

## The Education Law Project Continuing Professional Development Event

Sept 27, 2019

### Overview

Most people don't think of school problems as legal problems. And yet, too many children across Ontario face unlawful conditions that keep them out of school. This webcast will provide an in-depth review of the intersection of special needs students and school discipline matters. You will learn how to advocate on behalf of vulnerable children and youth to safeguard their rights in discipline and school safety issues. This CPD benefits volunteer lawyers who have already watched PBO's accredited training "An Introduction to Education Law: Student Discipline and Special Education".

### Featured Speakers

Glenn Stuart B.A. LL.B. – Principal, StuartLaw; PBO volunteer  
Lee Ann Chapman B.A. J.D. – Triage Lawyer, PBO at SickKids

### Agenda

- 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. School Discipline in Ontario (Brief Review)**
- What is progressive discipline?
  - The rights of students who have been suspended or expelled from school
  - The school discipline appeal process
- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. School Discipline and the Unfair Impact on Students with Special Needs**
- Mitigating factors – what is the school principal obligated to consider prior to suspension or expulsion recommendation?
  - The use of undocumented school suspensions and repeat exclusions
  - Ongoing discipline issues and inappropriate placement/programming
  - Police involvement – information sharing between the police and school
  - Advocating for special needs students addressing disciplinary concerns
- 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. The Pro Bono Lawyer – The Ethical Issues of Pro Bono Legal Services**
- Conflict checks and providing brief legal services
  - The importance of the retainer agreement and specifying services provided
  - Privilege and confidentiality when representing children/youth
  - Ensuring appropriate consents are obtained
  - Assisting clients outside of your area of expertise