

pro bono from the latin
'pro bono publico,' meaning
for the public good; in legal
terms, it means representing
someone free of charge.

Are you a law firm or law association that
would like to volunteer pro bono legal
services or develop a pro bono project?

Are you a public service provider (legal
clinic or community group) that
recognizes unmet legal needs within
the group you serve?

Find out how you can participate.
Contact Pro Bono Law Ontario today.

**Together we can build
bridges to justice!**

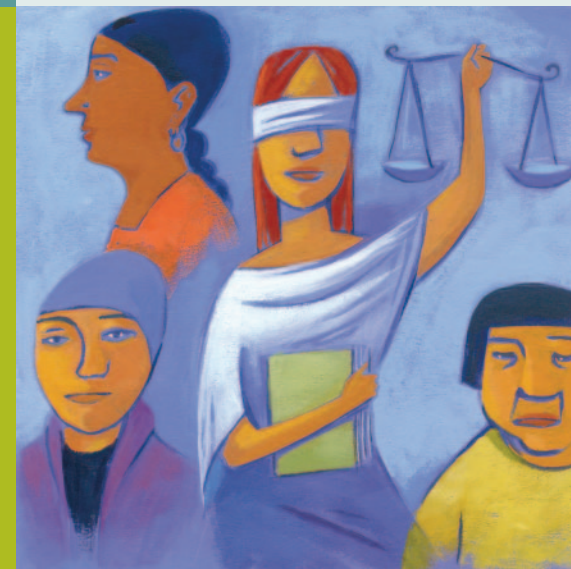
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- Pro Bono Law Ontario
is funded by:
- The Law Foundation of Ontario
 - Legal Aid Ontario
 - The Law Society of Upper Canada

PRO BONO LAW
ONTARIO



Pro Bono Law Ontario

► *doing the public good*

Pro Bono Law Ontario is a nonprofit organization that promotes the development of organized pro bono legal services in Ontario.

PBLO's Mission

To improve access to justice by providing strategic guidance, training and tailored technical assistance to law firms, law associations, legal departments and other groups that are dedicated to addressing the legal needs of low income and disadvantaged individuals as well as the communities and charitable organizations that serve them.

Our History

When PBLO opened its doors in January 2002, organized pro bono was virtually unheard of in Ontario. Since then, PBLO has been working to:

- ▶ promote a pro bono culture,
- ▶ develop the pro bono capacity of the private bar,
- ▶ eliminate barriers to participation, and
- ▶ develop pro bono projects that address unmet legal needs in both urban and rural communities across Ontario.

Pro Bono Project Development

One of PBLO's key roles is to broker relationships between public service providers (legal clinics, community-based organizations) and the private bar (law firms, law associations).

PBLO plays an active role in the community, seeking out these opportunities.

Ontario has a public legal aid program and, although relatively well funded, it cannot keep



▶ *building bridges to justice*

up with the demand for legal services, nor does it cover all legal service areas.

As a result, PBLO's project development goals are based on two guiding principles:

1. All projects should enhance, and not duplicate, existing services covered by Legal Aid Ontario.
2. Pro bono law projects should be community-based and community-driven.

Pro Bono Project Support

Once a new project has been launched, PBLO continues to provide support through:

- ▶ Project development and project management consultation services
- ▶ Best practices guidance
- ▶ Volunteer recruitment and outreach support
- ▶ LawPRO insurance coverage for participating lawyers
- ▶ Continuing legal education curriculum development for volunteer lawyers
- ▶ Online tools at www.pblo.org/lawyers
- ▶ Grantwriting and resource development services
- ▶ Case management software

Our Projects

Visit our website and check out the Pro Bono Directory for a list of our current projects: www.pblo.org.

