction Order

Currently parties can challenge an eviction order on various grounds provided they file the review request within 30 days of the order. The new amendment will require a review request to be filed within 15 days from the order. This reduced timeframe will essentially mean that tenants will not have sufficient time to seek legal supports or advice to prepare meaningful review requests with some potential for success or gather additional evidence to challenge the eviction order. This is particularly so for tenants living in far flung rural communities who receive LTB decisions by mail and as a result may have even less time to prepare their reviews. This amendment would thus negatively impact access to justice, increase evictions and consequently homelessness.

Making it Hard to Raise Section 82 Issues Relating to Repairs and Maintenance during Rent Arrears Hearing

Currently, tenants can raise section 82 issues (harassment; and repairs and maintenance issues to seek a rent abatement) during a rent arrears hearing.

This route is sometimes useful to tenants to get their issues heard sooner as tenant applications usually take more time to be scheduled before the LTB compared to landlord's rent arrears applications which are scheduled faster. Since tenant applications take longer to be scheduled, tenants often have to continue living with substantial interference or lack for repair and maintenance due to the landlord's failure to comply with their obligations until their applications are heard by the Board.

The new amendment will now require tenants to pay 50% of the arrears to raise their issues at the rent arrears hearings. This is a barrier but also assumes that tenants actually owe arrears before the matter is even heard by the Tribunal.

Further, advance notice of the tenant's intent to raise section 82 issues is now mandatory as per the new amendment. Currently, if advance notice is not given by a tenant, the Board can allow them to raise section 82 issues if it is satisfied that there was a satisfactory reason for not giving advance notice. Mostly tenants are not even aware of this right until they speak to Tenant Duty Counsel (TDC) on the day of hearing. So, taking away this right would practically mean that they would no longer be allowed to raise these issues if no prior notice is given.

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Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025: Watering Down Tenant Protections at the Landlord and Tenants Board (LTB)

As a result, the new amendment would reduce living standards for tenants who are already facing interference or are living in deteriorating living conditions due to lack of repair or maintenance.

Doing Away with the Compensation Requirement for Landlord Own Use Applications (N12):

Currently, a landlord is required to provide compensation to a tenant if they wish to evict a tenant for their own use or a purchaser's use. This compensation is mandatory and must be given by the termination date mentioned on the N12 notice which should be at least 60 days from the date of the notice.

According to the new amendment, the landlord will not be required to pay compensation if the termination date is at least 120 days after the notice is given. Long-term sitting tenants who pay low rent are already in a very precarious situation when they have to move out and find a place at current market rent. Doing away with the compensation requirement makes it difficult for them to arrange first and last month's rent thus creating roadblocks in securing a new accommodation.

Clear Definition Coming for "Persistently Late" Rent.

The amendment authorizes the creation of regulations defining the term "persistent late" payment. Once defined, this would be used as an easy eviction tool by landlords seeking termination of tenancies to jack up the rents every year.

This amendment completely ignores the fact that low-income vulnerable population as well as people living paycheck to paycheck fall behind on rent on some occasions for reasons beyond their control. Lack of income, low wages and inadequate income supports are factors that frequently result in chronic late payers. Instead of investing in programs that will keep tenants housed including income assistance, living wage legislation, and social and legal supports, the government appears to be watering down tenant protections making it difficult for tenants to preserve their tenancies.

Disregard for homelessness and eviction prevention

As per the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), in Ontario there were about 81, 500 people facing homelessness as of 2024 a 25% increase since 2022. Undermining tenant protections and expediting eviction will only make this crisis worse. Rather than supporting housing needs, the government is investing in more sheriffs and making it more difficult for tenants to challenge erroneous decisions.

The amendments claim several reforms that are supposed to address delays at the LTB, but in practical terms these changes water down tenant protections and create false narrative that tenant rights are the reason for delays at the LTB.

The Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO) has prepared a one pager explainer outlining Bill 60 proposal and how they would impact the renters in Ontario. You can access it here: <https://www.acto.ca/production/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Bill-60-1-Pager.pdf>

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Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025: Watering Down Tenant Protections at the Landlord and Tenants Board (LTB)

The new amendments mentioned above have not yet taken affect. When these amendments come into force, they are inevitably going to lead to a flood of evictions thus aggravating the homelessness crisis, which the province has already been struggling with. In short, because of these changes:

- renters will be at greater risk of eviction especially seniors, low-income tenants, and the most vulnerable would be at risk of becoming homeless
- the rents would sky-rocket and would be unaffordable by the majority of the renters
- tenants will not be able to fully participate in the hearings before the LTB
- Ontario's housing justice system will be weakened

The Peterborough Community Legal Centre vehemently opposes these changes to the *RTA, 2006* and the LTB because of their serious impacts on the tenants and the potential for homelessness.

Even though Bill 60 has passed, and new amendments have been made to the *RTA, 2006*, the Legal Centre encourages tenants to continue their efforts in stopping the government from making laws that favour landlords while ignoring tenants and vulnerable population in the province. Tenants can contribute to the fight against such changes to the law that jeopardize fundamental tenant rights and protections by:

- Organizing themselves to form tenant organizations;
- Signing up to regional chapters of ACORN ([Contact Us - ACORN Canada](#))
- Signing petitions against proposed changes that are to the disadvantage of the tenants
- Meeting with our local MPP to raise concerns to bring better laws aimed at protecting tenants including better rent controls, and more investment in programs and supports that will keep tenants housed including income assistance, social and legal supports, and living wage inflation.

Here are a few links where tenants can join action:

Information about starting tenant organizations: [Tenant Associations - Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario - ACTO](#)
Message to Premier: Don't End Rent Control! ACORN Provincial Petition: https://acorncanada.org/take_action/urgent-message-to-doug-ford-dont-end-rent-control/ -

Fair Rent Ontario Campaign – Rent Control Stats:
https://fairrentontario.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2018-Exemption-Canvassing-Flyer_Final.pdf

Legal Clinic's Recommendations to the College of Physicians and Surgeons

Uninsured Services: Billing and Block Fees



[Volunteers Social Workers Men Women Hold Stock Vector \(Royalty Free\) 2435367653 | Shutterstock](#)

The Peterborough Community Legal Centre (PCLC) writes in response to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario's (CPSO) request for stakeholder feedback on its Uninsured Services: Billing and Block Fees Policy (the "Policy") and Advice to the Profession: Uninsured Services (the "Advice"). PCLC is a community legal clinic dedicated to providing free legal services to low-income residents of Peterborough City and County. We provide legal advice and representation in the following areas of law: income maintenance, housing, employment, human rights, sexual violence, and more.

PCLC's interest in this consultation

We write to ensure that the voices and concerns of the most vulnerable Ontarians who seek access to last-resort public disability benefits are heard and reflected in this consultation. Many of those applying for disability benefits are forced to survive on Ontario Works, a basic social assistance program. For those relying on social assistance, every dollar matters — and many are forced to choose between putting food on the table and paying for a doctor's note. Living on social assistance means living well below the poverty line.

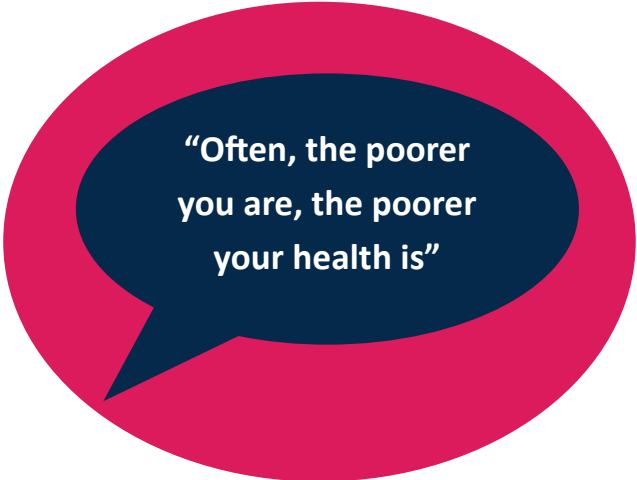
Applications for public disability benefits, like the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), Disability Tax Credit, and Canada Pension Plan Disability, require medical forms, reports, and records. Patients depend on their physicians to accurately complete these applications and to provide medical evidence to pursue vital disability benefits.

These records and reports are often uninsured services that require patients to pay out-of-pocket fees. The fees can be onerous, if not prohibitive, for low-income patients. To make matters more complicated, many do not have regular access to a family doctor familiar with their medical history...

Legal Clinic's Recommendations to the College of Physicians and Surgeons

Uninsured Services: Billing and Block Fees

...Even if completion of the initial application is paid for by OHIP or another government source, patients often have to pay an additional out-of-pocket fee for a consultation report to fix an inaccurate or incomplete application. They may have to pay fees for records from multiple health care providers to fill in gaps. Health is deeply intertwined with socioeconomic status. Often, the poorer you are, [the poorer your health is](#). This inequity is exacerbated by barriers to accessing medical information necessary to secure a more adequate income



“Often, the poorer you are, the poorer your health is”

Physicians should be adequately compensated for their services. They should be compensated through the public health care system to meaningfully complete medical forms so patients have the best chance of securing desperately needed disability benefits, without facing financial barriers. The Policy and Advice should continue to balance adequate compensation with a patient's ability to pay.

1) Does the current policy provide helpful guidance to physicians?

We applaud the current Policy for making it mandatory for a physician to consider a patient's ability to pay when charging for an uninsured service, as well as requiring physicians to consider the financial burden that these fees might place on the patient. The Policy also provides helpful guidance about how it may be appropriate to reduce, waive, or allow for flexibility on fees on “compassionate grounds”. All of this content should be maintained if the Policy is revised.

The Advice also provides important support and explanations on patients' ability to pay that ought to be maintained if the Advice is revised.

2) Are the expectations set out in the current policy clear and reasonable?

We recommend two additions that could help make the Policy clearer.

First, the Policy should include more details on the fees for release of patient records the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario (IPC) has set out in its binding decisions. The current Policy does not refer to these fees, nor does it state that if physicians fail to comply with the IPC's guidance, they may face complaints under the *Personal Health Information Protection Act*. The current Policy requires physicians to give consideration to the recommended fees set out in the Ontario Medical Association's [Physician's Guide to Uninsured Services](#). The OMA Guide, in turn, describes the IPC's set fees (pp. 16-19). The Advice briefly mentions that “in some instances fees will be set out in law or by order of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.”...

Legal Clinic's Recommendations to the College of Physicians and Surgeons

Uninsured Services: Billing and Block Fees

...This guidance is not sufficiently clear for physicians to understand their legal duty to provide a patient with their records and charge only for “reasonable cost recovery”. At the very least, the Policy should refer to the IPC’s set fees for copies of medical records, and link to the CPSO’s Medical Records Management Policy for more details.

Second, the Policy should specify that it is an act of professional misconduct to charge a fee that is excessive in relation to the services provided (see Section 1(1) paragraph 21 of the *Professional Misconduct Regulation*). This would help clarify the gravity of failing to consider a patient’s ability to pay in setting a fee for uninsured services like medical reports and records. This guidance is contained in an endnote to the Policy and in the text of the Advice, but should be highlighted in the text of the Policy as well.

3) Are there issues not addressed in the current policy that should be?

We recommend including more information in the Policy and/or Advice on the situations in which physicians ought to exercise their discretion to reduce or waive fees when a client is facing financial hardship. For example, ODSP is income of last resort for people with disabilities. The Policy and/or Advice should include applications and appeals for ODSP as an example of a situation where a physician ought to consider reducing or waiving fees, according to their professional judgment. This is because many people applying for ODSP are living on Ontario Works, which provides only \$733 per month for a single person. They are often in dire financial circumstances and cannot afford to pay a fee that amounts to a significant portion of their monthly income. Charging an unaffordable fee could leave the patient unable to qualify for ODSP, and therefore unable to access vital increased income support and other benefits from ODSP such as dental and vision care.

Also, most of the tenants who seek legal services at PCLC are either on social assistance; or are precariously employed due to health issues or disabilities. Many of these tenants are at risk of eviction because they simply cannot afford their rent for reasons beyond their control. Often, a tenant’s physical or mental health directly affects their ability to pay their rent or participate meaningfully in their eviction hearing at the Landlord and Tenant Board. These tenants are often required to provide medical evidence to prove their health conditions or disabilities. An unaffordable doctor’s note or medical record can effectively denying them access to the evidence they need to protect their housing, and prevent eviction.

The Policy should also specify that requests for records or reports coming from an Ontario community legal clinic should be a factor in exercising discretion on fees. This is because Ontario’s community legal clinics provide poverty law services to Ontario’s low-income communities. Clients of legal clinics are disproportionately those living with physical and mental disabilities, single mothers, recent immigrants, people of colour, the elderly, victims of abuse and torture and other historically disadvantaged groups. Legal clinic clients are required to reimburse clinics for the cost of medical records and reports, even if a legal clinic might pay a physician’s invoice. When legal clinic staff write to a physician on a patient’s behalf to request medical records or reports in support of an ODSP appeal or other legal process, they are assisting people with meeting their most basic needs. This is different from a patient pursuing a lawsuit against an insurance company through a private lawyer, for example.

Legal Clinic's Recommendations to the College of Physicians and Surgeons

Uninsured Services: Billing and Block Fees

Finally, we recommend that the policies dealing with fees for medical records and reports be streamlined to make them easier to navigate. The Medical Records Management Policy, the Third Party Medical Reports Policy and the Uninsured Services Policy overlap and create a confusing patchwork of guidance for physicians and the public on medical reports and records

Conclusion

Like physicians, we are deeply concerned about the health care crisis and the administrative burden involved in supporting patients living in poverty who are pursuing disability benefits. The relationship between income and health outcomes is well established. We urge the CPSO to consider the health equity implications of uninsured services for those who rely on or seek public disability benefits.

Thank you for considering our feedback. We would be pleased to discuss any of the above with you.

Sincerely,

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRE

*Written in collaboration with the Income Security and Advocacy Centre (ISAC)

The logo for Peterborough Community Legal Centre is displayed within a dark blue rectangular box. The box features two horizontal red lines, one above and one below the text. The word "Peterborough" is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and "Community Legal Centre" is written in a smaller, white sans-serif font directly below it.

Peterborough
Community Legal Centre

PTBO & COUNTY

GENDER AFFIRMING CARE GRANT



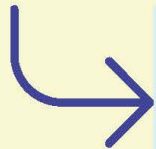
IF YOU LIVE IN PETERBOROUGH CITY OR COUNTY AND IDENTIFY AS TRANSGENDER, YOU CAN APPLY TO RECEIVE MONEY FOR GENDER AFFIRMING PRODUCTS AND PROCEDURES

KEY DETAILS:

- **\$125 / PERSON**
- **CRITERIA FOR WHAT IS COVERED IS FLEXIBLE & EXPANSIVE**
- **APPLICANTS WHO DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO A SIMILAR GRANT FROM A DIFFERENT PROGRAM WILL BE PRIORITIZED**

**EMAIL THE ORGANIZER WITH QUESTIONS:
ptbo.gacg@outlook.com**

SCAN TO APPLY:



DEADLINE EXTENDED

Applications will be accepted into 2026, until funds remain.

Wondering how to get involved with the Peterborough Community Legal Centre? *Become a member!*

The Objects of the Legal Centre

The objects of the Legal Centre are:

- To provide legal services or paralegal services or both including activities reasonably designed to encourage access to such services or to further such services and services designed to promote the legal welfare of the low income residents of the County of Peterborough, on a basis other than fee-for-service;
- To provide legal information and education and to encourage awareness of legal rights; To provide legal representation to low-income residents of the County of Peterborough;

Membership

The Centre is directed by its members. If you live in the City or County, and are 16 years of age or older, you can become a member. If you are a member, you can:

- Vote at the Annual General Meeting
- Stand for election to the Board of Directors if you are over 18.
- Get the Legal Centre's newsletter twice a year.

There is no fee to become a member. You do not need to be a member to get help from us. Membership is for three years and takes effect 30 days after approval by the Board of Directors. A letter will be sent to you confirming your membership.

How to become a member of the Legal Centre in 4 steps:

1

Call the Legal Centre at 705-749-9355 and leave a voicemail with your name, telephone number, and address.

2

We will mail you a Membership application with a stamped envelope addressed to the Legal Centre.

3

Complete the Membership application and insert it in the stamped envelope addressed to the Legal Centre.

4

Mail the sealed, stamped envelope addressed to the Legal Centre by dropping it in a mailbox or bring it to the Post Office. You will not need to buy postage.

Contact us!

www.ptbo-clcj.org

150 King St, 4th Floor East, Peterborough, ON, K9J 2R9

P: 705-749-9355 F: 705-749-9360

Facebook: [Peterborough Community Legal Centre](#)

Twitter: [@PeterboroughCLC](#)

Access a digital copy of this news letter on our [website](#)

** All references included in this newsletter are linked in the digital copy and listed in the website*