

Province	Committee Member	Provincial / Territorial Pro Bono Programs
<b>British Columbia</b>	Claire Hunter	<p><b>Access Pro Bono Summary Legal Advice Program</b>            APB operates an extensive network of over 100 summary legal advice clinics throughout the province. Clients make appointments through the Vancouver office and, in some instances, directly through the local clinic. Volunteer lawyers provide up to a half-hour of free legal advice to clients and additional appointments may be available. Pro bono lawyers provide summary legal advice to low- and modest-income individuals on a wide range of legal issues, including family, immigration, criminal, civil and poverty law (such as debt, employment, welfare, and housing).</p> <p><b>Access Pro Bono Civil Chambers Program</b>            The Civil Chambers Program provides legal assistance and representation services to low- and modest-income individuals engaged in civil (non-family) chambers litigation matters before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal in Vancouver. Twice a week, volunteer lawyers provide legal assistance and representation to unrepresented low- and modest-income litigants appearing in civil chambers in Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal. Individual eligibility is determined before booking an appointment with Duty Counsel. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers assist lawyers with pre-trial documents and legal research.</p> <p><b>Access Pro Bono Roster Program</b>            The Roster Program provides pro bono representation services for particular case types to qualifying individuals and non-profit organizations. Client applications are screened by APB staff and volunteer coordinators and then sent to a number of lawyers for their consideration. If a lawyer responds to the particular case, they choose the scope of their services. Insurance and disbursement coverage is made available to roster lawyers.</p> <p><u>Court of Appeal Program</u>            The Court of Appeal Program helps low-income litigants appeal civil, criminal or family law decisions. Program lawyers also help clients respond to appeals brought by opposing parties. They provide a variety of limited and extended litigation services.</p> <p><u>Family Law Program</u>            Through the Family Law Program, roster lawyers provide assistance and representation to clients in such matters as drafting and arguing applications, conducting trials, mediating disputes, drafting separation agreements and securing consent orders. Although the range of potential assistance is unlimited, the Family Law Program is specifically designed to enable pro bono assistance in the form of limited or “unbundled” tasks.</p> <p><u>Wills &amp; Estates Program</u>            The Wills &amp; Estates Program is designed to facilitate the provision of pro bono legal services in non-litigious estate matters, such as drafting wills, powers of attorney, committee agreements and representation agreements.</p> <p><u>Federal Court Of Appeal Program</u>            The Federal Court of Appeal has broad jurisdiction to hear and determine applications for judicial review of federal tribunal decisions and appeals concerning immigration, citizenship, admiralty, customs, intellectual property, tax, federal labour relations, transportation, communications, parole and penitentiary matters. Roster lawyers provide assistance and representation to clients in such matters as drafting of court documents (e.g. Notice of</p>

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		<p>Appeal, appeal books), researching and preparing factums and presenting legal arguments at hearings.</p> <p><u>Judicial Review Program</u>                      The Judicial Review Program assists clients with appeals of decisions made by tribunals constituted under provincial legislation, including; the Residential Tenancy Act, the Employment and Assistance Act, the Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act and the Workers Compensation Act. Roster lawyers provide assistance and representation to clients in such matters as drafting of court documents (e.g. petitions and affidavits), researching and preparing written submissions, preparing chambers records and presenting legal arguments in court.</p> <p><u>Solicitors' Program</u>                      The Solicitors' Program is designed to facilitate the provision of pro bono legal services to charitable and non-profit community organizations of limited means. APB receives requests from community organizations throughout the province and then endeavours to match each request to a roster lawyer within workable reach. APB staff members screen requests for eligibility, connect community organizations to lawyers and provide ongoing support and resources to roster lawyers. Roster lawyers provide legal advice and assistance to community organizations in all areas of non-profit law, including incorporation and by-laws, registrations for charitable status, employment matters, contracts and lease agreements. Roster lawyers also conduct seminars on such topics as board of directors' liability, privacy policies and board governance.</p> <p><u>Supreme Court of Canada Leave Application Program</u>                      APB is currently developing a roster through which roster lawyers will provide pro bono services to assist clients in bringing or responding to applications for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada.</p> <p><b>Access Pro Bono Paralegal Program</b>                      APB has partnered with the Vancouver Justice Access Centre and the Law Courts Centre to provide support for self-represented litigants who need assistance in preparing court documents. The Program is staffed by senior paralegals from several Vancouver law firms and legal supervision is provided by APB volunteer lawyers. The Program operates as a weekly evening clinic at the Vancouver Justice Access Centre at the downtown Vancouver courthouse.</p> <p><b>Access Pro Bono Children's Lawyer Program</b>                      This program is currently available only in Victoria and Nanaimo Provincial Court but may extend to other locations and levels of court in the future. This initiative, dealing with high conflict custody and access cases, provides a "voice to children" ages 10 through 18, in court hearings. Where a judge is of the view that a matter before the Court would benefit from the appointment of legal counsel for a child or children, he or she can make an order requesting that the Children's Lawyer Program become involved.</p> <p><b>Access Pro Bono Wills Clinic Project</b>                      APB, in partnership with the federal Department of Justice and the provincial Ministry of Justice, operates a weekly Will and Representation Agreement preparation clinic at the Vancouver Justice Access Centre for low-income seniors (ages 55+) and people with terminal illnesses.</p>

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		<p><b>Access Pro Bono Mental Health Program</b> The Mental Health Program provides pro bono representation services to individuals contesting their involuntary detainment under the BC Mental Health Act</p> <p><b>Action Committee of People with Disabilities</b> The Action Committee of People with Disabilities provides people with disabilities with free information, educational materials, and other services concerning the rights and responsibilities of disabled individuals. These include, but are not limited to, services offered by the Ministry of Housing and Social Development and other governmental institutions. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers provide information and support to clients seeking reconsiderations or appeals of denied government benefits, and help to develop a self-help advocacy manual for clients to help with common applications</p> <p><b>Atira Women’s Resource Society</b> Atira is a non-profit organization that aims to end violence against women and children by providing direct services as well as working to increase awareness and education of the problem. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers perform intake and assistance to clients and provide legal research where required.</p> <p><b>Law Student's Legal Advice Program (LSLAP)</b> University of British Columbia law students provide free legal advice, drafting of legal documents and legal representation at clinics throughout Greater Vancouver. Legal representation is not guaranteed.</p> <p><b>The People's Law School</b> This long-serving not-for-profit society located in Vancouver provides information about people's rights and responsibilities under the law through lectures and courses. Brochures, manuals and legal information are available in various languages (Japanese, Hindi, Urdu, Chinese, Russian, Vietnamese, etc).</p> <p><b>Prisoner’s Legal Services – Disciplinary Hearing Project</b> Prisoner’s Legal Services provides legal services to federal and provincial prisoners in B.C., as well as to parolees. They assist in transfers, segregation, disciplinary charges, parole matters, and sentence calculations. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers participate in hearings, including performing preliminary legal research, witness preparation, examination, and cross-examination of witnesses and oral submissions.</p> <p><b>Seniors Entitlement Service</b> The Seniors’ Entitlement Service assists senior clients with housing matters pension matters, loss of drivers licenses, business and contract matters, abuse of any kind, police entanglements, government issues and health and social services. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers conduct legal research for client files and help provide legal information to clients.</p> <p><b>Together Against Poverty Society (TAPS)</b> TAPS is a not-for-profit organization in Victoria providing free, face-to-face legal advocacy for people with income assistance, disability benefits and tenancy issues. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers provide legal information to tenants about the BC Residential Tenancy Act and other applicable legislation, and assist lawyers with legal advocacy on behalf of clients at Residential Tenancy Branch dispute resolution hearings.</p>

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		<p><b>Vancouver Island Human Rights Coalition</b>                      The Vancouver Island Human Rights Coalition is a non-profit community organization with a mission to promote and strengthen local human rights in BC through advocacy, research, education, and by connecting people with resources. Pro Bono Students Canada volunteers participate in client intake and handling files, ranging from researching specific issues to participating in client interviewing to drafting complaints for the BC Human Rights Tribunal.</p> <p><b>Legal Services Society of BC (legal aid)</b>                      LSS provides free legal services, ranging from legal information and advice to legal representation, in the areas of criminal, family, child apprehension and immigration law for clients who qualify under financial eligibility guidelines and whose legal issue is covered, through in-person and call centre services. Applications for legal aid are taken, lawyer referrals are made and legal information and publications are also provided around the province by 22 private lawyers (Local Agents) on contract with LSS. These services are offered in nearly 50 locations at offices, community centres, courts and First Nations' Band facilities.</p> <p>Local agent lawyers provide pro bono services for a minimum number of hours per month, calculated according to the amount of the respective contract, determined by each to be the most efficacious use of time.</p> <p>Pro Bono Students of Canada volunteers participate in the LiveHelp Project, an instant messaging service that the LSS has added to their Family Law Website so clients can ask questions and receive legal information online regarding family law issues in general as well as how to access information on the website. Students provide remote online support to staff at Live Help and research support to update, revise and continue to expand the Frequently Asked Questions information database.</p> <p><b>Plus:</b>                      A wide variety of public interest advocacy groups, including those that deal with utilities, housing, debt, welfare and disabilities and illnesses, etc., offer some representation services for free to or on behalf of low income people.</p>
<p><b>Alberta</b></p>	<p>Gillian Marriott</p>	<p>Pro Bono Law Alberta's mission is: "To improve access to justice by increasing the scope availability of pro bono legal services for low income Albertans."</p> <p>Pro Bono Law Alberta works to promote access to justice in Alberta by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Creating</b> pro bono opportunities for Alberta lawyers</li> <li>• <b>Working</b> with law firms to develop pro bono policies and projects</li> <li>• <b>Leveraging</b> pro bono resources in the community</li> <li>• <b>Enhancing</b> the growth of a pro bono culture in the legal profession</li> </ul> <p>PBLA does this through partnerships, collaborative projects, and events that involve the legal community and the pro bono clinics. There are six pro bono clinics in Alberta with diverse operating structures which primarily utilize a staff lawyer(s) supplemented by volunteer lawyers: <a href="#">Edmonton Community Legal</a></p>

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		<p><a href="#">Clinic</a>, <a href="#">Central Alberta Community Legal Clinic</a>, <a href="#">Grande Prairie Legal Guidance</a>, <a href="#">Lethbridge Legal Guidance</a>, <a href="#">Children’s Legal and Educational Resource Centre</a> and <a href="#">Calgary Legal Guidance</a>.</p> <p>As PBLA is not a direct service provider, PBLA works primarily with the legal community to encourage pro bono service, which in turn, benefits low income Albertans. Our many projects and activities include:</p> <p><b>Civil Claims Duty Counsel (CCDC)</b>                      The CCDC Project was launched as a pilot project at the Calgary Courts Centre on October 4, 2011 and at the Edmonton Law Courts on January 24, 2012. The goal of the project is to provide legal assistance to Albertans engaged in civil proceedings before the Provincial Court who would benefit from advice from legal counsel. CCDC now runs four full days per week in Calgary and three half days per week in Edmonton. As of November 2012 in Calgary 177 lawyers volunteer for the project and in Edmonton 87 lawyers are volunteering. A total of 17 law students assisted the lawyers between October 2011 and April 2012 for both projects. As the project grows, additional lawyers will come on board.</p> <p>PBLA has collaborated with Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC) on this project. The following nine law firms provide volunteer lawyers for the CCDC Project in Calgary: McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, Gowlings LLP, Bennett Jones LLP, Blakes Cassels Graydon LLP, Norton Rose LLP, Miller Thomson LLP and McMillan LLP. In Edmonton nine firms participate in the project: Ackroyd LLP, Emery Jamieson LLP, Field LLP, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, McLennan Ross LLP, Miller Thomson LLP, Macpherson Leslie and Tyerman LLP, Parlee McLaws LLP and Reynolds Mirth Richards &amp; Farmer LLP.</p> <p><b>Legal Grounds Advice Clinic</b>                      The “Legal Grounds Advice Clinic” pro bono initiative is a unique volunteer opportunity whereby PBLA partners with a pro bono clinic and a local law firm to host a one-day event for members of the public to receive free legal advice and information in a friendly, approachable environment over a free cup of coffee. The local law firm provides volunteer lawyers who meet individuals for confidential, pre-booked 30-minute appointments to assist with legal advice. Legal Grounds Advice Clinics have been held in Calgary, Lethbridge, Crowsnest Pass, Medicine Hat and Brooks.</p> <p><b>Informational Videos for the Public</b>                      PBLA, the Canadian Bar Association – Alberta Branch and members of the judiciary from the Alberta Courts worked together to produce four educational videos that are available for the public to view at the Calgary and Edmonton Courthouses. The videos provide unrepresented claimants with short, easy-to-understand instructions about basic courtroom procedures, processes, etiquette and other useful information. The videos are in the areas of Courtroom Etiquette, Landlord and Tenant, Foreclosure and Civil Claims. The CBA Young Lawyers in Calgary and Junior Lawyers in Edmonton wrote the scripts and acted in the videos. The lawyers also worked closely with members of the judiciary to create the content for all the videos. The videos were launched at PBLA’s 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on June 21, 2012 in Calgary. The four films, accompanying scripts and resource materials can be viewed on PBLA’s website at <a href="http://www.pbla.ca">www.pbla.ca</a>. The films are also located on YouTube at <a href="http://www.youtube.com/probonolawalberta">www.youtube.com/probonolawalberta</a>.</p> <p><b>Raising the Pro Bono Bar</b>                      The “Raising the Pro Bono Bar” events are a celebration for the legal profession and are attended by volunteer lawyers, members of the judiciary, articling students and law students. PBLA works in collaboration with the pro bono clinics to host these events which are held to recruit new lawyers as volunteers and to recognize those lawyers who are already volunteering. In 2012, Raising the Pro Bono Bar events were hosted Grande Prairie (May 3), Lethbridge (May 10) and Edmonton (May 31). Plans will be made to host these events in early 2013 Calgary (February 28) and Red Deer (date to be determined).</p>

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		<p><b>Volunteer Lawyer Services</b>                      PBLA has operated the Volunteer Lawyer Services (VLS) program since August 2009. Originally VLS was a program by which volunteer lawyers were matched with not-for-profit organizations who needed help. On April 1, 2011, the VLS program expanded to provide services to individuals by way of referrals from Legal Aid and the pro bono clinics, thereby adding capacity to pro bono legal services offered within Alberta. VLS continues to serve not-for-profit organizations. As of November 2012, a total of 361 volunteer lawyers participated through VLS, CCDC, Human Rights, and Veterans Affairs projects. VLS encourages all Alberta lawyers to consider joining the VLS program. To sign up call 403-541-4803 or email <a href="mailto:vl@pbla.ca">vl@pbla.ca</a></p> <p><b>PBLA Online Resource Bank</b>                      The PBLA Online Resource Bank, developed in 2011, promotes the sharing of information, resources and knowledge between volunteer lawyers and pro bono organizations in Alberta. The PBLA Online Resource Bank includes links to relevant websites, court forms, automatically updated legislation and other resources available only online. The resource bank is a member-only site for volunteer lawyers, articling students, law students and members of legal clinics and organizations. As of November 2012, 129 people have joined the PBLA Online Resource Bank. Be connected to the pro bono legal community and join at <a href="http://www.pbla.ca/resourcebank">http://www.pbla.ca/resourcebank</a>.</p> <p>PBLA values its work with law students and is involved in many projects in partnership with Pro Bono Students Canada including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Civil Claims Duty Counsel (CCDC)</b></li> <li>• <b>Emergency Protection Order (EPO Project)</b></li> <li>• <b>Immigration Project</b></li> <li>• <b>Human Rights Project</b></li> <li>• <b>Innocence Project</b></li> </ul> <p>For more information about Pro Bono Law Alberta, visit <a href="http://www.pbla.ca">www.pbla.ca</a>.</p>
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	Nicole Sarauer	<p>Saskatchewan has a formal Pro Bono Organization, Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan, with a mandate similar to that of the other pro bono organizations in Canada. PBLS improves access to justice in Saskatchewan by creating, facilitating, and promoting opportunities for lawyers to provide high-quality pro bono legal services to people and organizations of limited means. PBLS currently operates/oversees 7 free legal clinics across the province. This includes clinics in Regina, Prince Albert, Swift Current, Estevan, Moose Jaw, North Battleford, and Meadow Lake. PBLS also provides policy and other assistance to the free legal clinic managed by Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City (CLASSIC).</p> <p>In addition to the free legal clinics, PBLS operates a number of panel programs that assist clients of limited means by matching them directly with lawyers for full representation pro bono assistance. These include; the Child &amp; Youth Panel Program, Seniors Legal Assistance Panel Program, Immigration &amp; Refugee Panel Program, Solicitors Panel Program, General Panel Program, and the Residential Tenancies Panel Program.</p> <p>Currently PBLS has roughly 17% of Saskatchewan lawyers signed up to volunteer with PBLS. In terms of policy and reform, PBLS has been providing submissions to the Law Society of Saskatchewan with respect to limited scope revisions to its code similar to what we have seen in other provinces as well as</p>

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		<p>to the Law Reform Commission with respect to needy person certificates – there has been much progress as of late in both of these areas and we are hopeful to see the results in the near future.</p> <p>CLASSIC also provides pro bono legal services to the Saskatoon area. Its two major programs are the walk in advocacy program which is a student based program supervised by CLASSIC staff lawyers and the free legal clinic.</p> <p>Saskatchewan Public Legal Education Association has recently been approved for funding from the Ontario Access to Justice Fund for a Family Law Website which we expect to be an excellent tool for organizations providing pro bono assistance.</p> <p>Finally, a Saskatchewan A2J committee has recently been created and there have been discussions at that committee about how pro bono organizations can partner with the CBA Saskatchewan to celebrate pro bono.</p>
<b>Manitoba</b>	Myfanwy E. Bowman	<p>There is no pro bono organization in Manitoba. The Manitoba Bar Association has a Pro Bono Project in partnership with the Public Interest Law Centre (where I work). Members can sign up to participate in one of three ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) they can take a regular Legal Aid certificate, and arrange for their fees to be directed to the Public Interest Law Centre</li> <li>b) they can make a donation by cash or cheque</li> <li>c) they can join our pro bono panel of lawyers who are willing to work on a public interest case pro bono. They might take on a case on their own, they might work with us as co-counsel, or they might simply be available to consult or give advice as needed. By the way, cases accepted by this office are public interest cases, which are likely to change the law, or to affect a large number of people.</li> </ul> <p>Recently a group of volunteers organized and launched the Legal Help Centre. Using donations, a very small staff, and a group of volunteer students (from law and social work) and volunteer lawyers, the Help Centre has drop in hours where people can show up, and meet with a student. The student will interview the client, and for those with legal issues that may have some merit, they can arrange an appointment with a volunteer lawyer, who can give some preliminary advice or referrals. They do not usually provide representation, as far as I am aware. I will send you the link to the Help Centre's website.</p> <p>This isn't a pro bono service, but the Law Society of Manitoba has launched a Family Law Access program, whereby low income clients who do not qualify for legal aid can receive legal assistance with family law matters at a reduced cost. Lawyers sign up to take clients at a reduced fee. The Law Society pays the lawyers directly, and is responsible for collecting from the client, usually through a payment plan. I understand that uptake has been high, and there is often a waiting list. I'll send you the link for this program as well.</p> <p>Finally, the Community Legal Education Association offers a free legal information call-in line, as well as a lawyer referral line, answered by 2 staff lawyers. Both lines are very busy, and it is difficult to get through.</p> <p>I suspect that the issues in Manitoba are similar to other provinces. There are a number of places where people can go to get some initial advice or referrals. The trouble is that there are very few options for getting pro bono representation (other than for public interest cases).</p>



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Ontario	Juliet L. Knapton	
Quebec	Michèle Moreau	<p><b>Centres de justice de proximité</b> – The Provincial Minister of Justice, The Quebec Bar, The Chambre des notaires du Québec and SOQUIJ are funding three <i>Centres de justice de proximité</i> in Rimouski, Quebec City and Montreal as a 3-year pilot project (until March 31, 2013). These walk-in clinics provide free legal information to the public in any area of the law. The Centers also provide referrals to existing resources in the community. Pro Bono Québec, the provincial pro bono organization, operates the Center located in Montreal.</p> <p><b>Duty Counsel Programs</b> – Pro Bono Québec, in partnership with other organizations, provide free legal assistance to unrepresented litigants in front of the following courts :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Matters at the Superior Court in Montreal;</li> <li>• Criminal cases at the Municipal Court in Montreal;</li> <li>• Cases involving mental health issues at the Court of Appeal in Montreal and Quebec City.</li> </ul> <p>Any unrepresented litigant is entitled to a free legal consultation with a <i>pro bono</i> lawyer, no matter what their income is.</p> <p><b>Cases of public interest</b> – Pro Bono Québec provides free legal representation to low-income litigants who are not eligible to Legal Aid and are involved in cases of public interest or cases where they could suffer permanent harm.</p> <p><b>Pro Bono Partnerships</b> – Pro Bono Québec just launched a new program where a community organization is teamed with a law firm that will provide free legal services to its members/clientele.</p> <p><b>Referral Services of the Quebec City Bar</b> – Volunteer lawyers provide 30 minutes of free legal advice on a wide range of legal issues (in the rest of the province, the fee for a 30-minute consultation is 30 \$).</p> <p><b>The Young Bar Association of Montreal (YBAM)</b> – Founded in 1898, this non-profit organization represents more than 4 200 lawyers with 10 years or less of practice, registered in the Montreal area. Their members offer many legal services to the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing Board/Small Claims Court/Labour Relations Board: free legal consultations with <i>pro bono</i> lawyers to help unrepresented litigants prepare for their hearing;</li> <li>• “I’m talking to my lawyer on Wednesday!”: free legal consultations on the phone for young people (12 to 20 years of age);</li> <li>• Once a year, the YBAM holds a free legal Help-Line with a 1-800 number across the province – in collaboration with other Young Bars, The Quebec Bar, Éducaloi and Pro Bono Québec;</li> <li>• Starting your own business?: YBAM offers a free 30-minute legal consultation with a <i>pro bono</i> lawyer for anyone starting a business.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community organizations</b> – In Quebec, we have a strong network of other organizations providing free legal services such as :</p>



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Mile-End Legal Clinic;</li> <li>• Clinique juridique Juripop;</li> <li>• The Tyndale St-George Legal Clinic;</li> <li>• Just Solutions (immigration law);</li> <li>• Mouvement Action Chômage (unemployment law);</li> <li>• Etc.</li> </ul>
<b>New Brunswick</b>	Kathryn L. Stratton	
<b>PEI</b>	Randy MacDonald	
<b>Nova Scotia</b>	Charles Ford	<p><a href="#">Dalhousie Legal Aid Service (DLAS)</a></p> <p>Founded in 1970, the Dalhousie Legal Aid Service is the oldest clinical law program in Canada and remains the only community law clinic in Nova Scotia. DLAS provides pro bono legal services to clients on Legal Aid Certificates and non-certificate clients that meet a certain income cut-off. DLAS also offers community outreach, advocacy workshops, legal information sessions, lobbying and test case litigation that focus on the injustices that affect persons with low incomes in Nova Scotia. DLAS provides third year students of Dalhousie University's Schulich School of Law with an intensive learning opportunity where students spend a semester working with DLAS clients.</p> <p><a href="#">Halifax Refugee Clinic</a></p> <p>The Halifax Refugee Clinic is a not-for-profit, non-governmental, community-based organization funded by the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia and private donations. The Clinic provides no-cost legal and settlement services to refugee claimants in Nova Scotia who are unable to afford their own private lawyer. In addition to providing in-house settlement services, the Clinic relies on their roster of volunteer counsel who provide pro bono legal services to help refugee claimants navigate the claim process as well as legal representation before the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.</p> <p><a href="#">Immigrant Settlement &amp; Integration Services (ISIS)</a></p> <p>The result of a merger of the Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association and Halifax Immigrant Learning Centre, ISIS is the largest immigrant-serving agency in Atlantic Canada. ISIS offers a wide variety of settlement services to assist the integration of immigrants who arrive in Nova Scotia. ISIS has a permanent Pro Bono Law Student volunteer position and volunteers from the legal community provide legal services including, for example, a series of free legal information workshops for immigrants.</p> <p><a href="#">McInnes Cooper Collective Social Responsibility (CSR) and Pro Bono Program</a></p>

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		<p>McInnes Cooper has committed itself to fulfilling its social responsibility through a firm-wide initiative that is built upon three pillars of community engagement, environment and pro bono. McInnes Cooper’s offices throughout Atlantic Canada regularly engage with the local and global community through the investment of time and resources. McInnes Cooper has engaged in specific efforts to reduce its environmental footprint and promote sustainability. McInnes Cooper encourages its members to provide pro bono legal services on matters of public interest and on behalf of disadvantaged people and groups.</p> <p><a href="#">Nova Scotia Court of Appeal Judicial Mediation Program</a></p> <p>The Judicial Mediation Program is a voluntary program available to litigants who have commenced an appeal in a civil or family dispute in the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal. Litigants must submit a joint request for mediation which will be reviewed and, if appropriate, mediated by a judge of the Court of Appeal on a free, confidential and without prejudice basis. Litigants who are self-represented or cannot afford a lawyer have access to the services of a lawyer free of charge. A list of lawyers who have volunteered to provide their services for this program is maintained by the Canadian Bar Association’s Nova Scotia Branch.</p> <p><a href="#">Nova Scotia Legal Information Society (LISNS) Pro Bono Hub Pilot Project</a></p> <p>Funded by the Access to Justice Fund as administered by the Law Foundation of Ontario and operated by the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia, the Pro Bono Hub Pilot Project is currently in the process of developing an online Pro-Bono Legal Services Hub. When launched, the Hub will connect Nova Scotia lawyers who are interested in providing some form of pro-bono service with those who are seeking legal services but cannot afford their own lawyer.</p> <p><a href="#">reachAbility</a></p> <p>reachAbility is a non-profit organization whose mandate is to “improve access to justice, equality, and human rights for people living with disabilities and for those within their support systems.” reachAbility’s Lawyer Referral Service connects persons with disabilities with one of its 140 volunteer lawyers who provide a free one-hour consultation. Through reachAbility’s Community Outreach Initiative, volunteer lawyers also conduct free seminars on legal topics that are relevant to persons with disabilities.</p>
<b>Newfoundland &amp; Labrador</b>	Christina Kennedy	As many of you know, over the last year in NL we have been trying to get a donation of hours to start an organized pro bono initiative. We finally have enough to commence. We will be working with the Court of Appeal.
<b>Yukon</b>		
<b>Northwest Territories</b>	Jeannette Savoie	<p>From a pro bono perspective:            Many lawyers volunteer to serve on various boards of directors in the community.            Young lawyers CBA section also do many public relations activities during law week, including a bake sale with proceeds going to a local charity and public legal education booth, visit to the court house and essays contests in local high schools and of course, a moot court. I believe for a law week activity next year, they want to organize a call in day for people in the Northwest Territories, to obtain free legal advice.            Another lawyer and myself volunteered at the YWCA “We Care “ day twice this year, to offer a free legal advice and information clinic.</p>

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		<p>As for access to justice initiatives, (I separate this from pro bono, as GNT-Justice is now a strong supporter of Legal Aid’s new poverty law initiatives). Every Tuesday afternoon, we offer a free walk-in clinic, where people can come in to ask questions or get some basic help or information. People can also call in to make appointments and I am authorized to assist an individual for up to an hour, without the person having to be screened for legal aid eligibility. People can all call collect from anywhere in the NWT to obtain free legal information and basic advice on a variety of legal issues. People are using this service more and more.</p> <p>Since last October, we have been flying into the smaller isolated communities, once a month on average, weather and schedule permitting, with the Court circuit usually, to be available to offer the same basic legal advice and information program as is available to the people who live in Yellowknife and surrounding communities. It has and continues to be a huge success. The Aboriginal court workers have been a huge part, in promoting the program but also, if they have any questions or need advice on what to say to a particular client, they contact me by phone or email. Some communities have expressed a sufficient interest in the program, whereby we have made a special 2 or 3 day trip to their community to offer poverty law programs. (the Chiefs of Fort Simpson, Fort Liard, Jean Marie River and Wrigley have requested a special trip for us to assist with elders to do wills and POAs, it is a partnership, whereby Legal aid pays for my salary and the various Bands pay for the trip and accommodation). There are only 4 or 5 communities that have not received a visit from a poverty lawyer yet, and the goal is to attend to these in the next six months. We’re also exploring other possibilities such as using video-conferencing mechanisms as a future initiative.</p>
<b>Nunavut</b>	Erin George	