

Classroom resources help teach legal and financial literacy to Ontario teens *LAWPRO and OJEN pioneer real estate in the classroom*

Toronto – November 3, 2015 - LAWPRO and the Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN) have joined forces to create learning material for Ontario secondary schools. The lesson plans address two of the most important skills in life – legal capability and financial literacy.

Entitled [*A Foot in the Door: A Classroom Resource on Real Estate and Housing Law in Ontario*](#), the six-module resource includes lessons on negotiation, budgeting, rental housing, buying and selling a home, mortgages, and human rights in the housing context.

“This is a great introduction to the real estate market for students. They will learn practical skills like budgeting and negotiating, and the steps involved in the acquisition of one of the largest investments of their lives,” said Ray Leclair, Vice President, Public Affairs, LAWPRO. “Having the knowledge to responsibly put a roof over one’s head is a key life skill.”

“These lesson plans, which link to the Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum expectations, will build students’ capacity to understand their rights and obligations in both a rental housing and real estate market context,” said Andrea Sobko, Director of Educator Support, OJEN.

“Students are exposed to real life scenarios through which they learn practical legal information, practise their negotiation skills, and demonstrate how to make important financial decisions.”

Better informed consumers have the knowledge to ask the right questions when working with a lawyer and will find the rental housing and home buying markets, as well as the financing process, less stressful and more rewarding. The materials can be downloaded by teachers, lawyers, and others interested from the OJEN website at ojen.ca.

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About LAWPRO

Lawyers’ Professional Indemnity Company (LAWPRO) is owned by the Law Society of Upper Canada and is licensed to provide professional liability insurance and title insurance in numerous jurisdictions across Canada. Through its malpractice insurance program, LAWPRO insures over 25,000 practising lawyers in Ontario, as well as providing them with risk and practice management information under the practicePRO banner.

LAWPRO’s TitlePLUS[®] title insurance program is available to thousands of Canadian lawyers and Quebec notaries to better meet their clients’ needs for professional legal advice and superior protection for their real estate transactions.

About OJEN

Established in 2002, OJEN is a non-profit organization that promotes public understanding, of the justice system. Over 200,000 youth, province-wide, are impacted by its justice education programs and resources annually. OJEN supports teachers by developing law-related, curriculum-linked resources for a variety of elementary and high-school courses, and provides them free for download from its website in English and French. It also develops school-based programs for students and professional development opportunities for teachers.

OJEN partners with community organizations to deliver tailored justice education programs for youth outside the traditional school system and facilitates dialogue between youth and justice sector professionals. For more information visit, www.ojen.ca.

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