



Ministry of the Attorney General



2005 Summer Law Student Opportunities Applicant Handbook

UPDATED AUGUST 2004



MAGnify your Potential

Welcome!

As you begin to explore your career as a lawyer we invite you to take a closer look at the number of diverse opportunities that exist within the Ministry of the Attorney General.

The Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) employs over 1300 lawyers. Each year approximately 100 articling students and 30 summer law students have the opportunity to work with and learn from some of the best legal minds in the country. Our law practices cover every area of substantive law and our students are truly an integral part of each branch. MAG lawyers are involved in criminal prosecutions and appellate work at all levels of court. They advise and litigate on behalf of every ministry across the province, including constitutional matters such as Charter rights, divisions of power and aboriginal law. They advise on and draft legislation and regulations for the province of Ontario. They also advise on and develop policies related to family and social justice issues, and represent children and vulnerable people in areas such as personal rights, property/estate matters and custody/access cases. The variety and quality of work is truly unparalleled!

Whether you find yourself assisting in the preparation of a court case, the development of new legislation or appellate work, you will have the opportunity to be challenged and to make a difference!

We hope that your summer experience with us marks the beginning of a positive and rewarding relationship. We know that the time you spend with us next summer will be marked by challenging and meaningful legal work, a supportive and collegial work environment and, above all, the opportunity to learn and grow. Your summer experience will provide you with a window into future employment possibilities as a MAG articling student and a career as counsel. We hope that your experience with us helps you in your journey toward becoming a successful member of the legal community.

Dan L. Goldberg
Chair
MAG Articling & Summer Law Student Committee

Frequently Asked Questions

What will my experience be like?

You will be an integral part of an expert legal team. You will have the chance to develop some very practical legal skills and to make a significant contribution to the projects you work on. In addition, you will gain a better understanding of the specific practice area you choose to work in, as well as the process of law reform and the workings of government generally. We guarantee that you will spend your time with us feeling challenged and motivated. We are very committed to your education and pride ourselves in our student programs. We encourage you to speak with our lawyers and students to familiarize yourself with what MAG has to offer, as a student and as a lawyer down the line.

How do I apply?

Students must submit a full application package to the Legal Branch of each ministry to which they want to apply. The package must include a cover letter, resume and transcripts. Legal branches hire in both spring and fall each year, so please check the application deadline for each branch.

Please note: MAG is not participating in any on-campus interviews (OCI's) this fall – offices hiring in November are listed in this booklet – the deadline for fall hiring is Friday October 8th, 2004.

How much will I be paid?

Summer law students are members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU). The salaries and terms of employment are negotiated under the Collective Agreement. The current salary rates for law students are:

- 1st year law student \$16.40 per hour;
- 2nd year law student \$18.40 per hour.

Do you guarantee articling positions to summer students?

Students are encouraged to apply for an articling position within the ministry. We do not offer “guaranteed” articles for summer students. However, a students’ summer law experience at MAG may be beneficial and many of our students successfully obtain an articling position with the office in which they summered, or elsewhere within the ministry.

Who do I contact if I need more information?

Contact information for each office are listed on the pages that follow. For further information, you may contact Teresa Santamaria, Coordinator, Strategic Legal Recruitment & Development at 416-326-2449 or by email at teresa.santamaria@jus.gov.on.ca.

Offices that Hire in the Fall – deadline Friday, October 8th, 2004

Civil:

1. Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (pg 7)
2. Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee (pg 16)
3. Ministry of Community & Social Services
 - Family Responsibility Office (pg 5)

Criminal:

1. Crown Law Office – Criminal (pg 11)
2. Crown Attorney's Offices: (pgs 12-14)
 - a. Toronto Regional Offices
 - b. Northern Regional Offices
 - c. Eastern Regional Offices

Offices that Hire in the Spring – deadline Friday February 25th, 2005

Civil:

1. Ministry of the Environment (pg 6)
2. Management Board Secretariat (pg 8)
3. Crown Law Office – Civil (pg 9)
4. Constitutional Law Branch (pg 10)

Criminal:

1. Criminal Law Policy Branch (pg 15)
2. Crown Attorney's Offices: (pgs 12-14)
 - a. West Regional Offices
 - b. Central West Regional Offices
 - c. Central East Regional Offices

Please note: At the time of publication (September 2004), the minimum number of summer student positions at the Office of the Children's Lawyer (pg 16) remains undetermined. Updated information on the status of the office's summer student hiring will be provided to prospective students as soon as possible.

Name:	Ministry of Community & Social Services (MCSS) Family Responsibility Office
Address:	1201 Wilson Ave., Bldg B, 7 th Floor Toronto, ON M3M 1J8
Contact Name:	Barbara C. Nawrocki, Legal Director and Deputy Director
Direct Line:	416-240-2480
E-mail:	barbara.nawrocki@jus.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-240-2402
Website:	http://www.theFRO.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

The Legal Services Branch provides representation and assistance to the Director of the Family Responsibility Office in the enforcement of family support orders under the Family Responsibility and Support Arrears Enforcement Act.

Counsel provide legal advice to enforcement and administrative staff regarding the interpretation and enforceability of support provisions in court orders and domestic contracts; appear for the Director in enforcement hearings in all levels of court; train, instruct and supervise panel solicitors representing the Director's Office throughout the province; and, serve on committees and provide training and policy advice regarding the enforcement process and the administration of the Family Responsibility Office.

In addition, the Legal Services Branch provides legal advice to the Director's Office on related legislation, including the registration and enforcement of Out of Jurisdiction Orders under the Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act, 2002.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 1
2. Deadline for applications: October 8th, 2004
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Hiring in November

Description of Summer Program:

The Family Responsibility Office offers an interesting summer student opportunity for those interested in family law litigation.

Students assist lawyers in all facets of their legal work, including research, writing memoranda, drafting court documents, responding to Freedom of Information requests, and observing court hearings.

Name of Office:	Ministry of the Environment (ENE) Legal Services Branch
Address:	135 St. Clair Avenue West, 10 th Floor Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5
Contact Name:	Brian Byrnell
Direct Line:	905-521-7429
E-mail:	brian.byrnell@ene.gov.on.ca
Fax:	905-521-7820

Primary Practice Areas:

The Legal Services Branch of the Ministry of the Environment consists of 42 lawyers and 22 support staff. The branch has three practice areas: the Solicitor's Team, the Prosecutions Team and the Hearings Team.

The Solicitor's Team carries out work in a wide spectrum of public law and regulatory areas, including environmental, administrative and constitutional law, trade law, regulatory liability, intellectual property, commercial, bankruptcy and insolvency matters, privacy law and real estate. This team assists with drafting contracts and other agreements, regulatory instruments such as Director's Orders and with the preparation of legal opinions. This team also assists with the development of environmental policy and the preparation of legislation and regulations.

Litigators on the Prosecutions Team are very experienced and, in the last few years, have appeared twice at the Supreme Court of Canada (*R. v. Canadian Pacific* and *R. v. Consolidated Maybrun Mines Ltd.*). This team conducts environmental prosecutions under the Environmental Protection Act, the Ontario Water Resources Act and the Pesticides Act.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 2
2. Deadline for applications: February 25th, 2005
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Anticipate hiring in March 2005

Description of Summer Program:

Students will be involved primarily in conducting background research to support the Solicitor's Team, including the development of environmental policy and the drafting of legislation and regulations, the preparation of legal opinions and the drafting of agreements and regulatory instruments (such as Director's Orders). Students may also assist senior counsel with complex environmental prosecutions and hearings. In addition to conducting legal research, students have the opportunity to attend trials and hearings with senior counsel. Each student is assigned a mentor to ensure that the summer program is a rewarding experience from a learning and skills perspective. Students are encouraged to attend most training and learning sessions.

Name of Office:	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOH) Legal Services Branch,
Address:	56 Wellesley Street West, 8 th Floor Toronto, ON M5S 2S3
Contact Name:	Sheila Porter, Counsel and Student Coordinator
Direct Line:	416-327-8583
E-mail:	LegalStudent1@moh.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-327-8605
Website:	www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is responsible for administering Ontario's health system, and for ensuring services to the Ontario public through such initiatives as health insurance, drug benefits, assistive devices, mental health services, long-term care, home care, community health, public health, and health promotion and disease prevention programs. The Ministry also co-ordinates emergency health services and regulates hospitals, long-term care facilities, psychiatric hospitals, medical laboratories, ambulance services and independent health facilities. The Ministry administers over 40 statutes.

The Legal Services Branch has approximately 40 lawyers working in diverse program areas. We have offices in downtown Toronto and Kingston.

The legal issues that arise from the ministry's varied responsibilities are both interesting and challenging. Our lawyers provide legal advice to the ministry's program areas about topics on the "cutting edge" of health law, such as: SARS; West Nile Virus; blood issues; AIDS; organ and tissue donation; personal health information and privacy; mental health; telehealth and telemedicine; family health networks; primary care; public and community health; diagnostic facilities; long-term care; health insurance (OHIP); consent to treatment issues; ambulances and emergency health services; public hospitals; drugs and drug benefits; cancer issues; regulation of health professionals; assistive devices; alternate payment programs; laboratory services; freedom of information; and independent health facilities.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 2
2. Deadline for applications: October 8th, 2004
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Hiring in November

To apply for a summer student position with the Legal Services Branch of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, please submit your resume and copies of your undergraduate and law school transcripts. Candidates invited for an interview will be asked to provide a writing sample, along with the names and telephone numbers of their references.

Description of Summer Program:

We provide students with a well-rounded experience, and opportunities to concentrate on particular areas of interest. Our students work on significant and often controversial health law issues. They have the opportunity to work with counsel, as well as independently, in a variety of areas of health law, including legal research and writing, administrative law, statutory interpretation, labour law, human rights, freedom of information, contracts, corporate and commercial law, health law policy, development of legislation and regulations, and exposure to litigation. An experienced branch lawyer mentors each summer student.

Current students can be contacted at (416) 327-8506.

Name of Office:	Management Board Secretariat Legal Services Branch
Address:	2 nd Floor, 7 Queen's Park Cres., Frost Bldg. South Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z5
Contact Name:	Marilyn Dyczkowski
Direct Line:	416-325-9390
E-mail:	marilyn.dyczkowski@mbs.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-325-9404
Website:	www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

Labour Practice Group: This group is responsible for providing labour relations and employment law services to ministries and Crown agencies, and represents the ministry in litigation before administrative tribunals and on judicial review applications. This group is responsible for the general court litigation carried on or supervised by the Branch.

Employment Law and Governance Group: This group is responsible for providing employment, labour and pension law advice primarily to MBS, the Civil Service Commission and the Centre for Leadership. They also provide legal services in public law governance matters to MBS.

I&IT Corporate Commercial Law Group: This Group is responsible for providing legal services involving commercial law, information technology (IT) law, insurance law and real estate law and supporting procurement activities. They also provide advice regarding complex insurance litigation matters and are also responsible for managing some MBS legislative initiatives.

Access & Privacy Law Group: This group provides access and privacy law advice across government, as well as advice on conflict of interest and political activity.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 1
2. Deadline for applications: February 25, 2005 (open to students who have completed their 2nd year of law school)
3. No on-campus interviews
4. We anticipate hiring in April 2005

Description of Summer Program:

A summer student will receive training in the Public Service Act and the handling of grievances before the Grievance Settlement Board, the Ontario Labour Relations Board and the Human Rights Commission.

Name of Office: Ministry of the Attorney General
Crown Law Office – Civil
Address: 720 Bay St., 8th floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2K1
Contact Names: Sonal Gandhi / Bryan Guilfoil
Direct Line: 416-326-4146 / 416-326-3454
E-mail: sonal.gandhi@jus.gov.on.ca / bryan.guilfoil@jus.gov.on.ca
Fax: 416-326-4181
Website: www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

Crown Law Office - Civil (CLOC) is the government of Ontario's civil litigation boutique. We represent the public interest, the people of Ontario. We litigate at all levels of court and at a number of tribunals. Our clients range from ministers to court reporters, and every provincial ministry from Agriculture to Transportation. We advise our ministry and others on matters of public importance.

The work at CLOC can be divided into five major areas: civil litigation, administrative law, aboriginal litigation, inquests and advisory services. The work is varied, interesting and, often, high-profile.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: at least 2
2. Deadline for applications: February 25th, 2005
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Interviews will be scheduled for early to mid-March, 2005

Description of Summer Program:

Our summer students are as important to our office as our articling students. Summer students are given the opportunity to work with as many lawyers as possible, and on a variety of matters, to ensure optimum exposure to each of the areas of law practiced in the office. Summer students conduct both conventional and electronic legal research, prepare memoranda of law, summarize evidence, draft pleadings, draft facta, prepare motion materials, and provide other meaningful legal assistance. Summer students can expect to develop litigation skills by attending with counsel at court proceedings. We encourage you to pursue any particular area of interest you may have within CLOC's practice.

A mentor is assigned to each summer student. The mentor's role is to assign work, to provide feedback and guidance to the student, as well as to ensure that the student has a well-rounded summer experience. Our mentoring system is designed to assist you in improving your fundamental legal skills.

We look to our summer student program to provide us with potential articling students. Summering with our office will be an opportunity for you to explore your interest in the public sector practice of law.

Name of Office:	Ministry of the Attorney General Constitutional Law Branch
Address:	720 Bay St. 8 th Floor Toronto ON M5G 2K1
Contact Name:	Daniel Guttman
Direct Line:	416-326-4466
E-mail:	daniel.guttman@jus.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-326-4015
Website:	www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

The Constitutional Law Branch consists of 13 lawyers who advise all ministries on questions of constitutional law and policy, and who engage in litigation at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Constitutional issues include Charter rights, the division of powers, and aboriginal law. The practice is divided into three principal areas: litigation, opinion, and constitutional reform.

The Attorney General of Ontario may intervene in any case raising a constitutional challenge to federal or provincial law before a tribunal or court in Ontario, the Federal Court of Canada, or the Supreme Court of Canada. Branch lawyers appear on behalf of the government in non-criminal constitutional cases, which involve challenges under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Constitution Act. Examples of some Supreme Court of Canada cases in which counsel have appeared and made submissions include: *M. v. H.* (definition of a “spouse” in Family Law Act); *Eldridge v. British Columbia* (entitlement to sign language interpreters for access to health services); *Lovelace v. Ontario* (distribution of Casino Rama profits to First Nations Bands); *Vriend v. Alberta* (sexual orientation and the Alberta Human Rights Code).

The branch also prepares written opinions for various ministries and agencies of the government of Ontario. These opinions review both existing and proposed legislation, to ensure compliance with both the Constitution Act, 1867 and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The branch also advises the government on issues of constitutional policy and reform. These encompass the process of constitutional amendments, alternative arrangements for national unity, and include matters involving aboriginal rights and related constitutional initiatives such as the Framework Agreement on the Social Union and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 2
2. Deadline for applications: February 25th, 2005
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Anticipate interviews/hiring to take place in March of 2005

Description of Summer Program:

The branch has a professional, yet open and informal atmosphere. Regular office and group meetings facilitate the free exchange of ideas on legal issues. Counsel in the branch are approachable, and willing to take time to provide students with direction on files and relevant areas of law. Students assist lawyers in all facets of legal work, including research, writing memoranda, and drafting facta and other documents. Students also attend and assist during court and tribunal hearings.

Name of Office:	Ministry of the Attorney General Criminal Law Division, Crown Law Office – Criminal
Address:	10 th Floor – 720 Bay Street Toronto, ON M5G 2K1
Contact Name:	Gillian Roberts/Riun Shandler
Direct Line:	416-326-2304 or 416-326-2353
E-mail:	gillian.roberts@jus.gov.on.ca or riun.shandler@jus.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-326-4656
Website:	www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

Counsel at Crown Law Office-Criminal have responsibility, on behalf of the Crown, for the preparation and argument of all criminal appeals in Ontario before the Court of Appeal for Ontario and before the Supreme Court of Canada.

In addition to the appellate work, counsel at the CLO-Criminal perform work in four other major practice areas. Two practice groups deal with “special prosecutions” within the Ministry. These cases fall into two general categories: I) complex commercial crime; and II) prosecutions of persons who are involved in the administration of justice. A third practice group deals with files involving requests for assistance by foreign jurisdictions under the Mutual Legal Assistance Act and extraditions. The fourth practice group deals with proceeds of crime. In addition, counsel advise the police in respect of search warrants and other matters.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 6
2. Deadline for applications: October 8th, 2004
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Interviews will be held in November 2004

Description of Summer Program:

The summer program is a miniature version of our articling program. A mentor is assigned to each summer student. The mentor’s role is to assign work, to provide feedback and guidance to the student and to ensure that each student has a well-rounded summer experience. Summer students assist counsel with preparing for their upcoming trials or appeals. The extent of the assistance varies from file to file but, generally, the students are expected to:

- Produce research memoranda for legal and/or policy issues;
- Draft facta;
- Summarize evidence (transcripts or witness statements);
- Assist Crown counsel in court with their trial or appeal matters. The student who assists on a file is expected to attend the related judicial proceeding, be it a trial or appeal. The student is also invited to attend all other related meetings, which include witness interviews, judicial pre-trials or other resolution discussions; and
- Attend all in-house education conferences. The office puts on a number of criminal educational seminars throughout the summer. Some of these are aimed at Counsel, but students are welcome to attend. Others are created for the benefit of the students (e.g. the dos and don’ts of cross-examination, appellate advocacy, etc.);

Summer student applicants are invited to call the following counsel for more information about the program:
Gillian Roberts 416 326-2304 or Riun Shandler 416-326-2353.

Crown Attorney's Office

Primary Practice Areas:

The Crown Attorney system is responsible for prosecuting the vast majority of Ontario's criminal cases.

Organized on a local basis, each office is supervised by a Crown Attorney and staffed by Assistant Crown Attorneys.

In becoming a proficient prosecutor, each Assistant Crown Attorney must learn to master all aspects of trial practice. This includes such matters as case preparation, witness examination, cross-examination, and the use of forensic evidence, legal argument, and the art of addressing the jury.

There is no better way to develop a barrister's skills than to experience a summer with our offices.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 10 amongst 6 regions
2. Deadline for applications: see next page for deadlines for each region
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Fall hiring in November – Spring Hiring TBD by each office (March/April 2005)

Description of Summer Program:

While research and writing are certain duties, you will also be invited to attend and participate in trials, hearings, closings, and crown conferences. Students are encouraged, where possible, to learn about other practice areas by attending informal meetings with lawyers from different practice groups. Students are also encouraged to contact offices to speak with current/previous students directly.

Regional/Branch Contact Details & Deadlines:

Fall Hiring – Deadline Friday October 8th, 2004:

Submit complete application package to each office directly.

Toronto Regional Offices:

Mr. Paul Culver
Crown Attorney
Toronto Crown Attorney's Office
361 University Ave, Rm. 101
Toronto, ON
M5G 1Y1

Ms. Connie Cortese
Operations Manager
North York Crown Attorney's Office
1000 Finch Ave West
North York, ON
M3J 2V5

Ms. Sarah Welch
Crown Attorney
Etobicoke Crown Attorney's Office
2201 Finch Ave West, 4th Floor
Toronto, ON
M9M 2Y9

Ms. Jamie MacPherson
Operations Manager
Scarborough Crown Attorney's Office
1911 Eglinton Ave East
Toronto, ON
M1L 2L8

Northern Regional Offices:

Ms. Terri Regimbal
A/Crown Attorney
Court House
393 Main Street
Haileybury, ON
P0J 1K0

Mr. Dan Mitchell
Crown Attorney
Superior Court of Justice
Court House
277 Camelot St. 2nd Floor
Thunder Bay, ON
P7A 4B3

Eastern Region

Note: Office Location to be determined (Ottawa or Kingston)

Office of the Director of Crown Operations
Court House, 161 Elgin Street, Suite 3225
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 2K1
Telephone: 613-239-1222

Spring Hiring - Deadline February 25th, 2005
Submit complete application package to each office directly.

Central East Region

Note: Office location to be determined

Office of the Director of Crown Operations
1091 Gorham Street, Suite 201
Newmarket, ON L3Y 7V1
Telephone: 905-836-5624

Central West Region

Note: Office location to be determined

Office of the Director of Crown Operations
Court House
45 Main Street East, Suite 400
Hamilton, ON L8N 2B7
Telephone: 905-645-5338

West Region

Note: Office location to be determined

Office of the Director of Crown Operations
150 Dufferin Ave, Suite 202
London, ON N6A 5N6
Telephone: 519-660-2400

Name of Office:	Criminal Law Policy Branch
Address:	720 Bay St. 9th Floor Toronto ON M5G 2K1
Contact Name:	Robert Lecour, Coordinator of Finance and Administration
Direct Line:	416-325-4854
E-mail:	robert.lecour@jus.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-314-6646
Website:	www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

The main function of the Branch includes providing advice on reform of the Criminal Code and on operational Crown policy. In particular, the Branch formulates Crown policies and practice memoranda intended to provide guidance to Crown Attorneys on the exercise of their independent prosecutorial duties.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: 1
2. Deadline for applications: February 25th, 2005
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Hiring to take place in spring 2005

Description of Summer Program:

You will be actively involved in several areas of the Branch's work including legal research. You will be assigned a mentor who will work with you to ensure the best possible work experience.

Name of Office:	Ministry of the Attorney General Office of the Children's Lawyer
Address:	393 University Avenue, 14 th Floor Toronto, Ontario M5G 1W9
Contact Name:	Caterina E. Tempesta Co-chair, Articling Student Committee and Counsel
Direct Line:	416-314-8104
E-mail:	caterina.tempesta@jus.gov.on.ca
Fax:	416-314-8050
Website:	www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/ocl

Primary Practice Areas:

The Children's Lawyer and a staff of twenty-two lawyers provide legal services for children under the age of 18 years with respect to their personal and property rights. Lawyers represent the interests of children in civil litigation and estates matters, child custody and access disputes, and child protection proceedings. Lawyers often work closely with in-house social work staff in representing children in complex custody/access matters.

Statutes relevant to our work include: Child and Family Services Act, Children's Law Reform Act, Divorce Act, Courts of Justice Act, Family Law Act, Succession Law Reform Act, Family Law Rules and the Rules of Civil Procedure.

Recruitment Information:

1. Minimum number of positions available: to be determined
2. Deadline for applications: to be determined
3. No on-campus interviews
4. Hiring: to be determined

Description of Summer Program:

Responsibilities may include: completing research assignments in the areas of civil litigation, estates, child custody/access, and child protection; summarizing cases for use in our internal research database; drafting motion materials; and assisting counsel in summarizing transcripts, reviewing and organizing complex files, preparing affidavits of documents, and preparing for trials and appeals. Summer students are given many opportunities to accompany counsel at court appearances, meetings with clients and parties, settlement meetings, and mediation. Students are also invited to participate in an annual legal retreat and luncheon and the annual OCL staff picnic.

Name of Office: Office of the Public Guardian & Trustee

Address: 595 Bay St. Suite 800
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2M6

Contact Name: Nick Hedley, Counsel

Direct Line: 416-326-7807

E-mail: nicholas.hedley@jus.gov.on.ca

Fax: 416-314-2231

Website: www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca

Primary Practice Areas:

The Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee (OPGT) is part of the Family Justice Services Division of the Ministry of the Attorney General. There are four legal departments in the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee: Litigation, Guardianship Services, Corporate Services and the Charitable Property Program. These departments deal with issues such as: protecting mentally incapable people, protecting the public's interests in charities, searching for heirs, investing perpetual care funds, serving victims of crime, dealing with dissolved corporations and making treatment decisions for those unable to do so and without next of kin.

The OPGT is seeking individuals who are interested in assisting the most vulnerable individuals in society. Students should have some experience in dealing with mentally incapable people and should be willing to undertake challenging legal work.

Students must submit their applications including resumé, law school grades and references directly to the Articling Committee. If you wish to learn more about the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee please visit the website at: www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/pgt.

Recruitment Information:

4. Minimum number of positions available: 1
5. Deadline for applications: October 8th, 2004
6. No on-campus interviews
7. Interviews in November

Description of Summer Program:

The work in the OPGT has often been described as similar to that of a general practice. Summer students are given exposure to the four legal departments within the branch. The majority of clients the office represents are mentally challenged. The OPGT deals with any issues that arise for the client, except for criminal and immigration matters. Students are given opportunities, where possible, to attend court and tribunals, and are exposed to a variety of subject matters including family, estates, charities, real estate, corporations, torts, and personal injury. Students also prepare memoranda of law on a number of issues.