

October 1, 2025

# Legal Aid Summit 2025



**CO-CHAIRS:** **Neha Chugh**, *Chugh Law PC*

**Sara Wisking**, *Frank A. Cameron Law*

**November 6, 2025**

**9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**Total CPD Hours = 5 h 30 m Professionalism  + 30 m EDI Professionalism **

**Law Society of Ontario  
Donald Lamont Learning Centre  
130 Queen St. W.  
Toronto, ON**

**SKU CLE25-01102**

## **Agenda**

**9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m.**

**Welcome**

*Neha Chugh, Chugh Law PC*

*Sara Wisking, Frank A. Cameron Law*

**9:05 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.**

**Introductory Remarks**

The Honourable Doug Downey, *Attorney General of Ontario, Ministry of the Attorney General*

**9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.**

**Keynote Address**

The Honourable Justice Andrew Brouwer, *Federal Court*

The Honourable Justice Gordon Cudjoe, *Ontario Superior Court of Justice*

**9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**The Business of Law: Growing your Practice with Legal Aid**

Amy Grubb, Legal Solutions Architect, *Spellbook*

Peter Howie, *Judson Howie LLP*

Olivia Oprea, *Oprea Law*

**10:15 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.**

**Question and Answer Session**

**10:25 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

**Break**

**10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Roster Membership: Joining and Thriving on the Legal Aid Roster**

Tisha Hasan, *Cheadles LLP*

Christopher Pang, Director, Central Roster Management  
*Legal Aid Ontario*

**11:30 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.**

**Question and Answer Session**

**11:40 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.      Mastering Legal Aid Billing: From Basics to Best Practices**

Darcy DesLauriers, Director, Lawyer Services and  
Payments, *Legal Aid Ontario*

George Joseph, *Petrone & Partners*

**12:25 p.m. – 12:35 p.m.      Question and Answer Session**

**12:35 p.m. – 1:35 p.m.      Lunch**

**1:35 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.      Career Growth through Legal Aid Supports and  
Mentorship**

Paul Macleod, Manager, *Legal Aid Ontario*

Amy Shoemaker, Director, LAO Law, *Legal Aid Ontario*

**2:05 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.      Advancing Indigenous Legal Equity: 2025-2030 Action  
Plan (30 m EDI )**

Fallon Melander, Associate Vice President, Indigenous  
Services, *Legal Aid Ontario*

**2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.      Question and Answer Session**

**2:45 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.      Break**

**3:05 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.      Perspectives from the Bench and Bar: A Judicial/Duty  
Counsel Dialogue**

**Moderators:** Neha Chugh, *Chugh Law PC*

Sara Wisking, *Frank A. Cameron Law*

**Panelists:**

The Honourable Justice Sheilagh O'Connell, Senior  
Advisory Family Judge, *Ontario Court of Justice*

The Honourable Justice Mara Greene, *Ontario Court of  
Justice*

Amanda Blaise, *Legal Aid Ontario*

Justin Persaud, Senior Counsel, *Legal Aid Ontario*

**3:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Question and Answer Session**

**4:00 p.m.**

**Program Ends**

**4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**Reception**

Registrants are invited to join us immediately after the  
program.