

Legal and Advocacy Resources



Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre

1150A Waverley St | Winnipeg MB | R3T 0P4

204-477-1123 | info@fgwrc.ca

LEGAL RESOURCES

Community Legal Education Association: CLEA 204-943-2382

301 – 441 Main Street www.communitylegal.mb.ca

CLEA offers the following programs:

- **Law Phone-In Program:** 204-943-2305 / 1-800-262-8800
Legal information (not advice) provided over the phone.
- **Lawyer Referral Program:** 204-943-3602
No legal information, referrals only.
- **Workplace Sexual Harassment Hotline:** 1-877-226-4366

Legal Help Centre 204-258-3096 393 Portage Ave.

www.legalhelpcentre.ca

Provides legal information (not advice), referrals, as well as hosting telephone appointments (to replace drop-in clinics).

Legal Aid 204-985-8500 or 1-800-261-2960 www.legalaid.mb.ca

Provides legal advice and representation to eligible low-income individuals and groups.

Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre 204-477-1123

Offers free monthly legal consultations for women. This service is for women who have not dealt with a lawyer regarding their issue (no current or past lawyers). Lawyers will provide legal information – not advice.

VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES

Manitoba Justice Victim Services

204-945-6851 - 1-866-484-2846 <https://www.gov.mb.ca/justice/vs/>

Victim Services offers support to:

- Victims of the most serious crimes as outlined in *The Victim's Bill of Rights*
- Victims of Domestic Violence
- Child Victims and Witnesses

Compensation for Victims of Crime Program 204-945-0899

Provides compensation to victims who suffer personal injury, hardships, or expenses as a result of certain crimes. The program is also available to specific relatives and dependants of victims of homicide.

Victim Witness Assistance Program 204-945-3594 or 1-866-635-1111

Provides information and support to victims / witnesses of crimes who are to appear in court.

Winnipeg Police Victim Services Unit 204-986-6350

Offers support case/court information, and referral information to victims of crimes.

MANITOBA FAMILY SERVICES

Family Resolution Service 204-945-2313 2nd Floor – 379 Broadway

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/familylaw/resolution/family-resolution-service.html>

The Family Resolution Service can direct you to the services you and your family may need to deal with family law issues. Information is free and confidential. This office can connect clients to help with:

- Child Support
- Domestic Violence
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Victim Services
- Court Operations (obtaining court documents for divorce / custody / etc.)

Conciliation Counselling: Short term counselling for individuals, couples, or families in the process of separation/divorce.

Grandparent and Family Access Support: Offers support, information, counselling, and mediation to grandparents/family members seeking access to children.

Brief Consultation Service: Provides a brief consultation to parents and the court to help address wishes or concerns of older children (11-16).

Court Ordered Assessment: When separating parents are unable to agree upon decisions about their children, the court may direct Family Conciliation Services to conduct an assessment of the family situation to determine what is in the children's best interests.

Child Support Recalculation Service 204-945-2293

www.gov.mb.ca/justice/family/law/recalculation.html

A service for parents who want their child support order recalculated based on updated financial information.

Maintenance Enforcement Program 204-945-7133 or 1-866-479-2717

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/justice/family/mep/>

Enforces court orders and some support agreements.

Federal Child Support Guidelines

<http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/fl-lf/child-enfant/guide/index.html>

Step-by-step online reference guide for child support in MB.

A Guide to Changing a Child Support Order in MB

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/familylaw/money/changing-child-support.html>

Online guide detailing Child Support Orders in MB, Procedures and Rules, information related to preparing court documents, and other resources.

OTHER LEGAL RESOURCES

Mediation Services

204-925-3410 - <http://mediationserviceswpg.ca>

Provides services to people experiencing interpersonal conflict.

Mediation Services offers three core programs:

- *Community Resolution Centre*: For individuals and communities in conflict.
- *Restorative Action Centre*: For victims and offenders in criminal cases.
- *Resolution Skills Centre*: Training in mediation, conflict resolution, & leadership skills.

West Central Women's Resource Centre

The Homes Project: 204-774-8975 ext. 206

The HOMES Project provides support and mentorship for women dealing with problems or concerns around housing or income security (welfare or EIA). They can help with writing letters, filling out forms, and prepare for meetings, hearings, or appeals, as well as assist with finding and keeping quality housing.

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority:

**Aboriginal Health Programs: Patient Advocate
Central Intake: 1-877-940-8880**

The AHP – Health Services Patient Advocate supports the interests, needs and rights of Aboriginal patients in hospital.

MOVA: Manitoba Organization for Victim Assistance

204-831-8950 or 1-877-596-0095 - help@mov.ca

MOVA works with Manitoba Justice to ensure that family survivors of homicide victims, who desire, have information, services and supports available to help ensure their rights are protected. MOVA offers Court Support for individuals families during court proceedings (to arrange for court support, please call 204-831-8950).

Métis Community Liaison Department 204-586-8474

Promotes healthy living and supports Métis pride and self-determination. Services include reunification and repatriation, referral and advocacy, and Elder support.

North End Women's Centre 204-589-7347 info@newcentre.org

The Family Advocate helps participants navigate the child welfare system (CFS) by assisting them with reunification plans and supports families that are at risk of apprehension. Specifically, the Family Advocate can assist with setting up meetings with CFS, providing court support, advocating with social assistance (EIA) and navigating housing challenges related to their CFS involvement.

Protection for Persons in Care Office 204-788-6366

protection@gov.mb.ca www.gov.mb.ca/health/protection

If you have concerns that someone who is in a personal care home, health facility or hospital is experiencing abuse (including physical, sexual, mental, emotional or financial mistreatment), you can report the situation to the Protection for Persons in Care Office. The Protection for Persons in Care Office will then investigate the report.

The Women's Resource Centre 204-726-8632
(Brandon MB)

advocate@thewomenscentrebrandon.com

Community Resource Advocate

Provides support to women in the Brandon/Westman area who need assistance navigating resources. Areas of focus include EIA, finding and securing affordable housing, accessing Legal Aid, Food Banks, and other resources. Advocates can attend appointments and meetings with women, as well as writing letters of support.

A Woman's Place (NorWest Co-op Community Health) 204-940-6624

Provides supportive counselling and legal services for women who have exited/are exiting an abusive relationship.

Collaborative Practice Manitoba

www.collaborativepracticemanitoba.ca

A legal alternative to the court system for individuals going through separation or divorce. Each party has a lawyer to assist them in negotiating outside of the court system.

Elizabeth Fry Society 204-589-7335 - www.efsmanitoba.org

Provides advocacy, access to resources, and support to women who are in conflict with the law. Court support accompaniment available.

Rainbow Resource Centre 204-474-0212

www.rainbowresourcecentre.org

Offers a Trans ID Clinic to offer help updating name or gender marker on your ID documents.

Manitoba Human Rights Commission 204-945-3007

www.manitobahumanrights.ca

The commission is authorized to mediate and investigate complaints of discrimination, refer matters to adjudication, educate the public, and promote human rights.

The staff does not act as an advocate for the complainant or the respondent in the complaint process.

ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT

What is an Advocate?

An Advocate is a someone who represents and works with a person or group of people who may need support and encouragement to exercise their rights, in order to ensure that their rights are upheld.

An advocate might be a family member or friend, a co-worker, a support worker, a counselor, a coach, a mental health worker, or a service provider. Someone who is on your side, and is working with you to ensure you are being treated respectfully and fairly.

When might I need an Advocate?

People may look for an advocate when they are having difficulty accessing or locating services.

Acorn Family Place - Community Services: 204- 788-8257

Acorn Family Place offers a number of community services including: Information and access to community programs and activities; Advocacy to help access services or navigate systems; Education on healthy lifestyle choices and positive parenting skills; Accompaniment to meetings and appointments.

Community Living Winnipeg 204-953-5875

Individual/Family Advocacy
Advocates can assist adults & families living with *intellectual disabilities*. Services include support around inclusive education, community inclusion, housing, income assistance, transition from school to work, and family support.

Community Unemployed Help Centre 204-942-6556

Provides income security advocacy and help with obtaining EI or EIA benefits. Info, resources, & job postings can be found online at www.cuhc.mb.ca.

Elizabeth Fry Society of Manitoba 204-589-7335

Provides advocacy, access to resources, and support to *women who are in conflict with the law*. The Court Support Program offers support and clarification for women during court proceedings.

EAGLE Urban Transition Centre 204-954-3050

Provides leadership and resources to *Aboriginal* people who have re-located to, or are residents of, the city of Winnipeg. Direct services include counselling, referrals, advocacy and support.

Fair Practices Office 204-945-1047 www.manitoba.ca/fs/fpo

The Fair Practices Office provides confidential and impartial assistance to Manitobans applying for, or receiving services under, the following Family Services and Jobs and the Economy programs who feel they have not been treated fairly:

- Employment and Income Assistance
- market *Abilities*
- Children's disABILITY Services
- Community Living disABILITY Services
- Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care (subsidy)

The Fair Practices Office investigates complaints, mediates disputes and makes recommendations on individual cases to program staff based on investigation outcomes. It also helps to identify complaint patterns and makes recommendations to Government on how service delivery and fairness can be improved within the participating programs.

Independent Living Resource Centre 204-947-0194

Individual Advocate/IL Consultant

<https://ilrc.mb.ca/about-self-advocacy/>

ILRC's Self Advocacy Program is designed to support you in gaining the skills and knowledge necessary in becoming a successful Self Advocate. Provides information and support related to Rights to Essential Service, Home Care, Human Rights, Tenant & Housing Rights, Income Security, Social Services, & CPPD Entitlement.

Indian and Métis Friendship Centre of Winnipeg 204-586-8441

general@imfc.net

IMFC works to meet the needs of the *Aboriginal community* through recreational services, advocating for individuals and groups in need of support, and running a variety of family and youth programming.

Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services

Worker Advisor Office:

204-945-5787 - 1-800-282-8069 - wao@gov.mb.ca

The Worker Advisor Office provides free and confidential services to injured workers and their families who require assistance when dealing with the Workers Compensation Board (WCB) of Manitoba.

Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth

204-988-7440 or 1-800-263-7146 info@manitobaadvocate.ca

Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth can listen to your concerns and provide information about the Child and Family Services and Adoption system in Manitoba.