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# How to get Legal Advice without Breaking the Bank

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- ❖ Note: this set of slides is summary edition of the set used at the Toronto Reference Library on Jan. 23, 2019.
- ❖ Many thanks to audience participation, which helped in the preparation for this set of slides!

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# This talk has 4 parts

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1. Legal Information vs. Legal Advice
2. Get Legal Information: online (free)
  1. Get Legal Information / Advice: clinics
  2. How to Save Money when Hiring Lawyers

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# Today's links are available here:

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- ❖ <http://litigation-help.com/classroom-for-self-reps/>

1. Legal Advice  
or  
Legal Information?

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# “Legal Advice”

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- ❖ When lawyers and paralegals say “legal advice” they mean:
  - ❖ tips, helpful statements, suggestions that are specific to your situation
  - ❖ this help requires them to apply their special trained skills in the law to analyze your case
  - ❖ eg. strategy advice for your particular matter.

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# “Legal Information”

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- ❖ General facts, but not tailored to your case
  - ❖ e.g. Overall steps in a lawsuit
  - ❖ “The court house opens at 8:30pm.”

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# Today's talk = legal information

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- ❖ Information on where to get MORE legal information AND legal advice



## 2. Legal information websites (FREE)

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# Information Websites

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- ❖ 1. Court websites (Ministry of AG, Superior Court)
  - ❖ <http://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/family/>; <https://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/courts/guides/>
- ❖ 2. Legal Line
  - ❖ [www.legalline.ca](http://www.legalline.ca)
- ❖ 3. Community Legal Education Ontario
  - ❖ <https://www.cleo.on.ca/en>
- ❖ 4. Law Society of Ontario: Access CLE
  - ❖ <http://lx07.lsuc.on.ca/R>
- ❖ 5. Canada Legal Help
  - ❖ <http://canadalegalhelp.com/>

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# Legal Research

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- ❖ You can do keyword searches for legislation and case law on CanLII (Canadian Legal Information Institute)
- ❖ <https://www.canlii.org/en/>



# 3. In person help: clinics

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# Clinics

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## 1. Legal Aid Ontario

<https://www.legalaid.on.ca/en/getting/default.asp>

## 2. Pro Bono Law Ontario: Law Help Ontario

❖ <https://www.probonoontario.org/lawsuits-and-disputes/>

## 3. Toronto Public Library clinics

<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/search.jsp?N=37867&Ntt=tax+clinic>

## 4. University law school clinics

❖ Osgoode Hall Clinics: <https://www.osgoode.yorku.ca/community-clinics/>

❖ University of Toronto Clinic: <http://downtownlegalservices.ca/>

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# 4: Advice from private lawyers

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# Limited Scope Retainers (LSR)

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- ❖ “limited scope retainer”, “unbundled services”
- ❖ Hire lawyer only for specific tasks
- ❖ Examples:
  - ❖ review your legal argument;
  - ❖ draft your claim / answer;
  - ❖ coaching for your court appearance
  - ❖ strategy advice consultations or written opinions

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# Where to find “limited scope services” lawyers?

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- ❖ Law Society of Ontario Website
  - ❖ Go to the directory (NOT the referral service): <https://www2.lsuc.on.ca/LawyerParalegalDirectory/loadSearchPage.do>
- ❖ Ontario Family Law Limited Scope Project
  - ❖ <https://www.familylawlss.ca/>
- ❖ National Self-Represented Litigants Project
  - ❖ <https://representingyourselfcanada.com/directory/>
- ❖ Self-Rep Navigators
  - ❖ [www.limitedscoperetainers.ca](http://www.limitedscoperetainers.ca)



For a list of links to the websites, go to:  
<http://litigation-help.com/classroom-for-self-reps/>  
or  
email: [hh@litigation-help.com](mailto:hh@litigation-help.com)

Classroom for Self-Reps

