

# **LEGAL EDUCATION CONSULTANTS (LEC)**

## Printable Information Booklet

Lead Researcher and Instructor: Barbara Ann Vocisano

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## BACKGROUND

Studies have shown that the more an individual or group is informed about their rights and responsibilities, the less likely they will be involved in a legal dispute or challenge. Individuals who know about their rights and responsibilities feel more included in society, and have more confidence when faced with a legal problem, or when talking to police. Legal education is an important part of social inclusion, empowerment and self-determination. It is linked to harm reduction and living a preventative lifestyle. Inexpensive legal education will help vulnerable groups avoid being further marginalized by abuse, racism, sexism and homophobia.

Legal Education Consultants (LEC) provides workshops in Canadian law. Curriculum is timely, well researched and customized to meet each demographic and provide relevant and nuanced information. More popular workshops include topics such as bullying, cyber bullying, the dangers of texting private and inappropriate photos or content, internet privacy and rights and responsibilities for youth under the Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA). In addition, LEC instructors discuss the impact bullying has on mental health, financial health, victim, perpetrators and family members.

The lens LEC uses in the delivery of information is referred to as LADR. LADR stands for Love, Autonomy, Dignity and Respect. We discuss how each of these principles is protected in Canadian law. For more information you may refer to:

[www.legaleducationconsultants.com](http://www.legaleducationconsultants.com)

In addition to workshops on bullying, the YCJA and Canadian law, LEC provides workshops such as "Law, Ethics and Research" which is useful for science students. Our workshop "Law and Technology" addresses patent and copyright law, and how technology is challenging certain legal norms. Both are fun and interesting for science and technology classes as well as any for any STEM to STEAM curriculum.

For many new Canadians, the workshop entitled “Municipal, Provincial and Federal Law: Differences and Your Rights” has been greatly beneficial. LEC also offers workshops to new Canadians, youth and youth at risk with regard to a landlord’s duty to accommodate, the Residential Tenancy Act, and Human Rights Code of Ontario as well as other relevant information about housing in Ontario. Empowering people to live safely and free from discrimination, harassment and abuse is critical for self-determination and a sense of social inclusion.

LEC also delivers workshops to marginalized groups such as women at risk, First Nation/Aboriginal community members, new Canadians, youth at risk and persons living with physical, developmental and mental health challenges. LEC provides an EA for anyone who has been identified with a learning need, and/or behavioural challenge, or who currently possesses an Independent Education Plan.

Legal Education Consultants believes passionately in harm reduction, improving mental and physical health through legal education, and educating youth on their rights and responsibilities. Before any workshop is given, LEC meets with community organizers and advocates, Elders in the community, school principals, vice-principals, school event organizers, parent-teacher committees, Safe and Caring committees etc. in order to ensure that the most relevant information is delivered. When delivering information to primary and secondary schools, LEC discusses school board strands so that information can complement and support Board curriculum. All information is delivered in a respectful manner and considers religious, cultural and gender identity nuances.

If you or your organization has an idea for a workshop please contact lead researcher and instructor Barbara Ann Vocisano and she will be happy to discuss ideas and options for workshop topics and the delivery of information. If LEC delivers a workshop outside of the National Capital Region or the Province of Ontario, relevant municipal and provincial legislation will be researched and discussed.

## BIOGRAPHY – BARBARA ANN VOCISANO

Barbara Ann Vocisano is founder and sole proprietor of Legal Education Consultants. Barbara Ann possesses over 15 years' experience in instruction and possesses an in-depth knowledge of Canadian law. Barbara Ann is an outgoing and creative instructor who uses many types of media and academic resources to encourage participation and discussion from workshop participants.

Since earning her Master's degree in Legal Studies in 2011, Barbara Ann has been a guest lecturer at Carleton University's Alternative Spring Break in the School of Social Work and at St. Paul's University L'Avenir Jeunesse/Youth Futures program. She has also worked as a youth court volunteer with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa. Barbara Ann currently holds a Police Records Check for work with the Vulnerable Sector from Ottawa Police Services.

Barbara Ann researches, prepares course curriculum and instructs during Carleton University's Enrichment Mini-Courses Program (EMCP). Course participants are taught law in areas of youth rights and responsibilities, police powers of search and seizure, criminal law, human rights and other relevant Canadian laws. In 2013, her GOT LAW? Course was the most-requested EMCP course out of 150 programs. Barbara Ann is heavily involved in policy and research, and maintains her course material so that lessons are age-appropriate, relevant, timely and up-to-date.

LEC often collaborates with other members of the non-profit instruction community. Possible Guest Lecturers include Ryan O'Connor of [Chelsea Tech Guy Inc.](#) (expertise: Internet Privacy Law) and Lauren Whalen (expertise: LGBTQ Rights). All lecturers possess a Police Records Check for work with the vulnerable sector. EA can be provided for youth with Independent Education Plans as required. LEC instructors encourage participants to adopt a preventative lifestyle through legal education. In addition to

workshops in law, LEC can speak on a wide variety of issues such as the importance of post-secondary education, parental rights and responsibilities, and issues facing the LGBTQ community. We specialize in creating unique workshops relevant to those who need it most.

Please contact LEC and we'll be happy to propose an insightful and creative workshop for you and your organization!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Legal Education Consultants  
Be Empowered.

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