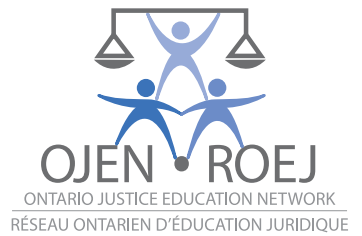


# Courtrooms & Classrooms

*A civil society through education and dialogue*

SPRING 2008



## Linking the Law and Communities



Over the past year, the actions of lawyers have been scrutinized by the media and the accessibility of the justice system has been questioned. The renewed commitment of justice sector professionals and the government to addressing these issues is an important response to restore public confidence in the system.

In the wake of these controversies, it is timely to look at the ways that members of the justice sector are reaching out to diverse communities, as they devote time and expertise to making the system more accountable and accessible.

Justice education promotes accessibility by developing students' familiarity with the justice system before they are involved in a dispute, witness a crime or are called to jury duty. Building trust in the independence of the Judiciary and

*Justice education which exposes students to civic institutions, career options and democratic processes, is critical ...*

the Bar, and explaining the steps involved in administrative and court processes makes it easier for students, as adults, to enforce their rights and proactively manage legal issues in their lives. Giving youth early opportunities to understand the people and processes involved helps to dispel fears about participating in the system, and encourages them to act before a dispute escalates to the stage where legal representation is unaffordable.

Justice education which exposes students to civic institutions, career options, and democratic processes is critical to fostering civic participation, and is an important complement to public legal education in circumstances of conflict.

Many people learn about the justice system from rumours or anecdotes, from their own negative experiences, or from what they read in the papers or see on the internet and TV. Justice organizations working with legal professionals are uniquely positioned to counterbalance these impressions, by giving youth positive exposure to the individuals as well as

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# Welcome from OJEN's Executive Director, Sarah McCoubrey

In the lead up to *Law Week* events, I'm pleased to announce the expansion of opportunities for students to learn about the importance of the *Charter*, and to meet with lawyers and judges.

This year, OJEN's *Active Citizens Workshop*, a chance for Grade 10 Civics students to link social justice issues and action in their own communities, will take place in Toronto, and for the first time in Ottawa.

The spring session of the *Charter Challenge* offers an innovative opportunity for students to work in teams to prepare a factum for an appeal. Students debate the issues with each other online and pose questions to lawyer mentors. The two finalist teams argue the case in front of the Court of Appeal.

On April 17th, *Law Day*, teachers will be invited to collect their students' ideas and impressions about the *Charter*. Results from OJEN's provincial *Charter Survey* will appear on OJEN's website, giving justice sector professionals, students and teachers a snapshot of students' perceptions of the *Charter*.

Mock Trials take place throughout the Spring, beginning with Sudbury's competition in January, through to the Toronto event in May. Students

enthusiastically participate in these events and benefit from the linking of classroom curriculum to their own experiences. Mock trials happen as a result of the efforts of lawyers who spend countless hours coaching mock trial teams, and the diligent work of court staff and judges who make arrangements and give up their time for this unconventional use of court facilities. Without these often unacknowledged efforts, OJEN mock trial events would not flourish from year to year.

Finally, I am pleased to welcome Sarah Pole back from maternity leave. Sarah has worked with OJEN volunteers and Committees over the years and I know she is a familiar face to many.



Sarah McCoubrey, OJEN's Executive Director

Warm regards,  
**Sarah McCoubrey**

## In-Kind Support Strengthens OJEN Programs

This Fall, OJEN benefited from a number of generous donations.

- In August and September, Canada Law Book donated 207 brand-new *Martin's Criminal Codes* to every high school in Northern Ontario. OJEN shipped *Criminal Codes* as far as Northern Lake and Pickle Lake, Ontario.
- McCarthy Tétrault provided innovative support by allowing one of its summering students, Claire Ezzedin, to work for OJEN for the month of August. Claire brought a wealth of experience in justice education and helped to develop new resources for Civics teachers.
- In the Fall of 2007, OJEN was the recipient of a donation made on behalf of speakers at two law-related conferences. The Society of Adjudicators and Regulators gave a card acknowledging a donation to OJEN to each of the speakers at the Conference of Ontario Boards and Agencies on November 6. A similar acknowledgement was made at the Combating Hatred Conference held on November 11. OJEN appreciates the generous gesture and the opportunity to link justice education activities with these two prominent events.

# Welcome from Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice, The Honourable Annemarie E. Bonkalo

I am delighted to offer this welcome, my first since being appointed Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice. I look forward to building on my prior involvement with OJEN activities to an even larger degree in my role as Chief Justice.

One of the most successful OJEN programs, linked to the school curriculum, is its model for staging Mock Bail and Mock Trial Tournaments. The tournaments are a fabulous opportunity for students to develop advocacy skills and see what it feels like to appear in court. The success of the tournaments is dependent on the commitment of a large number of dedicated volunteers, including judges and justices of the peace. I am particularly pleased to hear that through these initiatives, as well as through the Court Experience Program, students are able to better understand the important role that judges and justices of the peace play in the administration of justice.

I commend members of the Ontario Court of Justice for their efforts to reach out to young people and the public to help to make the justice system easier to understand and more accessible. When speaking to students at an OJEN symposium last year, I was reminded how important it is that young people have the chance to meet with members of the justice sector to challenge their perceptions of the various legal professions and to inspire them to

*(continued from page 1)*

the substance of the law, encouraging them to develop informed conclusions as they make up their own minds about justice in Canada.

There is a wealth of challenge and opportunity for members of the justice sector to continue to engage and relationship-build with communities that have at times had historically negative relationships with the justice system. Members of the justice sector who listen to the concerns of youth through outreach activities convey a respect for their experiences that may not otherwise be communicated. The interest of an adult who takes the time to exchange ideas can make a dramatic

consider careers in this important sector.

April 14-18 is *Law Week* across Canada. During this week, justice-focused organizations collaborate with lawyers, court staff and judges to help demystify the justice system by inviting students into their offices

and courtrooms. *Law Day / Law Week* reminds us all to take a step back from our files and caseloads to reflect on the critical role that the *Charter* and the justice system play in upholding Canadians' rights and freedoms.

As a member of the Network, and an active volunteer, I am pleased to welcome you to this edition of the *Courtrooms & Classrooms* Newsletter and look forward to collaborating on the constantly expanding range of OJEN programs offered around the province.

**The Honourable Annemarie E. Bonkalo**  
**Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice**



*The Honourable Annemarie E. Bonkalo*  
*Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice*

difference to a young individual's self-confidence and choices in life. Personal connections that happen during justice education programs are a valuable contribution by the profession to community building and entrench the idea of the accessibility of the justice system. These are connections that can frame a young person's attitude and outlook when he or she receives a jury notice in the mail, considers a career in court administration, or wonders whether a lawyer is acting in his or her best interest.

To get involved in OJEN's outreach programs for Aboriginal, immigrant, at-risk, and Francophone youth, contact [info@ojen.ca](mailto:info@ojen.ca).

# Mock Sentencing in Wikwemikong

Students at Wasse-Abin High School stepped into the shoes of Superior Court Justices on November 15, 2007. More than sixty students from Wasse-Abin's Grade 11 and 12 Law classes reflected on appropriate sentencing as part of a symposium focused on drunk driving and assault cases. The Sentencing Symposium was a first for the school, which has a population of approximately 200 Aboriginal youth and is located in the First Nations community of Wikwemikong, on Manitoulin Island.

The day's events kicked off with panel presentations by a judge, crown and defence counsel, a victim services representative and a probation officer who discussed their roles in the justice system and the factors that are considered when sentencing offenders. Panelists and local justice sector volunteers also facilitated roundtable discussions with students about a fictitious sentencing scenario. The day culminated with a sentencing demonstration by local lawyers, Stacy Haner and James Wepler.



Assistant Crown, Stacy Haner, facilitates a discussion at the Wasse-Abin Sentencing Symposium.

About one month later, and after three weeks of classroom preparation and coaching by local lawyers, twelve students from the Grade 11 Law class donned robes and participated in a mock sentencing at the Wikwemikong Courthouse. The December 13 event was presided over by Justice Patricia Hennessy of the Superior Court of Justice. Following her ruling on the case, involving charges of robbery and assault causing bodily harm, Justice Hennessy commended students for their professionalism and astute knowledge of the facts.



Justice Patricia Hennessy and Wasse-Abin teacher, Chris Mara, discuss an Aboriginal sentencing scenario with students.

Wasse-Abin's school principal, Cindy Peltier, commented on the significance of bringing justice education activities to these communities: *"It was great to have everyone who was involved in organizing the Symposium and Mock Sentencing come to our school. In addition to bringing positive experiences to our students, it also gives us a chance to show the larger community how great our students are and the potential our small school has!"* Both Peltier and Ron Odjig, Wasse-Abin's Law teacher, expressed interest in continuing their involvement in justice education activities, including potentially expanding the mock trial program next year. Materials from the Sentencing Symposium and the mock sentencing scenario *R. v. Cain*, can be downloaded from the OJEN website.

## The 7th Annual CCLET Bernard Chernos Essay Competition

The Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust (CCLET) will once again run a nation-wide high school essay competition to commemorate the contributions of Bernard Chernos, a civil libertarian, lawyer and lover of lively debate. Teachers of Civics, History, Law, Politics, World Issues, World Religions and Social Studies are encouraged to have their students participate in this *Charter*-focused event. For more information about the contest rules and deadlines visit the CCLET website at [www.ccla.org/schools](http://www.ccla.org/schools).

# Volunteer Profile: Norm Innocente



**N**orm Innocente, a Law teacher since 1978, has been collaborating with OJEN since its inception. Norm thrives off of working with students and the connections he has made with justice sector volunteers from his community. He insists that, *“the key to teaching law is having guest speakers in the classroom and using novel and innovative audio visual tools.”* He has invited hundreds of guests into his classroom over the years, ranging from police officers and lawyers, to probation officers and ex-convicts.

Norm is a familiar face at OJEN Summer Law Institutes (SLI) and was a vital force in getting the Windsor SLI

a float. He has also connected OJEN with local members of the Bar in Windsor who are willing to assist with ESL programming in the region. Norm reviews OJEN resources on a regular basis and test-runs activities in his classes before they go to print.

Norm also enjoys sharing ideas and resources with new teachers. He wishes OJEN had been around when he first began teaching and often refers new teachers to OJEN's website stating that *“OJEN makes big inroads in helping out teachers”*.

Teachers across the province provide OJEN with fresh ideas and help maintain the quality and reputation of OJEN resources and programs. They regularly assist with the development of OJEN curriculum resources, giving time to comment on new projects, reviewing materials, and piloting activities in their classrooms.

## Toronto Schools get TOPPS

**A** number of post-secondary institutions have developed community outreach programs that introduce high school students to the law. Osgoode Hall Law School's Teen Osgoode Program for Secondary Students (TOPSS), established in 2005, connects law students with Toronto-area schools. TOPPS currently partners with West Toronto Collegiate Institute and Cardinal McGuigan Catholic Secondary School. Law student mentors regularly meet with high school students to share insights about post-secondary education, careers in justice, resume writing, interview skills, and mock trials.

The partner schools visit Osgoode Hall Law School once a term, and have a chance to meet law professors, tour the University and learn about law school life. In November 2007, Law and Civics students from both schools participated in full day events where they had the chance to speak with TOPSS mentors and university staff, and participate in mock trials.



Students from Cardinal McGuigan Catholic Secondary School visit Osgoode Hall Law School.

In 2008, TOPSS will add a logo design competition and law-related summer job opportunities for students at these two schools. For more information on TOPSS and other innovative outreach programs, visit the Post Secondary Partners page at [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca).

# Law Day Events 2008 – A

Law Day is a national event celebrating the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and is aimed at educating the public about the role and importance of law and the justice system. Law Day programs are organized by OJEN, the Ontario Bar Association (OBA), the Law Society of Upper Canada (LSUC), and the Association des juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario (AJEFO). Law Day events take place on or around the week of April 14-18 and are organized by local members of the Bar and Bench. For more information, or to get involved in any of the programs, contact the OJEN office.

## Province-wide Programs

### *French Language Programming:*

AJEFO's Law Day activities will take place in Hawkesbury (April 10), Ottawa (April 14 and 16), Windsor (April 21), Toronto (April 23), and North Bay (April 24). Each day-long event consists of a "Game show" and improvisation session. Students also watch a video clip portraying a crime and participate in workshops given by police officers, lawyers, social workers and probation officers. **Contact: ahacguard@ajefo.ca.**

### *Elementary School Mock Trials:*

The OBA hosts a two-day program for elementary school students. On Day 1, a lawyer provides an overview of the criminal justice system, and introduces a mock trial scenario. The following week the lawyer returns to preside over the trial. Lawyers interested in volunteering are encouraged to sign up. **Contact: elementary@lawdayontario.ca.**

### *OBA Secondary School Mock Trial Tournament:*

The OBA invites all Ontario secondary school Law teachers to register their students in this exciting tournament based on an alleged criminal offence. Registration deadline Feb 15. **Contact: fconte@oba.org.**

### *Grade 5 Poster Challenge:*

OJEN invites grade 5 teachers to enter their students' posters captioned in French or English, expressing what they value about Canadian democracy and the *Charter*. Poster Challenge packages are available online at [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca). **Contact: posterchallenge@ojen.ca.**

### *The Charter Challenge:*

This OJEN activity brings secondary school students together to collaborate in an online simulation of a Court of Appeal hearing with other teams and lawyer mentors. Finalist teams argue the case before the Court of Appeal. To register visit [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca). **Contact: asobko@ojen.ca.**

### *The Great Debate:*

This live OJEN debate takes place between academics and legal professionals for an audience of Law and Civics teachers. An English debate on safety in schools will be held in Toronto on April 16 at Osgoode Hall, and a French debate on the same topic will take place in Ottawa on April 17. **Contact: info@ojen.ca.**

### *The Charter Survey:*

OJEN will collect students' ideas and impressions about the

*Charter* through this province-wide survey. Results will be posted on the OJEN website. **Contact: chartersurvey@ojen.ca.**

### *Photography Contest:*

Students between the ages of 12-18 are encouraged to submit digital photographs to the OBA that commemorate this year's theme, Justice. **Contact: fconte@oba.org.**

### *Phone-a-Lawyer:*

Thursday, April 17, between 2-5 p.m., Ontario lawyers will open up phone lines to provide pro bono legal information to the public. Check your local community newspaper for more details. **Contact: Natalija Popovic (416) 865-3039.**

## Local Programs

### **Halton**

#### *Secondary School Mock Trial Tournament*

This event is scheduled for May 8 in the Milton Courthouse. **Contact: brenda.m.middleton@ontario.ca.**

### **Hamilton**

Students are invited to participate in Law Day activities at the Hamilton Courthouse on April 17. **Contact: sharon.heene@ontario.ca.**

### **Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge**

*Mock Trial Demonstration and Great Hall Social*  
On April 16 the Kitchener Superior Court House will conduct a trial demonstration with secondary school students acting as jurors. The event is followed by a question and answer period and Great Hall Social, an opportunity for students, teachers, legal professionals and the general public to meet. **Contact: sean.sullivan@gowlings.com.**

### **Oshawa**

#### *Kelly Moot Cup*

This mock trial tournament will take place at the Superior Court of Justice on April 18. The courthouse will be open for tours for the public and students. **Contact: Tammy Irvine (905) 430-4928.**

### **Ottawa**

#### *Fun Run*

The 12th annual Law Day Fun Run/Walk takes place Friday, April 25 at 12:30. The 5 km run begins at Ottawa City Hall and follows along the canal with this year's proceeds going to the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization. **Contact: john.westdal@sevignylaw.com.**

#### *Secondary School Mock Trial Demonstration*

This April 17 event features a reenactment of an offence by high school students. Students then participate in the mock trial presided over by a judge, and argued by a local Crown and Defense counsel. **Contact: sush.gupta@catsa.gc.ca; emeehan@langmichener.ca.**



# Look Across the Province

## Career Panel

Hundreds of students get the chance to participate in career panels which include lawyers, judges, Crown attorneys, defence counsel, as well as police, probation and correction officers.

**Contact:** [sush.gupta@catsa.gc.ca](mailto:sush.gupta@catsa.gc.ca); [emeehan@langmichener.ca](mailto:emeehan@langmichener.ca).

## Active Citizens – Youth Engagement on Social Justice Issues

Ottawa Civics 10 students have an opportunity to hear about examples of local social justice projects and learn how to take action on access to justice issues in their own schools and communities by participating in this workshop. **Contact:** [dmanton@ojen.ca](mailto:dmanton@ojen.ca).

## Court Tours

Law Day court tours take place at the Supreme Court of Canada and the Ottawa Courthouse. **Contact:** **Lauran Kiley (613) 239-1332;** [tour@scc-csc.gc.ca](mailto:tour@scc-csc.gc.ca).

## Pembroke

### Secondary School Mock Trial

Law students from local high schools will have the chance to work with

lawyer-mentors to prepare for this May event, at Pembroke's new Courthouse. **Contact:** [shushack@magma.ca](mailto:shushack@magma.ca).

## Peel Region

### Mock Trial Tournament

The 6th annual "Let Justice Prevail" Peel Mock Trial Tournament took place February 28 and March 7 at the Brampton courthouse. **Contact:** [ian.pettigrew@peelsb.com](mailto:ian.pettigrew@peelsb.com).

## Simcoe-Muskoka

### Simcoe-Muskoka Mock Trial Tournament

This tournament for secondary school students will happen at the Barrie Courthouse on April 24. **Contact:** **Ron Cobbett (705) 726-6541.**

## Sudbury

### 6th Annual Sudbury Mock Trial Tournament

This year's successful mock trial event took place on January 14 in French and English. **Contact:** [clacroix@sudburylaw.com](mailto:clacroix@sudburylaw.com).

## Thunder Bay

### Mock Trial Tournament

Open to Thunder Bay area high school students, the tournament will take place May 2. **Contact:** [mike@macivorlaw.com](mailto:mike@macivorlaw.com).

## Courthouse Tours

Participate in guided tours of the Thunder Bay Courthouse on May 1. **Contact:** [mike@macivorlaw.com](mailto:mike@macivorlaw.com).

## Thunder Bay Poster Contest

The poster contest is open to grade 5 elementary school students. **Contact:** [mike@macivorlaw.com](mailto:mike@macivorlaw.com).

## Toronto

### Law Symposium

On April 14, 400 high school students from across the Toronto Catholic District School Board and Toronto District School Board can participate in a full day of workshops on current legal issues with members of the justice sector. **Contact:** [jking@ojen.ca](mailto:jking@ojen.ca).

### Active Citizens – Youth Engagement on Social Justice Issues

Civics 10 students in Toronto have an opportunity to hear about examples of local social justice projects and learn how to take action on access to justice issues in their own schools and communities by participating in this workshop on April 16 at Osgoode Hall. **Contact:** [jking@ojen.ca](mailto:jking@ojen.ca).

## Court Tours

Grade seven and eight classes have the opportunity to visit Osgoode Hall to meet with judges and lawyers and to ask questions. **Contact:** [fconte@oba.org](mailto:fconte@oba.org).

## Citizenship Ceremony

The OBA welcomes 50 to 70 new citizens in a special citizenship ceremony during Law Week. A copy of the *Charter* is given to all of the new citizens. **Contact:** [fconte@oba.org](mailto:fconte@oba.org).

## Law-in-the-Mall

A public mock trial demonstration, speaker sessions and a job fair will take place at Yorkgate Mall. **Contact:** [ccrer@toronto.ca](mailto:ccrer@toronto.ca).

## The Charter & You

On April 15, classes can participate in an interactive discussion and play a *Charter* knowledge-based game, hosted by the OBA Constitutional Section. **Contact:** [lawday@oba.org](mailto:lawday@oba.org).

## So You Think You Can Sue

This half day interactive OBA event on April 21 gives Grade 10 students the chance to exercise their legal knowledge and practice litigation skills. **Contact:** [fconte@oba.org](mailto:fconte@oba.org).

## Law Day Banquet

This OBA-hosted event will take place on April 17 to close Law Week, thank volunteers and profile the successes of student participants in Law Week events. **Contact:** [fconte@oba.org](mailto:fconte@oba.org).

## Canadian Italian Advocates Organization Mock Trial Tournament

This half day tournament will take place at Old City Hall in Toronto on April 18. **Contact:** [www.ciaocanada.com](http://www.ciaocanada.com)

## Windsor-Essex

### Classroom Visits

Law and Civics teachers in Essex County are invited to join interactive classroom visits with lawyers and judges during Law Week. Court tours will also be offered. **Contact:** [rreaume@cawlp.com](mailto:rreaume@cawlp.com).

## York Region

### 4th Annual Judges' Cup Mock Trial Tournament

This event, including an opening ceremony and job fair, took place on February 25 and 27 in the York Region Council Chambers, and March 3 in the Newmarket courthouse. **Contact:** [jean.sople@jus.gov.on.ca](mailto:jean.sople@jus.gov.on.ca).

# JUSTICE!

Y 2008  
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# Adopt-A-School Grows in 2007

OJEN's Adopt-A-School program has been successful in matching Ontario schools with lawyers, with 110 matches across the province, plus 20 matches through the Ministry of the Attorney General partnership and 17 new pairings in the last year. Once a match is established, OJEN provides the lawyer and the teacher with resources and ideas. Activities include meeting Law classes during courthouse visits, talking to students about careers in law, and assisting with major assignments during the semester.

In early 2007, Assistant Crown Attorney Graeme Leach 'adopted' Marita Bootsma's mock trial team at Westlane Secondary School in Niagara Falls. Leach assisted the team by coaching students on

questioning and public speaking skills. Bootsma emphasized the value of having an experienced lawyer work with her team. *"The Adopt-A-School program matched us with a Crown Attorney with courtroom experience and a wealth of practical tips for the students. They received feedback on their performance, and incorporated his suggestions into their mock trial practice. It raised the students' game to the next level."* The Westlane team won the Niagara District School Board Mock Trial championship and are already looking ahead to this year's competition.



*The Westlane Secondary School mock trial team poses after winning the regional competition.*

For more information on Adopt-A-School contact OJEN Program Manager Andrea Sobko at [asobko@ojen.ca](mailto:asobko@ojen.ca) or visit [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca).

## Notes from the Judge Shadowing Program

*"An absolutely invaluable experience for all teachers"* is how Vicky Harris describes OJEN's Judge Shadowing program. In 2007, Harris and fellow Law teacher Stan Satchell from Orchard Park Secondary School in Stoney Creek shadowed Justice Jane Milanetti for a day.

Justice Milanetti welcomed them to her Hamilton courtroom where they had the chance to observe a murder trial, watch jury selection, and ask her questions about legal procedure over lunch. Both teachers commented on how this firsthand experience helps them to better relate ideas about the law to their

students. *"We're able to see in action what we're teaching and share these insights with our students,"* says Harris. Satchell highlighted how such experiences help him prepare students for mock trials and spark students' interest in the law by providing him with real-life examples.

Justice Milanetti has had four teachers shadow her this year and she notes that the program is equally beneficial for judges. *"The more judges work with teachers and students, the better their appreciation is for the decisions we make."* She also comments that speaking with teachers allows judges to get a sense of what's happening in schools and how students are learning about the law. Justice Lloyd Budzinski of the Ontario Court of Justice in Toronto, has been involved with Judge Shadowing for several years, and echoes these thoughts. *"Getting feedback from teachers also helps judges understand the effects their sentences have on students' school performance."*

Both teachers in Hamilton recently returned to the Courthouse for a second visit with their students.

For more information on Judge Shadowing contact OJEN Program Manager Sarah Pole at [spole@ojen.ca](mailto:spole@ojen.ca).

**OJEN Staff** can offer ideas, assistance and support for local activities.

*Executive Director* Sarah McCoubrey  
*Executive Assistant* Nadine Demoe  
*Program Managers* Sarah Pole, Julie Kon Kam King, Danielle Manton, Andrea Sobko

To reach any OJEN staff member contact the OJEN office at 416-947-5273 or [info@ojen.ca](mailto:info@ojen.ca).



# New Images of the Justice System

No longer is the justice system solely depicted in textbooks, laws and jurisprudence. A number of artists are creating visual art to illustrate the values of our justice system and educate the public about the role of law and courts in Canadian society.

The *McMurtry Gardens of Justice*, a sculpture garden and learning centre located in the heart of Toronto's legal district, opened last June to celebrate and recognize former Chief Justice The Honourable Roy McMurtry's legacy of public service. The inaugural sculpture, *The Pillars of Justice*, is the first of many justice inspired sculptures which will fill the Gardens in the years to come. OJEN has arranged for one of these sculptures to be designed by a high school student, with the assistance of a professional artist.

An outdoor classroom space will be incorporated into the Gardens to provide a meeting place for schools

and community groups during court visits. OJEN is developing educational resources and activities to promote reflection on the themes of the Gardens and to engage students in dialogue about the justice system during their visits. Works produced by Ontario students participating in OJEN's *Art in the Courts* initiative will also be displayed prominently within the space. The Law Foundation of Ontario has committed the funds to support these educational components of the Gardens.

OJEN's *Grade 5 Poster Challenge* has elementary school students create



Former Chief Justice The Honourable Roy McMurtry at the Pillars of Justice.



Justice Panet (Co-Chair of the Ottawa OJEN Committee), with Allison and her family at the unveiling of Allison's poster at the Ottawa Courthouse.

drawings to describe their understanding of the *Charter*. Selected posters make their way to local court-houses as part of the *Art in the Courts* initiative making court-houses more welcoming to children. In many locations,

OJEN committees have organized unveiling ceremonies for the artist, classmates, family members, and the public, coupled with a court tour to mark the arrival of the framed poster.

The Ontario Bar Association *Law Day Photography Contest* poses another opportunity for youth to use their creativity to capture representations of the *Charter*. Selected images are displayed during Law Week.

Law and the values of our justice system impact on virtually every facet of our daily lives. These programs described above engage students in creative and critical thinking about the fundamental values of the justice system and enhance the visibility and accessibility of the justice system, reinforcing the importance of the law within a democracy.

## OJEN's Law Institutes for Secondary School Teachers

Interested in learning more about new resources, hearing from members of the judiciary and exploring new paths to delivering justice education? OJEN invites teachers to participate in its upcoming Law Institutes – invaluable opportunities to share ideas, discuss and debate current topics with those working in the justice sector.

A Law Institute will take place in Toronto on August 26 & 27, and in other cities, dates to be announced. For more information visit [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca), or call the OJEN office at 416-947-5273.

# Network Partner Profiles



## **The Law Foundation of Ontario** *Building a better foundation for justice in Ontario*

Established in 1974, The Law Foundation of Ontario (LFO), is a grant-making organization with a long tradition of funding programs and initiatives that promote and enhance justice for all Ontarians. Formed under an amendment to the Law Society Act (the governing legislation of lawyers in Ontario), the LFO uses interest from lawyers' mixed trust accounts to fund worthwhile programs for law-related activities.

The LFO's mandate is to establish and maintain a fund for legal education and legal research, legal aid, law libraries as well as cost assistance to parties to class proceedings across the province. Since its inception, it has granted over \$160 million to organizations and individuals, and approximately \$500 million to Legal Aid Ontario.

In striving to support and enhance legal education, the LFO has been a strong advocate of justice education. With the generous assistance from the LFO, OJEN was established, sustained and is able to develop innovative programs in justice education that respond to the changing needs of teachers and students across the province.

A sample of recent Law Foundation-funded initiatives include: Public Interest Articling Fellowships; *The Justice Education in Schools Symposium* co-hosted by OJEN and the LAWS Program; The Outdoor Classroom located in the *McMurtry Gardens of Justice*; Community Leadership in Justice Fellowships; and annual Law Day activities across Ontario.

The LFO is a member of the OJEN Network. For more information visit [www.lawfoundation.on.ca](http://www.lawfoundation.on.ca).

## **The Ontario Business Educators' Association (OBEA)**



The Ontario Business Educators' Association (OBEA), was established in 1895, with a mission to contribute to the professional growth of business educators. In many schools, Law classes are part of the Business department and taught by OBEA members. The OBEA works regularly with the Ontario Ministry of Education to develop business studies courses and guidelines. Many OBEA members contribute to the development of business education by collaborating on textbooks and writing curriculum.

The OBEA organizes a Fall and Spring conference each year which connects business educators and profiles new ideas, technology, and curriculum resources. Business educators also exchange insights through the OBEA newsletter and website. The OBEA maintains an online Curriculum Library which profiles resources from the Ministry of Education and is accessible to all teachers.

As part of its programming for students, the OBEA hosts annual contests which challenge students to practice their skills, and develop their confidence, as they participate in province-wide activities. The subject areas which fall under the OBEA include: Law, Business Leadership, Accounting, Interdisciplinary Studies, Economics, Entrepreneurship, International Business, Marketing, and Information & Computer Technology.

The OBEA is a new member of the OJEN Network, and OJEN looks forward to collaborating with the OBEA on upcoming justice education initiatives. For more information visit [www.obea.ca](http://www.obea.ca).

## Courtrooms & Classrooms Notice Board

OJEN welcomes back Program Manager Sarah Pole from maternity leave. OJEN sends best wishes to former Program Manager Jennifer Curran who recently returned to her home province of Newfoundland to take a position with Legal Aid.

New resources available on the OJEN website ([www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca)) include: **The "Top 5"** case summaries and discussion questions of relevant issues for the classroom identified by Justice Goudge, **Justice Education for ESL students**, workshops for introducing immigrant youth to issues surrounding criminal, human rights, immigration, employment and civil law, **Mens Rea / Actus Reus**, an explanatory handout and classroom activities, new **Landmark Cases** on **R. v. Latimer, R. v. Keegstra, Eldridge v. British Columbia, Dagenais v. C.B.C. Corp, Trocuik v. British Columbia, R. v. Drybones, Irwin Toy v. Quebec** – including case summaries and class activities developed with the assistance of Law Clerks from the Ontario Court of Appeal.

## Recent & Upcoming Events

Celebrate **Law Day 2008** from **April 14-18**. Visit page 6 & 7 for more details of events taking place in Ontario.

OJEN's **Great Debate** on the issue of safety in schools will take place on **April 16** in Toronto at the Law Society of Upper Canada, and in French in Ottawa at the Courthouse on **April 17**. To register call 416-947-5273.

OJEN's **Charter Challenge**, will take place during **March 31-May 23**. Register by **March 24** on the OJEN website.

OJEN's **Charter Survey**, will take place **April 17**. For more info visit the OJEN website.

OJEN's second annual **Justice Education Symposium** will take place **May 8 & 9** in Toronto. To register visit [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca) or call 416-947-5273.

The annual **Canadian Association for the Practical Study of Law in Education** (CAPSLE), conference will take place **April 20-22** in Halifax. Visit [www.capsle.com](http://www.capsle.com) for details.

The **Ontario Business Educators' Association Spring Conference** will take place in Toronto, **April 24 & 25**. Visit [www.obea.on.ca](http://www.obea.on.ca) for details.

The **Canadian Centre for Diversity's** annual **Spring Youth Leaders Forum** will take place on **April 15**. Interested teachers can visit [www.centrefordiversity.ca](http://www.centrefordiversity.ca) for more details.

The **Association of Canadian Court Administrators Annual Conference** will take place in Calgary on **April 27-29**.

OJEN's **Law Institutes for Secondary School Teachers** will take place in **Toronto, August 26 & 27**, other cities and dates to be announced. Visit the OJEN website to register [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca).

Spring and summer **Law Society of Upper Canada Public Education** events include **Black History Month**, February 6, **Access Awareness**, March 3, **International Women's Day**, March 5, **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**, March 14, **National Holocaust Memorial Day**, April 30, **South Asian Heritage Month**, May 12, **National Aboriginal Day**, June 16, and a **Pride Week** event, June 24. Students are welcome. For further information contact Rudy Ticzon, LSUC Community & Policy Advisor at [rticzon@lsuc.on.ca](mailto:rticzon@lsuc.on.ca).

## Resource Links

### The Canadian Centre for Diversity

[www.centrefordiversity.ca](http://www.centrefordiversity.ca)

The Canadian Centre for Diversity teaches Canada's youth how to confront prejudice through education and involvement.

Over 7,000 students have participated in past programming including: *The Discover Diversity Schools Program; Teaching Leaders to Teach; Diversity on Campus; Tell Us Your Story; and Diversity Is Good Business*. The Centre provides unique opportunities for youth in remote communities through *Diversity On-line* and the *Understand Diversity E-learning course*, which use self-testing questions and staged scenarios to explore stigma, stereotypes and discrimination. This year's *Young Leaders Forum* will offer students the space to envision how our legal system addresses attitudes that prevent full participation of individuals in society. Each year, the Centre also provides dynamic teacher in-service training sessions across Canada.

### Osgoode Public Interest Requirement (OPIR)

[www.osgoode.yorku.ca](http://www.osgoode.yorku.ca)

Osgoode Hall Law School has introduced *Making a Difference*, becoming the first Canadian law school to require a period of public service prior to graduation. This initiative directed by Janet Leiper (former Chair of Legal Aid Ontario), stresses the importance of cultivating an ethic of public service among the justice sector by requiring law students to complete a 40-hour public service component during their years at law school. Students enrich their legal education while giving back to communities, appreciating the privilege and responsibility associated with practicing law, and furthering the causes of access to justice and democracy. An office has been set up to coordinate and expand the many other related activities and initiatives at Osgoode Hall Law School. OJEN will partner with the OPIR to involve students in justice education.

Please forward requests for copies, change of address notifications, notices of upcoming events, submissions of interest, or *Courtrooms & Classrooms* feedback to [info@ojen.ca](mailto:info@ojen.ca)

*Courtrooms & Classrooms* is also available at [www.ojen.ca](http://www.ojen.ca)

*Salle d'audience et salle de classe* est aussi disponible en français.



### Mission:

OJEN is dedicated to promoting understanding, education and dialogue to support a responsive and inclusive justice system.

### Objectives:

1. Foster public understanding of the justice system and the challenges it faces.
2. Support and encourage the values of a public, transparent and accessible justice system through research and education.
3. Encourage dialogue between justice system participants and the public.
4. Develop, coordinate, or deliver public legal education information and programs to students and others.

## Network

The Network is a collaborative forum serving as a communications and facilitation link for justice system participants, educators, community representatives and others with an interest in public legal educational activity. The Network has an advisory role to OJEN's Board and Executive Director. Participants include:

The Chief Justice of Ontario (*Chair*) – *The Hon. Warren K. Winkler*  
The Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Justice – *The Hon. Heather Forster Smith*  
The Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice – *The Hon. Annemarie E. Bonkalo*  
The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada – *as represented by Mireille Provost*  
The Deputy Attorney General of Ontario – *Murray Segal*  
The Deputy Minister of Education – *Steve Marshall*  
The Chair of the Law Foundation of Ontario – *Larry Banack*  
The Treasurer of the Law Society of Upper Canada – *Gavin MacKenzie*  
The President of the Advocates' Society – *Michael A. Eizenga*  
The President of the County & District Law Presidents' Association – *as represented by Patricia Meehan*  
The President of the Ontario Bar Association – *Gregory D. Goulin*  
The Ombudsman of Ontario – *André Marin*  
The Chair of Legal Aid Ontario – *John McCamus*  
The President of the Ontario History & Social Science Teachers' Association – *as represented by Allan Hux*  
The Executive Director of Community Legal Education Ontario – *Julie Mathews*  
The Education Director of the Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust – *Danielle McLaughlin*  
The Executive Director of the Association of Community Legal Clinics of Ontario – *Lenny Abramowicz*  
The Institute for Catholic Education – *as represented by Angelo Bolotta*  
The President of the Ontario Principals' Council – *Lisa Vincent*  
The Executive Director of the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres – *Sylvia Maracle*  
The ESL/ELD Resource Group of Ontario – *as represented by Neil McGrath*  
The Ontario Council of Law Deans – *as represented by Patrick Monahan*  
The Executive Director of the Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants – *Debbie Douglas*  
The President of the Association of French Speaking Jurists of Ontario – *Louise Hurteau*  
The Ontario Business Educators' Association – *as represented by Agi Mete*

## Board of Directors

The Hon. Justice Fran Kiteley, *Superior Court of Justice (Chair)*  
The Hon. Justice Nancy Kastner, *Ontario Court of Justice*  
John Kromkamp, *Senior Legal Officer, Ontario Court of Appeal*  
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Janet Minor, *Bencher, Law Society of Upper Canada*  
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**The Law Foundation of Ontario**  
*Building a better foundation for justice in Ontario*

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