



WIDENING THE CIRCLE

Thursday, October 31
LSO #A2J Week 2019

Public Legal Education and Access to Justice

Donald Lamont Learning Centre, Osgoode Hall, 130 Queen St. West, Toronto

2019

WIDENING THE CIRCLE

SCHEDULE

8:30 am	Registration and refreshments
9:00 am	Opening comments Welcome address from Paul Cooper
9:15 am	Revisiting territorial acknowledgements Leah Horzempa (Sister Circle Consulting)
9:45 am	Community justice help: what are we seeing? <i>Moderated with comments by Alexandra Derisier (Connecting Ottawa)</i> Carol Barkwell (Luke's Place) Geordie Dent (Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations) Francisco Rico (FCJ Refugee Centre) Jacquie Thompson (Lifespin)
10:45 am	Break
11:00 am	Community justice help: where do we go from here? Overview of research by David Wiseman (University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law) and Julie Mathews (Community Legal Education Ontario) <i>Small group work on key questions & shareback</i>
12:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	Chatbots, helplines, and giving legal information in real-time <i>Moderated by Michelle Thompson (Ontario Justice Education Network)</i> Drew Jackson (People's Law School: chatbot under development) Fiona MacCool (Community Legal Education Ontario: Steps to Justice live chat) Dave Montague (Findhelp: 211) Kevin O'Shea (Public Legal Information Association of Newfoundland & Labrador: Legal Information Phone Line & Lawyer Referral Service)

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SCHEDULE

2:00 pm	Break
2:15 pm	Using design thinking for public legal education and information <i>Introduced by Avery Au (Civic Tech Toronto, Law & Design Project)</i> Sam Horodezky (Law and Design CoLab) Alexis Knygavko (Law and Design CoLab) <i>Comments from Amy Salyzyn (University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law)</i>
3:45 pm	Break
4:00 pm	Community forum: considering the legal services exception for family, friends, and neighbours Julie Mathews (Community Legal Education Ontario) Jessica Reekie (Ontario Justice Education Network)
4:45 pm	Closing comments



2019 SPEAKERS

PAUL COOPER

Paul Cooper is a graduate of Osgoode Hall law school and has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) in Economics and International Finance. While at law school, Paul spent a term at Oxford University studying International Law at S. Edmund Hall. Paul is founder of the popular Garage Series, a regular Continuing Professional Development event that brings together members of the legal community in a fun and informal setting.

Paul currently services the legal community as a Bencher of the Law Society of Ontario. He is a member of the Criminal Lawyers' Association, the Canadian Bar Association, the Toronto Lawyers Association and the York Regional Law Association. As a dedicated advocate for equality in the legal profession, Paul is an annual sponsor of the CLA Women in Criminal Law conference.

JESSICA REEKIE

Jessica Reekie is the Executive Director of the Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN), a charitable not-for-profit, non-governmental organization which develops innovative educational tools that introduce young people to the justice system, help them understand the law, and build their legal capability (www.ojen.ca).

A graduate of Harvard University and Dalhousie Law School, Jess practiced immigration and refugee law before she began working in the field of public legal education. She joined OJEN in 2008, first as a Program Manager developing public legal education programs and resources for newcomer youth, later becoming Director of Programs where she oversaw all of OJEN's justice education work with vulnerable and marginalised youth. In 2014, she became OJEN's Executive Director. Jess also serves as Vice-President of the Board of Directors for the Public Legal Education Association of Canada (PLEAC).

LEAH HORZEMPA

Leah Horzempa, J.D. is Métis from around Georgian Bay in Ontario. She is a lawyer, educator, facilitator, public speaker, and consultant who currently lives and works in Tkaronto. She provides group facilitation, research, education, and consultation across many domains, and brings specialized knowledge and insights in Indigenous knowledge systems, research methods, and governance; restorative justice, community governance, and economic development; and reconciliation to achieve nation to nation relationships.

Leah has an honours bachelor's degree of Arts and Science from the University of Guelph (2013), and a Juris Doctorate from Osgoode Hall Law School (2018). During her recent Public Interest Articling Fellowship funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario, Leah wrote a report to help non-Indigenous professionals in the restorative justice industry better honour and engage with the Indigenous origins of their work, titled "Indigenous Knowledge and Restorative Justice: A Guide for Restorative Practitioners."

Leah is currently on a journey to reconnect with her Métis heritage and culture. As part of this journey, she is learning traditional bead work, leather working, and wild food harvesting. She is also building relationships with her First Nation and more-than-human kin.

ALEXANDRA DERISIER

Alexandra Derisier has degrees in civil law and common law from Ottawa University, a civil law exchange with Universidad Panamerica (Mexico), and was called to the bar in 2009. She has experience with labour relations law, conducted research on humanitarian issues, and has worked at the Federal Court of Appeal, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, and the Privacy Commissioner of Canada.

She is fluent in English, French, Spanish and Créole. She is actively involved with the settlement and immigrant service partners and the legal clinic community in Ottawa. She is passionate about Public Legal Education and is an experienced presenter on various topics.

Prior to joining Connecting Ottawa, she was an employee of Vanier Community Service Centre, working as a lawyer on the Refugee Pilot Project and the Clinique juridique francophone de l'est d'Ottawa.

Alexandra has served on several humanitarian missionary trips in Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico.

CAROL BARKWELL

Carol Barkwell is the Executive Director and a founding member of Luke's Place, a unique organization which supports abused women and their children through the family law process. Carol frequently participates on panels, stakeholder consultations, committees and focus groups and has presented at local, provincial and international conferences on the issues faced by women subjected to intimate partner violence as they navigate the family law system. Ms. Barkwell has been an advocate working with abused women and their children for more than 30 years. She is dedicated to innovation, collaboration, reducing the gaps in service and developing an effective systemic response to violence against women.

GEORDIE DENT

Geordie Dent is the Executive Director of the Federation of Metro Tenants Associations. He's been a tenant and tenant advocate on three continents.

FRANCISCO RICO-MARTINEZ

Francisco Rico-Martinez came to Canada from El Salvador in 1990 as a refugee. He has dedicated his life in Canada to refugee advocacy and support for victims of human rights violations. Francisco is the former president of the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR) and is currently the co-director of FCJ Refugee Centre.

Recognized for his efforts in social justice, his awards include the Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship from the Law Foundation of Ontario, the William P. Hubbard Race Relations Award from the City of Toronto, and the YMCA Peace Medallion. He also received the Pioneers for Change Award as a recognition of all the contributions he made in the areas of Literacy and Access to Information for different communities.

Francisco is profiled at the Canadian Human Rights Museum as a human rights leader in his native El Salvador and for his work in Canada.

JACQUELINE THOMPSON

Jacqueline Thompson is the founder and Executive Director of Life*Spin, which has provided substantial programming to single mothers, families, children, and individuals living in poverty in the London area for over 25 years. She has been a leader in advocating for her community in transforming the structures and systems that lead to poverty, homelessness, and other social problems. She has served on the London Affordable Housing Task Force, The Premier's Council on Health, Well-Being, and Social Justice, the Income Security Advocacy Centre's Board of Directors, and the London Community Advocates Network.

DAVID WISEMAN

David Wiseman is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law, Common Law Section at the University of Ottawa. David teaches and researches in the areas of Property and Access to Justice. He is the academic supervisor of the uOttawa Access to Justice Lab experiential education course, which includes the "Free Law" project that involves law students in the provision of free legal assistance at community venues. David was also a co-founder and Co-Director of the University of Ottawa Refugee Assistance Project, which provided training and resources to refugee support workers. David has published and presented on access to justice issues relating to tenants' and housing rights, refugee status determination, lawyer licensing, paralegal practice, and alternative business structures for legal services.

JULIE MATHEWS

For the past twenty years, Julie Mathews has served as the Executive Director of CLEO (Community Legal Education Ontario/Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario), an independent public legal education and information organization. CLEO specializes in producing legal information that is accurate, practical, easy-to-understand, and addresses people's on-the-ground realities. As a specialty community legal clinic, CLEO focuses on issues that are most pressing for people who live with low incomes and other marginalizations.

MICHELLE THOMPSON

Michelle Thompson is the Manager of Legal and Digital Development at the Ontario Justice Education Network. After studying at McGill University and Osgoode Hall Law School, she left legal practice to pursue a non-profit career centered around social justice, digital culture, and communications.

DREW JACKSON

Drew Jackson is a lawyer and librarian. He has worked for 20+ years in providing education and information on the law. As Senior Legal Content Developer with People's Law School in Vancouver, BC, he leads the development of information for the public on everyday legal problems. He is keenly interested in making legal information easier to understand, and in applying technology to help people learn. (Hence his enthusiasm for the People's Law School chatbot initiative).

FIONA MACCOOL

Fiona MacCool is the Digital Projects Manager for CLEO (Community Legal Education Ontario/Éducation juridique communautaire Ontario). The primary website Fiona helped develop and manages currently is Steps to Justice (stepstojustice.ca), a website of reliable and practical step-by-step legal information for people in Ontario. She also manages social media and live chat services for CLEO.

DAVE MONTAGUE

Dave Montague has been the Director for Information Resources and Technology at Findhelp/211 since 2017. Before that he spent 15+ years as the technology lead for OCASI-Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants. Dave's primary drive throughout dozens of online information and referral projects is to improve access to services by ensuring the platforms we create are client-focused and sustainable.

KEVIN O'SHEA

Kevin O'Shea is currently the Executive Director of the Public Legal Information Association of Newfoundland and Labrador (PLIAN). Originally from St. John's, Kevin completed a law degree at the University of Ottawa in 2009 and a Master of Laws at the University of Turin (Italy) in 2013. He was called to the Bar as a Member of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador in 2011, and previously worked as a Crown Attorney in St. John's.

LAW & DESIGN COLAB

We are a volunteer-run nonprofit based in Toronto and Waterloo that promotes innovation in Ontario's justice sector. Our mission is to amplify the impact of existing legal information products by using design methods and fostering collaboration across disciplines. Our volunteers are skilled professionals in user-experience & service design, graphic design, multimedia, marketing, software development, law and public policy. We conceive and develop legal information projects that emphasize rapid prototyping and user testing. To learn more, visit us at lawdesigncolab.ca.

SAM HORODEZKY

Sam Horodezky (UX Advisor at the Law & Design CoLab) is a thought leader in UX management with over 20 years of experience working for enterprise companies in the United States. He is active as a writer and a conference speaker. Currently, Sam is a design freelancer based in Toronto. Sam was a founding member of CoLab including its inaugural engagement with CLEO. Sam holds an MS in Cognitive Science from UC San Diego and is an inventor on 6 approved patents.

ALEXIS KNYGAVKO

Alexis Knygavko (UX Lead at the Law & Design CoLab) is a lead product designer at a Toronto based startup. She is professionally educated in psychology and self-taught in business, digital marketing and website design. Alexis has 2+ years experience running her own private label business and brings a unique lens and approach to designing digital interactions and products.

AMY SALYZYN

Amy Salyzyn is an Associate Professor at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Common Law. Amy received her LL.M. from Yale Law School and her J.D. from the University of Toronto Law School. In addition to legal ethics, Amy's research focuses on gender and the law, law and technology and civil justice reform.

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