

Membership Application

You may become a member of Parkdale Community Legal Services ("PCLS") if:

- you are at least 18 years old
 you live within our service area
 you agree with the mission of PCLS
- OR**
- you are an alumnus of the Poverty Law Intensive program and a graduate of Osgoode Hall Law School.
 If so, please indicate year. _____

PLEASE FULLY COMPLETE, SIGN AND DATE

I, _____ am applying
(Please *print* your first and last name)
 to become a member of PCLS as:

a community member
 an alumnus of PCLS Year _____

_____ street number and name _____ unit/apt number _____ postal code

(____) - _____
home phone number

_____ e-mail address

(____) - _____
alternate phone number

____/____/____
date of birth

NOTE: PCLS has a *Privacy Policy* – information provided in this application will remain confidential – we do not give out e-mail addresses.

I have read and agree with PCLS's mission statement on the back of this form

 Signature of Applicant

____/____/____
 Date

Thank you for your interest and support.

When you support PCLS, you support a better and more just society!

OPTIONAL DONATION

I want to support the mission of PCLS through this one-time donation of \$10 \$25 \$50 \$250 \$_____

Payment Info: Cheque (attached) Credit cards not accepted at this time.

THANK YOU!

PCLS MISSION STATEMENT

Parkdale Community Legal Services will work with our client community, in all its diversity, to improve quality of life and enhance self reliance. We will do this by helping people avoid, prepare for and cope with poverty law problems through a combination of community development and action, the provision of competent and professional legal representation, summary legal advice, and community legal education.

- we will be welcoming and accessible to our client community, giving priority to individuals and groups who encounter barriers in accessing legal services
- we will undertake projects and provide services based on community needs and the indicia of oppression, especially poverty, racism, violence and systemic discrimination
- we will provide, in partnership with Osgoode Hall Law School of York University, the opportunity for law students to work in a poverty law clinic, while helping them develop a critical understanding of: the social phenomenon of poverty, its causes and effects; the legal system's and lawyers' responses to poverty; and alternative strategies for intervention to alleviate poverty by the legal system and lawyers.
- we will regularly assess and respond to the needs of our client community and evaluate the effectiveness of our programs, projects and services.

PHILOSOPHY

We, the staff and Board of Parkdale Community Legal Services, believe:

- ◆ in community-based and governed poverty law services
- ◆ in enabling and encouraging people to take control and responsibility over their lives
- ◆ in treating people with respect and compassion
- ◆ that access to justice is a right
- ◆ that traditional legal strategies are of limited utility in working to eradicate poverty
- ◆ that we can better serve the community by working together as a team and by offering a variety of poverty law services
- ◆ in respecting equally the work done by, and the role of, each member of the team
- ◆ that we have a responsibility to actively participate in the community to create the social and economic conditions to eradicate poverty and oppression
- ◆ in being sensitive to the racial, cultural and social needs of our community.