

WellCoMs Wellington County Mobile Legal Service

Meeting the Legal Needs in Rural Wellington County

A project of The Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington County



What:

A mobile clinic that travels across Wellington County

When:

We started on May 1st and our project runs until Oct. 31

Where:

Small and large communities in Wellington County

Who:

Max and Rose use technology to connect with the rest of the team back at the Legal Clinic in Guelph



We park the van in the morning and set up a table, chairs, coffee and snacks. People come by and ask us questions, and we do our best to help them!

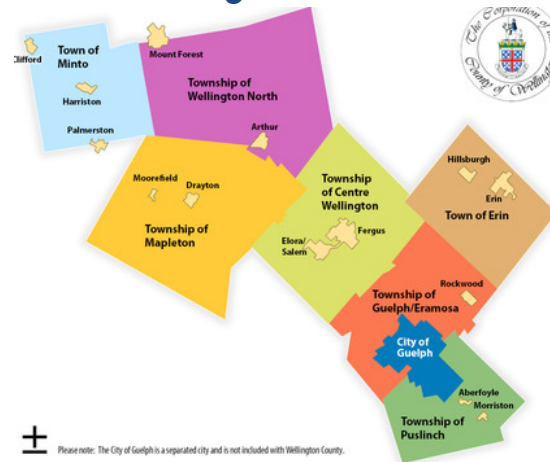


Photo credit: Alexandra Heck/Tostar



After 8 weeks we have driven over 3000 km, met with over 173 people offering them advice and help with everyday legal issues

Connecting with Community



Used with permission from the County of Wellington

The WellCoMs van visits 12 communities throughout Wellington County. We set up in convenient locations in each town, hoping people will notice our van and stop in for a chat.

In addition to social media, we post our travel schedule at different places in each town such as the library, churches, food banks and other community agencies.

We've met some great people in:
Arthur, Clifford, Drayton, Elora, Erin, Fergus, Harriston, Hillsburgh, Mount Forest, Palmerston, Puslinch and Rockwood!

Follow our van travels on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram



The legal workers in the van are great listeners. Once they understand your issues they can refer you to the Legal Clinic in Guelph and other helpful resources. We can even connect you with a caseworker at the Clinic in Guelph using skype on the spot from the van!

We can also connect you with the support you need through other community agencies like the family health teams, community and social services and the library.

Here to Help



Practical Help

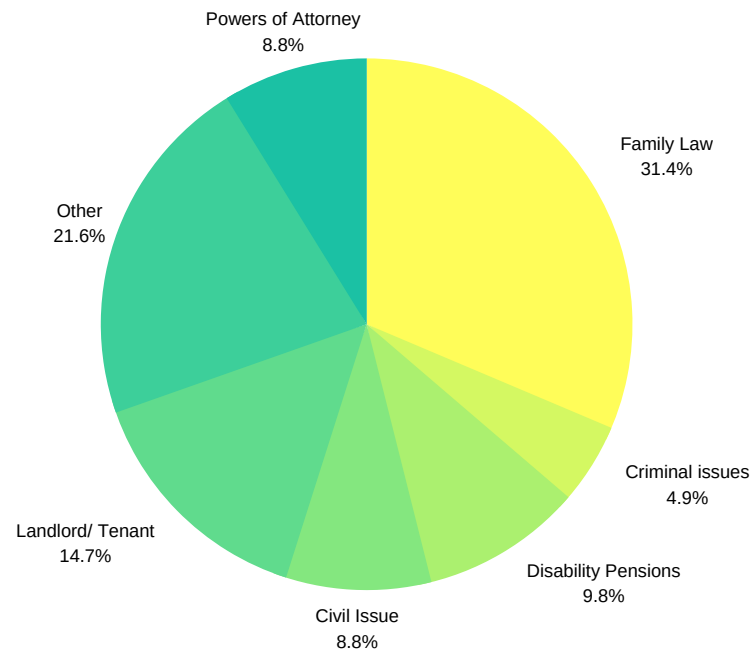
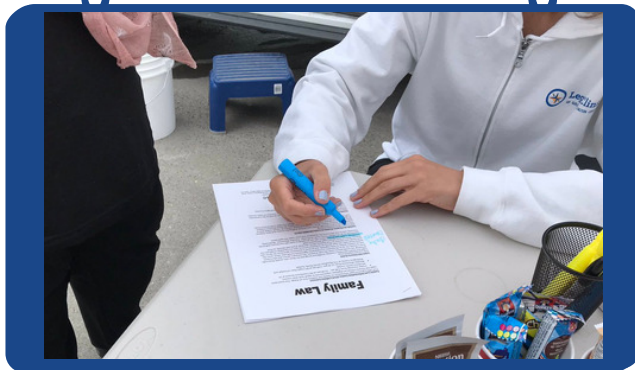
Over 90% of the people served by the WellCoMs van had no previous contact with the Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington County. Great to meet you!

We give people as much help as we can. This includes really understanding needs and directing people to appropriate legal help. We have a wide range of info sheets to help people access family law, criminal law, civil law and other services.

Making Impact & Finding Solutions

Our friendly team is ready to talk about anything! Between May 1 and June 20, 173 people visited the van. 70% of people wanted to discuss a specific problem. People looking for legal advice wanted information about:

Seeing the Big Picture



Many of life's challenges such as family breakdown, debt, poor housing conditions and health problems are all connected. We know that legal issues can trigger other legal problems and create more non-legal problems. The WellCoMs Wellington County Mobile Legal Service listens to the needs of our community to find legal and non-legal solutions



Our thanks to The Law Foundation for their funding and support of this innovative project

The Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington County is funded by Legal Aid Ontario and governed by a local volunteer Board of Directors