

Housing Study Group Session

Thursday, May 17, 2018 • 1:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Speakers

Vic Natola

Parkdale Community Legal Services

Cole Webber

Parkdale Community Legal Services

Renee Griffin

Scarborough Community Legal
Services

Presenter:

Vic Natola – Parkdale Community Legal Services

Cole Webber – Parkdale Community Legal Services

Renee Griffin – Scarborough Community Legal Services

Workshop Summary:

Community Organizing Against Above Guideline Increases

Presented by Vic Natola and Cole Webber, Parkdale Community Legal Services

In the spring of 2017, Parkdale Community Legal Services supported the organizing of a 300-tenant rent strike that stretched across 12 buildings in Parkdale. Tenants in these buildings were facing above guideline rent increases for cosmetic reasons while enduring little to no maintenance in their homes. We will discuss the importance of community organizing, how we won against a major corporate landlord, and how we continue to organize tenants across Parkdale.

Human Rights Arguments Distinguished from Section 83 at the LTB

Presented by Renee Griffin, ED at Scarborough Community Legal Services

This session will focus on eviction proceedings involving mental health disabilities. It is often difficult to make the link between anti-social behaviour that is the basis for N5, N6 and N7, and N7 notices, and mental health disabilities. Renee will offer tips on how to properly demonstrate the nexus at the LTB, and guidance about the nature/types of evidence to satisfy the requirement. Renee will also explain how to distinguish human rights issues from section 83 arguments in order to compel the LTB to make a distinct human rights analysis of accommodation and undue hardship.

Evidence & Practice Tips at the LTB

Presented by TBA

In this session experienced practitioners will provide useful tips on how to introduce evidence, on challenging the evidence of opposing counsel, addressing electronic evidence, what to do when counsel provides their own evidence, challenging expert evidence, and other evidentiary issues that you may come across in your practice.

At the end of this session, participants will be equipped with the practical skills needed to best the most experienced landlord representative.

Format:

This session will be broken up into three smaller sessions with very specific focuses.

Learning Outcomes:

- (i) By the end of this session, participants will have a greater understanding of the importance of community organizing as a means to challenge unfair treatment by a landlord
- (ii) Participants will be able to distinguish a human rights argument from an s.83 argument at the LTB and be better equipped to making the argument for accommodation under the Human Rights Code and undue hardship
- (iii) Participants will also have a greater knowledge of how to present and challenge evidence at the LTB