

# Legal Centre News

Volume 34

October 2006

## Municipal elections meeting & Mayoralty Debate coming soon

“Let’s meet the people we’ll be trusting with our community’s future,” said YWCA Executive Director Lynn Zimmer of the two municipal election meetings which will focus on social issues.

The first meeting, “Let’s Talk About Social Issues – A Public Meeting with City and County Council Candidates”, will take place on Wednesday, October 18, 2006 from 7 until 9 p.m. at the Evinrude Centre. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m.

This will be an opportunity for voters to meet the city and county council candidates for their area. This meeting will take place in small groups so that people

will have a chance to give opinions directly to the candidates of their choice.

The second meeting, the “City of Peterborough Mayoralty Debate on Social Issues” will take place on Thursday, November 2, 2006 in the Peterborough Public Library Auditorium.

This event will feature the eight candidates for mayor who will share their platforms as they relate to social issues followed by questions from the audience.

“These meetings are important because municipal governments have a direct impact on the health of  
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### **Let’s Talk About Social Issues A Public Meeting with City and County Council Candidates**

The public is invited to meet with City and County council candidates to discuss social issues.

Wednesday October 18, 2006  
7-9 p.m. (doors open at 6:30)  
Evinrude Centre, 911 Monaghan Rd.

### **City of Peterborough Mayoralty Debate on Social Issues**

City of Peterborough Mayoralty candidates will debate. Moderated by Lois Tuffin of Peterborough This Week.

Thursday November 2, 2006  
7-9 p.m. (doors open at 6:30)  
Peterborough Public Library  
Auditorium, 345 Aylmer St.

# Special diet update: appeals pending

Thousands of Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) recipients across the province had their benefits drastically reduced following the Ministry's changes to Special Diet provisions in late 2005.

Prior to the changes, doctors completed forms that set out the dietary needs of their patient.

Under the new rules, the doctor checks off the medical conditions that apply to their patient from a list of medical conditions.

The Ministry has predetermined the special diet requirement of each *medical condition*. Under the new system the role of the family doctor in identifying their

patient's dietary needs is minimized.

The Social Benefits Tribunal has been flooded with appeals by people whose benefits have been reduced.

**Under the new system the role of the family doctor in identifying their patient's dietary needs is minimized.**

The Tribunal refused the request that it hear a "test case" to determine whether the change was discriminatory and contrary to the Human Rights Code. The Ministry is taking the position that the Tribunal does not have jurisdiction

to hear the appeals and so the first case to be heard by the Tribunal was adjourned for the Tribunal to rule on that issue.

Meanwhile, in Peterborough the Legal Centre is representing a number of clients whose benefits

have been reduced and who are appealing to the Social Benefits Tribunal.

During pre-hearing phone conferences the Ministry representative has indicated that the Ministry refuses to consider increasing the amounts of the special diets. Hearing dates have not yet been scheduled.

If your benefits have been reduced, contact the Legal Centre for advice about your case. Everyone should also tell their provincial government representative (Jeff Leal) what they think about the changes to the special diet benefit. He can be contacted at 705-742-3777 or at 236 King St., unit 3, Peterborough, ON K9J 7L8.

*Note: Very minor changes to the diet list were released as the Legal Centre News went to print. Contact the Legal Centre for information.*

## Changes to Residential Tenancy Law

The May 2006 *Legal Centre News* had two articles about the new law. The first explained why residential tenancy laws had to be changed and the second outlined the provincial government's proposal for reforms. We explained that the government's proposal would, if implemented, fall short of what had been promised. The government responded to tenants' concerns and made some changes that improve tenant protection.

### The New Law - Key Points

- The new law is called the *Residential Tenancies Act (RTA)*. It will take effect sometime in 2007.
- The new Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) will replace the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal.
- Landlords will be required to provide new tenants with an information package on landlord/tenant rights and responsibilities.
- The LTB will notify tenants when a landlord makes an application and provide the contact information for nearby legal clinics.
- The default eviction process will be gone. All eviction applications will be scheduled for a hearing. If the tenant is unable to attend the hearing and the LTB orders an eviction, the tenant will be able to ask the LTB to set aside the eviction order.
- When disputing an arrears application, tenants will be able to present evidence of non-repair and landlord misconduct.
- The LTB may order rent freezes (no more rent increases) if there are repair problems.

# Current and former recipients of ODSP to receive \$25 million in retroactive benefits following Ombudsman's Report

The Spring 2006 edition of the *Legal Centre News* reported that 70 recipients of Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) benefits across the province (some represented by the Legal Centre) complained to the Ontario Ombudsman about lost benefits due to the Ministry's unacceptable delay in deciding their ODSP claims.

The Ombudsman, Andre Marin, agreed with the complainants. In May 2006, Marin issued a report called *Losing the Waiting Game* in which he slammed the Ministry for the problem.

Immediately after the report was released, the Ministry announced changes to the legislation that fixed the problem for new applicants but did not help recipients who had lost benefits in the past.

The Ministry has now announced that it will follow the Ombudsman's recommendation and pay up to 19,000 ODSP recipients and former recipients the benefits that they would have received if the application system had not been flawed.

The Ministry calculates that \$25 million is outstanding. In some cases this will amount to retroactive payments of several thousand dollars. In October 2006, the Ministry will start calculating the amounts that are owed and cheques will be sent out. The Ministry hopes to complete the payout by May 2007.

If a person who is eligible for the retroactive payment has an overpayment owing to the Ministry, the money will be applied against the overpayment amount.

While the Ministry is entitled to direct the retroactive funds to overpayment recovery, people in this situation should contact the Legal Centre for advice about appealing the decision to re-

cover the overpayment.

The balance of the retroactive amount will be paid as a lump sum, and will not be considered as either income or an asset. This means that receiving the payment will have no effect on ongoing entitlement to ODSP.

Some of the money is owed to families who are no longer receiving ODSP benefits. In these cases then the Ministry will send letters to the last known address in the Ministry's file.

*If you started to receive ODSP after June 1, 1998 and you are no longer receiving benefits, contact the Legal Centre for help getting your retroactive ODSP benefits.*

## ***Important Points***

- If you were on ODSP after June 1, 1998, you may be able to get money
- If you are still on ODSP and you are eligible to get money, you will get a cheque in the mail
- If you are not on ODSP anymore, call the Legal Centre at 749-9355
- If you have an overpayment, call the Legal Centre right away

# Hot Tips for Tenants

## Moving into a Rental Unit

Renting a place to live can be a daunting experience. Tenants should make sure that they understand all of the terms of the rental arrangement from the very beginning. Following the steps outlined below can help to prevent problems later in the tenancy.



### Moving In Checklist

- What are you renting? For example, does it include the basement, garage or yard?
- How much is the rent?
- When is the rent due?
- Does the landlord require a last month's rent deposit?
- What is included in the rent? - eg. heat, utilities, parking, cable etc.
- If utilities are not included, does the apartment have electric heat?
- If utilities are not included, call the utility company to find out what the utility costs were for the previous tenant, whether a deposit is required, and if so how much.
- Should you apply to Ontario Works for Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefits (CSUMB) or discretionary benefits to help you with the cost of your move?
- Are there any repairs to be done by the landlord before you move in? If there are, make a list that specifies when the repairs will be completed and have the landlord sign it.
- Do you want to rent on a "month-to-month" basis or for a specific period of time?
- Get a written tenancy agreement that states all of the terms of the agreement and that states the landlord's name and address. Keep a copy of the tenancy agreement for yourself.
- Always pay by cheque or money order. If paying by cash, get and keep receipts.
- Always take photographs of the unit before you move in to prove the condition of the unit at the time you moved in.
- You should also take photographs of the unit when you are moving out. You should take the "move out" pictures after you have removed your belongings from the unit and cleaned the unit.
- Remember that your landlord has up to two years to bring an application against you for damage to the unit, so keep your pictures.

### Moving in Resource List

Housing Resource Centre - 743-9122

Peterborough Community Legal Centre - 749-9355

Ontario Works - 748-8830

Ontario Disability - 742-9292

# More Hot Tips for Tenants

## Maintenance and Repairs

Tenants are entitled to live in rental units that are in a good state of repair and fit for habitation. Landlords are primarily responsible for maintenance and repairs. Tenants who have maintenance and repair problems at their units should follow the steps outlined in the checklist below.



### Maintenance Checklist

- Call the Legal Centre for advice about your situation.
- Send a letter to your landlord stating the problem, when it started, how it is affecting you and asking your landlord to fix it. Keep a copy.
- Complete a City of Peterborough Property Standards Complaint Form and return it to the City. Keep a copy.
- Follow up with the City Inspector if your landlord has not completed the repairs.
- If the problem involves insufficient heat, mould, water quality, insects or rodents, ask the Peterborough Health Unit to inspect your unit. Keep a copy of your request.
- Follow up with the Health Inspector if your landlord has not fixed the problem.
- Contact the Fire Department if you are worried about fire safety. Keep a record of your contact.
- Collect evidence of the problem such as photographs, thermograph readings (if the problem relates to insufficient heat), water quality reports, statements from people who have seen and verified the problem, estimates from repair people as to the cost of repair.
- Collect evidence of any damages, including damage to your belongings, receipts for out of pocket expenses, etc.
- Issue your application with the Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal (soon to be the Landlord Tenant Board). Give your landlord a copy of the application and the Notice of Hearing.
- Take three copies of all evidence with you when you go to the hearing. Take any witnesses who will be giving evidence.

### Maintenance Resource List

Peterborough Community Legal Centre - 749-9355

Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal - 1-888-332-3234

City of Peterborough Property Standards Department - 742-7777 ext 1892

Peterborough City and County Health Unit - 743-1000

Fire Department - 745-3281

Housing Resource Centre - 743-9122

# The Municipal Elections:

*In preparation for the upcoming elections the Legal Centre has prepared information regarding income security, affordable housing, and food security which every voter should read.*

## Income Security

Canada has enjoyed strong economic growth and an enviable fiscal situation for the past nine years. In the spring of 2006, the Ontario government announced a budget surplus of \$2.5 billion. In its recent budget, the federal government announced a \$13 billion surplus. Corporate profits have set records year after year and CEO salaries keep escalating. Nonetheless, the number of people living in poverty has remained high – currently 4.9 million Canadians are living in poverty. There is an alarming growing gap between the rich and the poor.

In *Welfare Incomes 2005*, the National Council of Welfare indicates that, when adjusted for inflation, many welfare incomes in Canada were lower in 2005 than they were in 1986. The figures for Ontario are particularly striking - since 1992 the wel-

fare income of a single parent with one child in Ontario has decreased by almost \$6,600 in real dollars and the welfare income of a couple with two children has dropped by more than \$8,700.

The 2% increase to social assistance rates as of November 1, 2006 will do little to alleviate the desperate poverty of those forced to rely on disability and welfare assistance. A single person on Ontario Works will receive \$547 a month, a single mother on Ontario Works will receive \$1007 a month and a single mother receiving Ontario Disability Support benefits with one child will receive \$1,497 a month. The average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Peterborough is \$797. The aver-

age rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Peterborough is \$693.

The situation for the working poor is equally grim. A single person with no dependents in Ontario who works 35 hours a week at minimum wage has an income that is \$3,000 below the poverty line. The increases to minimum wage since 1995 have fallen well below the rate of inflation. Low-paying jobs typically do not include drug and dental care benefits. Only 43% of the unemployed qualify for Employment Insurance under tougher eligibility rules. According to John Stapleton, the co-chair of the Task Force on Modernizing Income Security for Working Age Adults (MISWAA), “we are conducting a dan-

### Who is poor?

- \* There are much higher poverty rates among Aboriginal peoples, people with disabilities, racialized groups and recent immigrants
- \* 1.2 million Canadian youth live in poverty, 27.4% of youth in the City of Peterborough live in poverty
- \* 1.5 million adult Canadian women (one in seven) live in poverty
- \* Nationally over 1 million children (one in six), and in the City of Peterborough 18.1% of children, live in poverty
- \* In the City of Peterborough 70.5% of female lone parent families with children under the age of 6 live in poverty
- \* 40.7% of unattached adults in the City of Peterborough live below the poverty line

# a primer on Social Issues

gerous experiment: We are watching a smouldering crisis as we knowingly create an underclass of working-age people who cannot afford to live and work in our cities unless they accept a forced vow of poverty.”

## Housing

In May 2005, the United Nations Committee stated that, “[t]he Committee is gravely concerned that such a wealthy country as Canada has allowed the problem of homelessness and inadequate housing to grow to such proportions that the mayors of Canada’s 10 largest cities have now declared homelessness a national disaster.”

The Affordable Housing Action Committee (A.H.A.C.) confirms in their report *Housing is Fundamental* that there is desperate demand for affordable and safe housing in Peterborough. Wait times for those who need subsidized housing, or Rent-Geared-to-Income (R.G.I.) housing are lengthy. No new R.G.I. housing has been created since 2003. As of

November 2005, 1491 families were on the waiting list for R.G.I. housing. These people are expected to wait up to 5 years for a unit. Tenants who need supportive housing from the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) must wait for up to 3 years, while those waiting for other supportive housing are looking at a wait of 5 years or more.

In October 2005, the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation reported that the average

monthly rent in Peterborough for a bachelor unit was \$521.00, a one-bedroom unit rented at \$693.00 and a two-bedroom unit rented at \$797.00. To put this in perspective, the cost of a one bedroom apartment in Peterborough (\$693.00 per month) is unaffordable to people with an hourly income under \$13.73

per hour as noted in the A.H.A.C. report *Housing is Fundamental*.

**...the cost of a one bedroom apartment in Peterborough (\$693.00 per month) is unaffordable to people with an hourly income under \$13.73 per hour...**

The annual housing supply targets, as identified in a 2003 Needs Analysis for the greater Peterborough area are not being met.

A.H.A.C. reports that “of the 218 units required for incomes under \$30,000.00, the actual supply fell short by 214 units in 2004 and 203 units in 2005.”

The Youth Emergency Shelter, Cameron House and the Brock Mission reported that 1578 people used their shelters in 2003. This number increased by 23% in 2005 to 1947 people.

Compounding the problem of unaffordable housing is the rising cost of utilities.

**Studies show that it is cheaper for society to prevent eviction than it is to pay for emergency assistance and services when people become homeless.**

“One in five households in Ontario spends 12% of their total income on utilities” states the A.H.A.C. report. This is a major affordability problem for tenants when the rental housing

stock is poorly maintained causing utility costs to soar. Tenants have very little control over the maintenance of their buildings.

The affordability gap for tenants leads to a high rate of “economic eviction” (i.e. for arrears of rent). The monetary cost to society to terminate a tenancy and evict a tenant far outweighs the cost to preserve a tenancy. Studies show that it is cheaper for society to prevent eviction than it is to pay for emergency assistance and services when people become homeless. According to a report prepared by the East York /East Toronto Family Resources centre, the savings to the tenant, the landlord and society, by proactive eviction prevention, were approximately 50% of the cost of eviction for a single person and 40% of the cost of eviction for a family.

## Food Security

“In many countries, people go hungry because there is not enough food available for everyone. That is not the case in Canada where millions of pounds of food actually go to waste every year. In Canada, hunger occurs because some people do not have sufficient income to purchase all of their basic needs. Hunger is caused by poverty.”

*Who’s Hungry; 2006 Profile of Hunger in the GTA; Daily Bread Food Bank.*

A large number of people go hungry in Peterborough City and County every month.

Kawartha Food Share (KFS) produces an annual study of

food bank use in the Greater Peterborough Area (GPA). The 2005 KFS Hunger Report measures food bank usage across the GPA for one month every March.

**Hunger is so prevalent in the Peterborough Area that there are now more than 26 volunteer programs supplying emergency food and/ or meals.**

In March 2005, 6,043 people in the GPA went to a local food bank, an increase of 34.3% from March 2003. Of those food bank users, 2,565 were children and 3,478 were adults. KFS reports that 42% of food bank clients in the GPA are single parent families, 33% are single people, 17% are two parent families and 8% of food bank users are couples without children. Of this group, 60% reported that Ontario Works (welfare) was a source of income and 24% reported disability and other pensions as their income source. [Note: there are many people who work but whose income from employment is so low that they are eligible for a top-up from Ontario Works].

KFS reports that they are seeing an increase in the number of working poor and seniors using food banks in the GPA.

A study by the Peterborough Health Unit (see [www.pcchu.ca](http://www.pcchu.ca)) shows that

### **Kawartha Food Share Hunger Statistics-Peterborough and Area**

- In March 2005, 6,043 people went to a local food bank, an increase of 34.3% from March 2003
- 2,565 of food bank users were children and 3,478 were adults
- 42% of food bank clients are single parent families
- 33% are single people
- 17% are two parent families
- 8% of food bank users are couples without children
- 60% of food bank users reported that Ontario Works (welfare) was a source of income
- 24% reported disability and other pensions as their income source

many low-income people spend the bulk of their income on housing and utility costs and have little available income for food purchases. Service statistics from Peterborough's Housing Resource Centre (an agency that helps people find and keep affordable housing) show a significant increase in the number of clients requesting assistance to purchase basic foods.

**...food banks and emergency food programs cannot provide enough food or the right kind of food to keep food bank users healthy.**

Many volunteers involved in providing emergency food services report that they are exhausted and their programs are stretched to the absolute limit. Clearly, hunger is routine in Peterborough. The voluntary system which has developed to address it is inadequate. It is likely that even a small increase in demand would overwhelm the system.

banks, on an ongoing basis, to meet their most basic nutritional needs. Yet food banks cannot easily provide meat, meat alternatives and fresh produce to meet the nutritional needs of the children who rely on them. Moreover, food banks and emergency food programs have difficulty meeting the nutritional needs of people with health problems such as diabetes or cancer.

Is there a solution to hunger in the GPA? The majority of people using food banks have traditionally been those relying on social assistance,

Hunger is so prevalent in the GPA that there are now more than 26 volunteer programs supplying emergency food and/or meals. Some of these groups do not have the funds to meet the demand so the cost is borne by the individual volunteers. For example, one volunteer, herself a senior, reports spending \$30 of her own money in one week to purchase supplies for chili for lunches offered by her faith group.

Despite the heroic efforts of Peterborough's many volunteers, food banks and emergency food programs cannot provide enough food or the right kind of food to keep food bank users healthy.

**...the solution to hunger lies in ensuring the adequacy of social assistance rates, seniors' pensions, the minimum wage and access to affordable housing.**

Studies show that low-income households place heavy reliance on food

but this is changing to include an increasing number of working poor and seniors. Therefore, the solution to hunger lies in ensuring the adequacy of social assistance rates, seniors' pensions, the minimum wage and access to affordable housing.

<b>Key Issues</b>		
<b>Income Security</b>	<b>Housing</b>	<b>Food Security</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 1992, the welfare income of a single parent with one child has dropped by almost \$6,600 in real dollars</li> <li>• A single person who works full time at a minimum wage job lives below the poverty line</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People are expected to wait up to 5 years for affordable housing</li> <li>• 1 in 5 households spends 12% of its income on utilities</li> <li>• In the long term, it is cheaper for society to prevent eviction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More people use food banks now, and they use them more often</li> <li>• Food banks cannot meet the need in the community</li> <li>• The solution is to ensure that people have enough money to buy food</li> </ul>

# Changes to Peterborough's Hostel System: Total number of shelter beds reduced

The City of Peterborough continues to restructure and reallocate beds in the hostel system.

Following the *Final Report of the Peterborough Hostel Review* dated November 15, 2004, the City has reduced the number of beds in the system from 106 to 85 beds.

In an interview conducted on September 28, 2006 with Patricia Knapp, Director of Social Services for the City of Peterborough, Ms. Knapp reported the following changes:

### **Brock Mission**

The Brock Mission, with a 50-bed, co-ed capacity will operate out of a new space at the Legion on Murray St. Ms. Knapp expects that the new Brock Mission will not open until the end of November or middle of December 2006. The 50 beds at the Brock Mission will also accommodate people who need to get in from the cold for a few hours.

### **Kingan House**

The 30 beds at Kingan

House, (formerly for males only), were reallocated to the new Brock Mission location, reported Ms. Knapp.

**The hostel system served 1000 people between January 2006 and June 2006**

### **Warming Room**

The 10 beds at The Warming Room (formerly a co-ed facility) were also reallocated to the Brock Mission.

### **Cameron House**

Cameron House, formerly a 15-bed shelter for women

and women-led families, will have 15 – 20 beds and will continue to serve women and children exclusively.

Women with substance abuse problems who were previously housed at Cameron House will now be sent to the Brock Mission.

### **Youth Emergency Shelter (Y.E.S.)**

The Youth Emergency Shelter (Y.E.S.), a 30-bed shelter serving co-ed youth, lost 15 of their beds. Y.E.S. will now have only 15 beds and one family room for father-led families.

**Peterborough will have a total allotment of 85 shelter beds by the end of 2006, all of which will be funded at a per diem rate of \$52.00**

### **Ozanam**

Ozanam house was closed outright. It was a 6-bed shelter designed to provide emergency accommodations for recovering alcoholics who were not from the Peterborough community.

Ms. Knapp reported that this shelter did not meet the Ministry criteria as it was not open on a 24-hour basis and, according to Ms. Knapp, was not available to everyone in the community.

Ms. Knapp anticipates that Peterborough will have a total allotment of 85 shelter beds by the end of 2006, all

of which will be funded at a per diem rate of \$52.00.

Ms. Knapp stated that people are not turned away and that people who cannot be accommodated in the shelters will be housed on an emergency basis in

hotels.

She reports that the hostel system served 1000 people between January 2006 and June 2006.

# Peterborough Poverty and Hunger

*"It's sad and depressing that people live in poverty. It takes away morale and dignity... everything,"* stated one respondent in a report on housing and food issues which was prepared for Kawartha Food Share by Trent students Alissa Paxton, Sarena Santilly and Laura Eustace.

The project involved interviewing 81 individuals who represented 81 households which access the services of a Kawartha Food Share (KFS) member food bank. It includes statistics and participants' views about their

struggles with income security, housing, food security, and health as well as recommendations from participants regarding each of these areas.

Some findings of the report were that 90% of food bank clients spend too much on housing and as a result cannot afford a healthy diet. Participants also treat food as a flexible item, and are likely to go hungry in order to pay rent and hydro and feed their children. Participants also struggle with discrimination against people with low-incomes.

## In their own words...

*"I have to try and find a job...but it's not too easy. I was a stay at home, so I never got training in anything. And at my age people don't like to hire you that much."*

*"We spend more for childcare than we make. For two kids it is \$59 a day."*

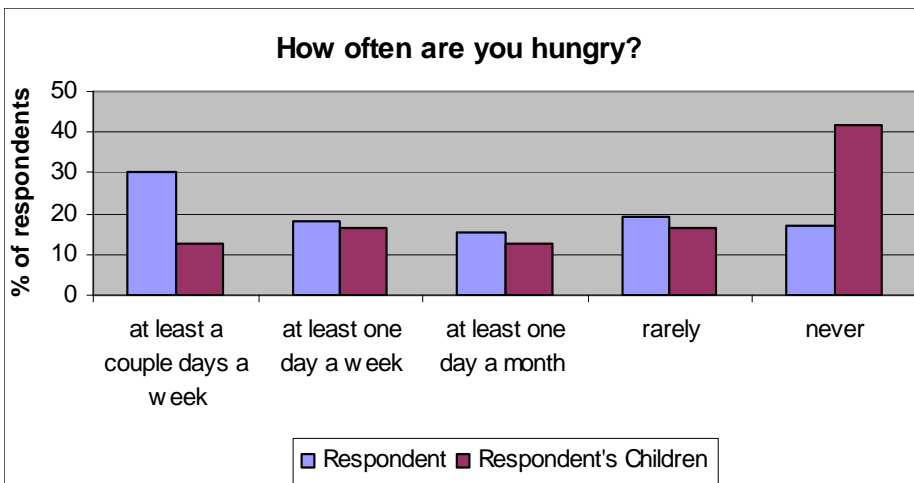
*"Most places need a co-signer 'cause you're young or on OW, and I don't have one, so it's hard to find a place."*

*"Subsidized housing needs to be built in centralized areas close to the grocery stores with lower costs and more convenient bus services."*

*"Unfortunately, food banks are still a necessity in 2006 and without them there would be more horror stories about people starving to death."*

*"My kids can't go to school a couple of days a month since they don't give adequate snacks and lunches. I'm afraid of children's services being called by the school."*

**For more information about this report, contact KFS at 705-745-5377**



## Continued from page 1

communities through their planning and through the decisions that they make on a daily basis," said Martha Macfie, staff lawyer at the Peterborough Community Legal Centre. "Their decisions have a tremendous impact on the levels of poverty, hunger and homelessness in our community. They also affect important services such as public transportation and health care."

Both meetings are free and all are welcome to come out and ask questions. For more information, contact the Peterborough Community Legal Centre at 749-9355

*Please see pgs 6-9 for more information on municipal social issues*

**SPONSORS/FUNDERS:** Peterborough Community Legal Centre (PCLC), Peterborough Social Planning Council (PSPC), Peterborough and District Labour

**Council, Older Women's Network (OWN), Community Counselling and Resource Centre (CCRC), Health Coalition, Council of Canadians (Peterborough Branch), Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG), Trent Central Student Association (TCSA), Peterborough Coalition for Social Justice, Peterborough ODSP Action Group, Peterborough YWCA, Rainbow Coalition, Food not Bombs and Walk Wheel and Ride for Dignity**  
**SUPPORTERS:** Affordable Housing Action Committee (AHAC)

## The Objects of the Legal Centre

The objects of the Legal Centre are:

1. To provide legal services or paralegal services or both including activities reasonably designed to encourage access to such services or to further such services and services designed to promote the legal welfare of the low income residents of the County of Peterborough, on a basis other than fee-for-service;
2. To provide legal information and education and to encourage access to knowledge of legal rights;
3. To provide legal representation to low-income residents of the County of Peterborough;
4. To identify areas of law affecting low-income members of our society and to advocate reform.

## Membership

The Centre is directed by its members. If you live in the City or County, and are 16 years of age or older, you can become a member. If you are a member, you can:

- Vote at the Annual General Meeting
- Stand for election to the Board of Directors if you are over 18.
- Get the Legal Centre's newsletter twice a year.

If you want to become a member of the Legal Centre for the 2006, 2007, and 2008 years (January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2008) you need to complete the following form and send or bring it to the Legal Centre at 150 King Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 2R9. If you are already a member, please pass along the membership application to a friend who supports our objects.

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✂

## Membership Application 2006-2008

I support the work of the Peterborough Community Legal Centre. I am 16 or older.

Please print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail or bring this form to our office. Membership takes effect 30 days after approval by the Board. Membership is for one year, and a renewal notice will be sent with the newsletters. There is no fee to become a member. You do not need to be a member to get help from us.