



RURAL & REMOTE ACCESS TO JUSTICE
A BOLDNESS PROJECT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rural and remote access to justice is a priority.

The feelings of fear and worry that any legal problem creates in your life is great – it is even greater when you are living in a rural or remote area unable to find the help you need.

Four Community legal clinics have joined forces with The Boldness Project to identify the legal needs of people in rural and remote areas and to seek transformative ways to help those needs.

To respond to this challenge, The Canadian Forum on Civil Justice (CFCJ) <http://www.cfcj-fcjc.org> produced a foundational review called **Rural and Remote Access to Justice, A Literature Review**. The review looks at the meaning of rural and remote, at access to justice challenges in rural and remote communities, what the research to date tells us about the differences between rural and urban communities, and how others around the world have faced these issues.

We are excited to announce the release of this report that begins to explore the differences between rural and urban communities, and how others around the world have faced these issues.

Every person in Ontario deserves access to help – be it legal, medical, or social. For example, the people who live in Rainy River should have access to the same level of assistance as people living in Toronto, Ottawa, or Hamilton. “Our vision is a world where those living in the rural and remote areas of Ontario experience a sense of inclusion in the justice system, in their communities” (Boldness Project).

Some of our key learnings from this report identify the following areas of improvement:

1. Providing more lawyers, paralegals or other trained personnel to become part of a wider service group
2. Offering help through stronger community partnerships
3. Using technology to bring services closer to rural and remote communities
4. Offering better legal information and public legal education to help improve legal awareness
5. Getting help from larger national organizations who have a common interest in addressing rural and remote issues at a systems level.

We invite you to learn from the Review, and take action with us.

Learn more at <http://www.boldnessproject.ruralandremoteaccesstojustice.com>

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