

# Northwest Community Legal Clinic

MAY 2022

SUPPORTING
INDIVIDUALS AND
OUR COMMUNITY BY
PROVIDING QUALITY
LEGAL SERVICES.

### **Evictions**

Tribunals Ontario, Landlord & Tenant Board, Pam Robilliard, Support Staff, Kenora

#### How the eviction process works

The typical evictions process is explained below. Changes due to COVID-19 have been highlighted. If the landlord gives a tenant notice to end the tenancy, the tenant does not have to move out. The landlord must apply for an eviction order from the Landlord and Tenant Board (also known as the Board). The tenant has the right to go to a hearing and explain why they should not be evicted.

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- 1. **Notice:** In most cases, the first step is for the landlord to give the tenant a notice in writing that they want the tenant to move out. Landlords must use an official notice from the Board. Sometimes a tenant can prevent the tenancy from ending by stopping the behaviour referred to in the notice, or by doing what the notice requests. This is called a tenant's remedy. The notice explains what this is and gives a deadline for the tenant to comply. **COVID-19 update:** Landlords are encouraged to work with tenants to establish fair arrangements to keep tenants in their homes, including <u>deferring</u> rent or other payment arrangements.
- 2. **Application:** If the tenant does not remedy the situation or move out, the landlord can file an application to the Board to end the tenancy. Most applications must be made within 30 days of the termination date set out in the notice. However, there is no deadline to apply to end a tenancy for non-payment of rent. **COVID-19 update:** Some Landlord and Tenant Board counter services are closed, but the most common types of applications can still be filed online.
- 3. **Hearing:** In most cases, the Board will schedule a hearing to decide the landlord's application. It will mail a Notice of Hearing to the landlord(s) and tenant(s) along with a copy of the application.
- 4. **Order:** A Board member will make a decision about the landlord's application to end the tenancy and whether the tenant should be evicted or not. The member's decision is always put in writing. This written decision is called an order. The Board will mail a copy of the order to both the landlord and tenant.
- 5. **Enforcement:** If a tenant doesn't leave the rental unit by the termination date in the eviction order, a landlord cannot personally enforce the order (remove a tenant from a rental unit or change the locks). An eviction order can only be enforced by the Court Enforcement Office (also known as the Sheriff's Office). The landlord must file a copy of the Board order with the Sheriff's Office to have the order enforced.

Get more information from the <u>Landlord and Tenant Board</u> about the eviction process. https://tribunalsontario.ca LTB Phone: 1-888-332-3234

If you receive an eviction notice you can contact your local legal clinic.

# Coldest Night of the Year 2022

Meg Illman-White, CLW, Kenora

The Northwest Community Legal Clinic has supported the Coldest Night of the Year walk over the years and this year was no exception. Of the 20 teams that participated February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, NWCLC entered a small but mighty team of Erin O'Hara, Meg Illman-White, Sam Smith, Trudy McCormick and Erinne Wreggitt (raising \$10,354 of the unprecedented community total of \$37,810)! It felt really great to be a part of the over 70 walkers from the community who gathered in person to support the "on the ground" organizations in Kenora who are doing the work of providing the essential basic human needs for those who are homeless, under-housed and vulnerable to the long months of freezing temperatures experienced in Northern Ontario winters.

In Kenora two organizations registered together this year to share the funds raised. This walk is a crucial part of both organizations' funding since both are dependant largely on donations:

The Jubilee Church works diligently on helping people to take advantage of a hotel room and warm shower. They provide food hampers and they respond generously to requests that help people to stay in their own homes when their resources are unexpectedly tapped. They also provide transitional housing at rent to income rates for those who live above their building, and this past year leased ½ of their building to the KDSB, allowing the CommUNITY space from Kenora Moving Forward to offer a stable environment for people to gather and stay warm after the Fellowship Centre closes at 4 pm each day.

Anamiewigummig Fellowship Centre (an organization that through COVID remained open 8 am – 4 pm, seven days a week, and since 2018 has provided breakfast and lunch to an average of 70 people/day). Every year beloved members of the community die, and the grief of those who know and love them is deep. Fellowship makes space for Sacred Fires to honour those who have passed on to help people to grieve together in community with the support of ceremony and the wisdom and comfort of the Elders. The Kenora Fellowship Centre has long been a place of welcome and belonging for people in Kenora who otherwise would have nowhere to go.



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### A Guide to Voting in Ontario's Provincial Election

Settlement.Org, OCASI, Tara Grant, Support Staff, Fort Frances

If you are a Canadian citizen, you have the opportunity to choose who represents you in provincial politics. During a provincial election, you are voting to select the premier of Ontario.

#### Can I vote?

To vote in an Ontario provincial election you must be all of the following:

- A Canadian citizen
- 18 years old or older
- A resident of Ontario

Refugee claimants, temporary and permanent residents cannot vote.

#### Can I vote if I have no fixed address or permanent home?

Yes, where you eat or sleep most often in the 5 weeks before the election is your home, therefore you can vote.

#### How do I register to vote?

Your name must be on the Voters List to vote. With **e-registration**, you can check to see if you are on the Voters List, add yourself to the list or update information. The Voters List can have mistakes and sometimes names are missing from this list. If you are on the Voters List, you will get a Notice of Registration Card in the mail before election day. It tells you where to vote. Bring this card with you to the **voting station**. If you are not on the Voters List, you can add your name **before** or **on** election day. Registering at your voting location will take extra time and you will be required to complete a form.

#### When can I vote?

You can vote:

- On election day;
- At an advance poll, before election day; or
- By special ballot (by mail or at a local office).

If you have less than 3 hours off during polling hours, your employer must give you time off to vote.

They have to pay you for this time. They can choose when it is.

#### What documents do I need to vote?

To vote, you must show proof of your identity and where you live. You can show:

- 1 document that has your name, address and signature; or
- 1 document that has your name and signature, plus 1 document that has your name and address.

Get more information about <u>acceptable proof</u>. If you cannot show acceptable proof, you can sign a **statutory declaration** to get a ballot.

#### Where do I go to vote?

Enter your postal code in the online tool to find your electoral district.

#### Who can I call if I have any questions about elections or voting?

Before the election, you can call or visit your returning officer. They make sure that the voters' list is correct and that all the voting is done properly. You can also contact **Elections Ontario**:

In Canada: **1-888-668-8683** TTY: **1-888-292-2312** Fax: 416-326-6200

Email: info@elections.on.ca

Website: http://www.elections.on.ca

#### For More Information

- **Elections Ontario** Elections Ontario organizes and conducts provincial elections in Ontario. It also provides information to voters about how, when, and where to vote.
- **Voter Identification** Find out what kinds of identification you can use to vote.



# Supporting individuals and our community by providing quality legal

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(807) 274-3141 Fax	(807) 468-4928 Fax	(807) 597-6697 Fax

#### www.NorthwestCommunityLegalClinic.ca

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Check us out on Facebook!



## Office Closures

Friday July 1, 2022 - Canada Day Monday August 1, 2022 - Civic Holiday

# **Sub-Offices**

We are not travelling to Red Lake and Ear Falls at this time. If you have any questions, please call our toll free number 1-800-403-4757.

# Staff Supports Day of Pink

Tara Grant, Support Staff, Fort Frances

On April 13, 2022, the Northwest Community Legal Clinic in Fort Frances, Atikokan and Kenora distributed t-shirts to local organizations to join us in celebrating "Day of Pink" which is the international day against bullying,

discrimination, homophobia, and transphobia.



**CMHA Safe Beds Fort Frances** 



NCLC Staff in Fort Frances, Atikokan & Kenora



**CMHA Fort Frances** 



Youth Wellness Hub Kenora



**Atikokan Community Food Bank** 

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