

Call us.

We're here to help.

Do you want legal advice about how to address the discrimination that happened to you?

Call us:

Tel: (416) 597-4900

Toll Free: 1-866-625-5179

TTY: (416) 597-4903

TTY Toll Free: 1-866 612-8627

Our telephone lines are open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9 am to 5 pm, and Thursday: 2 pm to 6 pm.

OR visit our website: www.hrlsc.on.ca

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Do you identify as Aboriginal, Native, First Nations, Status, Non-Status, Inuit, or Métis?



Have you been discriminated against? Need free legal help?

The Human Rights Legal Support Centre ("Centre") provides free legal support to people across Ontario whose human rights under Ontario's *Human Rights Code* have been violated.



Human Rights and Aboriginal People

Aboriginal people and communities have different circumstances in relation to human rights and discrimination claims because:

- Aboriginal Peoples have a unique history and relationship with the Canadian Government;
- The impact of colonization have created distrust of the Canadian legal system;
- The *Indian Act* creates different types of legal issues;
- There used to be an exemption in the *Canadian Human Rights Act* for claims related to the *Indian Act*.

Why is it important to tell the Centre you are Aboriginal?

- The Centre is dedicated to providing accessible services to historically disadvantaged communities, including Aboriginal communities;
- You might want to speak to an Aboriginal lawyer or to someone who speaks your language;
- If you require a referral, and are interested, we can tell you about Aboriginal service providers in your area; and
- Our staff can tell you if the *Indian Act* applies to your legal matter.

Jurisdiction: Federal v. Provincial

- In Ontario, there is a federal human rights law, and the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, it's not always clear which one will apply in your circumstance;
- There is often confusion about whether human rights issues on-reserve is federal or provincial; and
- The Centre can tell you if your matter is federally or provincially regulated.

Accessible Service

The Centre is committed to providing Aboriginal people with an accessible legal service. Tell us about your needs. For example:

- **LANGUAGE:** The Centre provides services in 140 languages including Cree, Oji-Cree, Mohawk, and Ojibway. Have someone who speaks English call us, or let us know at the start of your call, and we will arrange to speak to you in the language of your choice at no cost to you;
- **DISABILITY:** For example, if you have limited vision, hearing, or mobility;
- **SPEAKING TO AN ABORIGINAL PERSON:** If requested by you, you can speak to one of our Aboriginal Staff Lawyers.