

Annual General Assembly

June 8th
2010



Overview of our organisation

Staff

- 3 legal assistants
- 3 lawyers
- 1 articling lawyer
- 1 receptionist
- 1 accountant
- 1 coordinator
- 1 community organizer

Board of directors

- 10 citizens
- 2 community groups
- 1 staff representative
- 1 coordinator

Board of Directors

- Danielle Julien
- Odeh Misleh
- Louise Gosselin
- Monique Hyppolite
- Nicole Bouvier
- Micheline Crompt
- Sylvie Guyon
- Lydia Bertrand-Siebert
- Marcel Kangoum
- Michel Tourigny
- Chloé Deraiche (PasserElle)
- Alain Ouellet
- Lise Ferland



Staff

- **Legal assistants** : Nicole Bergeron, Raquel Sanchez and Danielle Whitford
- **Receptionist** : Martine Dieujuste, replacing Andrée Besner on sick leave this year
- **Lawyer-coordinator** : Lise Ferland
- **Lawyers** : Alain Ouellet, Stéphane Proulx
- **Articling lawyer** : Claude-Catherine Lemoine (January 2010)
- **Accountant** : Danielle L'Écuyer-Labonté (4 days/week)
- **Community organizer** : Franccesca Cancino (16 hrs/week)
- **Summer job** : Maroussia Lévesque and Franccesca Cancino (summer 2009)
- **Legal technician intern** : Judith Bélanger (January-June 2010)

3 major fields of intervention

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graph TD; A[3 major fields of intervention] --> B[Local Legal Aid center]; A --> C[Access to justice]; A --> D[Consultations and other community activities];
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**Local
Legal Aid
center**

**Access
to
justice**

**Consultations
and other
community
activities**

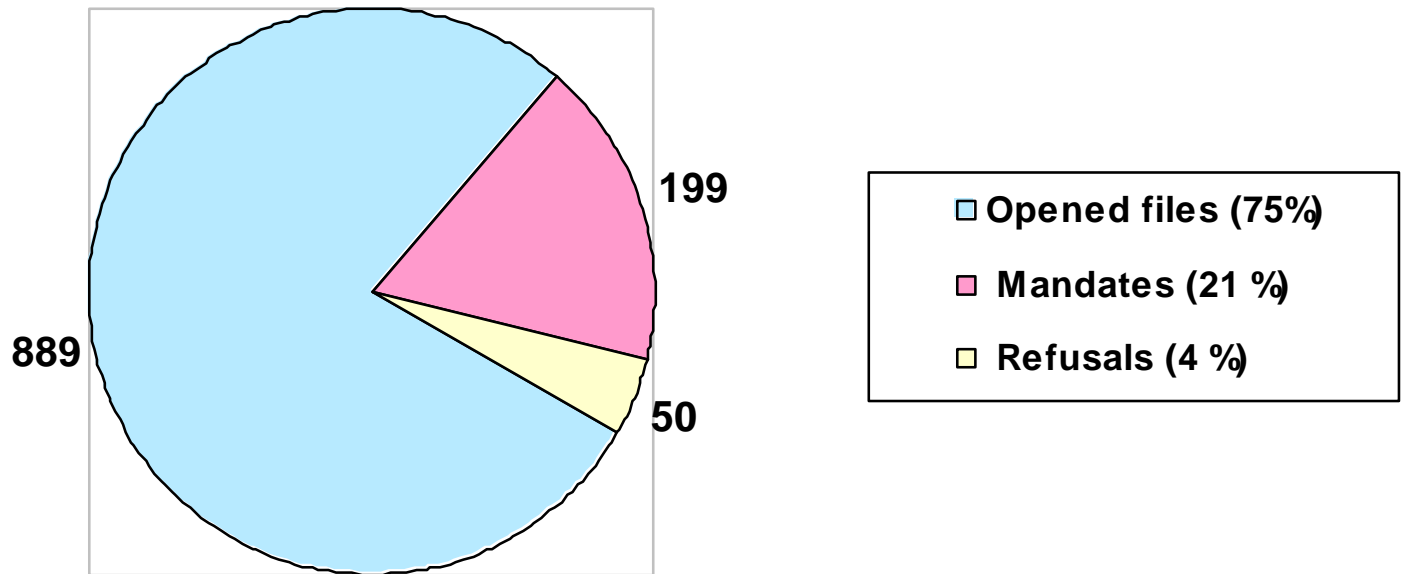
Axis 1 :

**local Legal Aid
center**

Processed Legal Aid requests

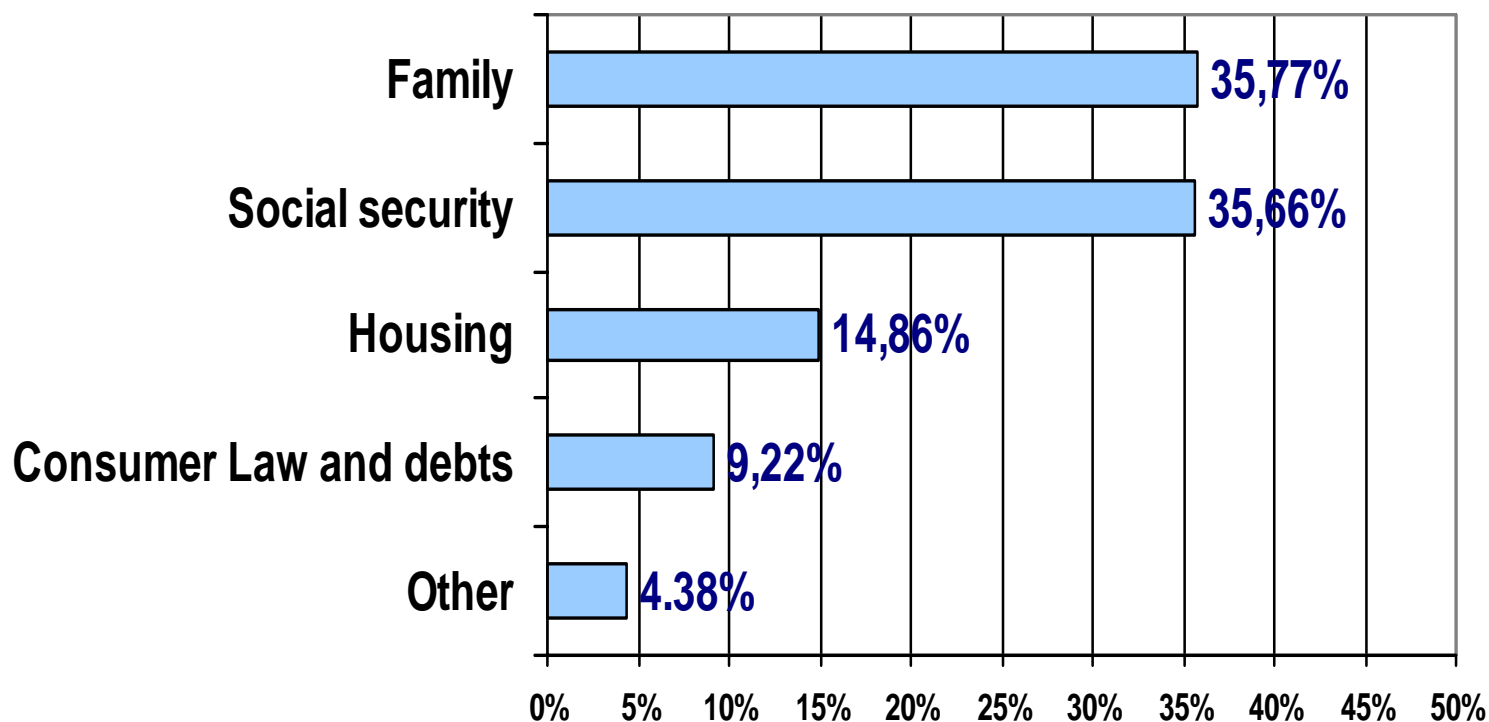
Opened files	2009-2010	2008-2009	2007-2008	2006-2007	2005-2006
Pointe-Saint-Charles	575	540	581	627	549
Petite-Bourgogne	314	329	360	361	348
Total opened files :	889	869	941	988	897
Mandates	199	237	216	185	238
Refusals	50	46	47	35	26
TOTAL processed requests :	1138	1152	1204	1208	1161

Breakdown of the **1138** requests processed this year



Breakdown of files according to different fields of law

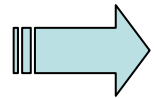
2009-2010



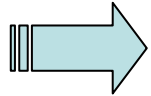
Axis 2 :

**Improving access to
justice**

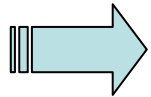
Our achievements



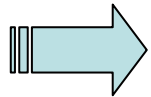
Thursdays for Justice



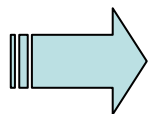
Workshops in community groups



Website



Coalition for Access to Legal Aid



Creation of Immigration & Social Benefits Guide for community workers

In a nutshell :

- *7 Thursdays for Justice including 1 Open House event, and 2 workshops repeated given high demand*
- *13 workshops in community groups*
- *1 special training on the Immigration & Social Benefits Guide*
- *1 training on youth rights during police interventions*



More than 300 participants !



An activity gaining popularity

- Fruitful collaborations with specialists
- Strong participation in a convivial atmosphere:
 - Groups varying from 6 to 46 attendees

**We welcome
your
suggestions!**

Thursdays of Justice

Fall 2009

<i>September 24th</i>	Limited capacity for employment and welfare	In collaboration with Jean Lalande from the Welfare Rights Committee and Me Stéphane Proulx.
<i>October 29th</i>	Personal bankruptcy: an option for me?	With Josée St-Mars, trustee in bankruptcy, and Me Alain Ouellet.
<i>November 19th</i>	Together against bedbugs: Taking action efficiently	In collaboration with the Community Clinic, exterminator Harold Leavy and Me Alain Ouellet.

Thursdays of Justice

Winter 2010

<i>February 18th</i>	Don't let them put us on file!	Co-organised with La Pointe Libertaire. Speakers: Dominique Peschard from the Rights and Liberties League and Alexandre Popovic from the Coalition Against Police Repression and Abuse.
<i>March 18th</i>	Divorced parents but parents for life: How to deal with parenthood?	With the participation of social worker Pierre Morand and Me Lise Ferland.
<i>April 15th</i>	Open house	Free consultations and mini-workshops, with the participation of the whole team.
<i>May 13th</i>	Wills, estates and welfare	With Me Alain Ouellet and Me Stéphane Proulx.

Training community groups

13

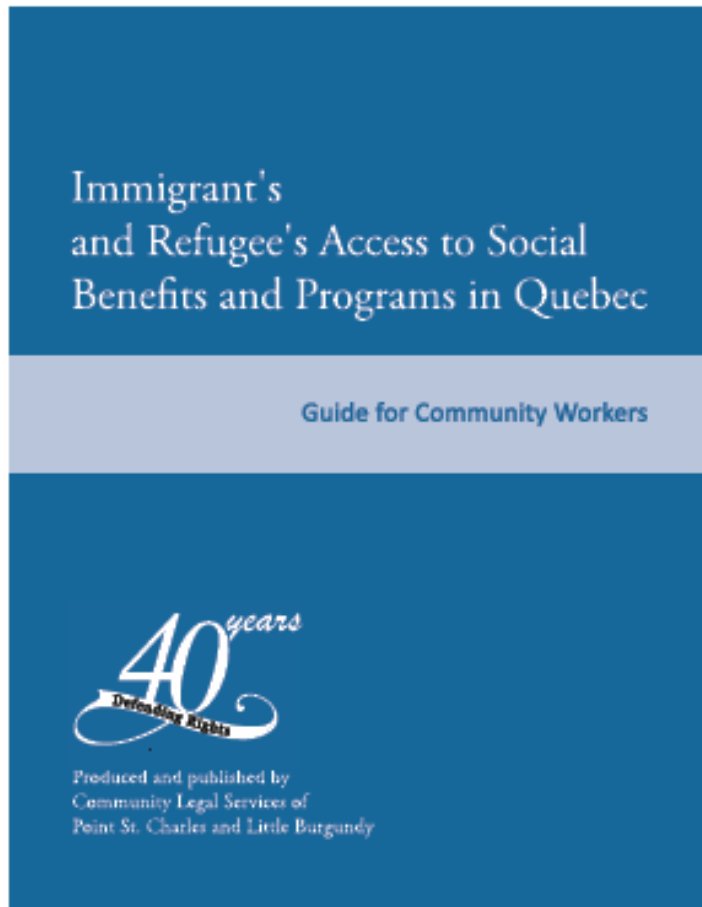
Workshops back by
popular demand :

- Rights and responsibilities
of board members, with
Me Lise Ferland

-The legal aspect of the
bedbug issue, with
Me Alain Ouellet in
collaboration with the
Community Clinic.

- Responsibilities and operations of a board of directors (1)
- Indebtedness (2)
- Identity theft (1)
- Meeting with a lawyer: answering various questions (2)
- Wills and estates (3)
- Estate and social assistance (1)
- Severely limited capacity for employment and social assistance (2)
- Property and liquid assets exemptions for individuals with severely limited capacity for employment on social assistance (1)

Creation of a guide to Immigrant and Refugee rights in Quebec



❖ Available in English and French

❖ Free download on our website

www.servicesjuridiques.org

Perspectives 2010-2011

Preserving our mission :

- ❖ Planning changes within our team
- ❖ Strengthen links between the board of directors and staff members
- ❖ Maintain links with the population
- ❖ Get means to train and transmit knowledge
- ❖ Brainstorm collectively and try to foresee: *What will the next years, the next decade, bring about ?*

Ensuring individual juridical support :

- ❖ Maintain high quality services to the population, and continue our engagement to an open minded approach respecting the dignity of persons.
- ❖ In the current context of financial austerity, remain vigilant within the Legal Aid network.

Perspectives 2010-2011

Access to Justice :

- ❖ Maintain and consolidate educational activities on rights, such as the *Thursdays for Justice* events.
- ❖ Legal Aid Act : We must pursue our implication in the Coalition for Access to Legal Aid.
- ❖ Explore new action strategies to promote access to justice.

Implication in our neighborhoods :

Remain involved in local coalitions.

Financial

Situation \$\$

In 2009-2010 : our income

➤ Legal Aid	\$ 755 575
Salaries : \$ 624 377	
Operations : \$ 96 198	
Judicial fees : \$ 35 000	
➤ Other (Including SACAIS)	\$ 32 747
TOTAL	\$788 322

In 2009-2010 : our expenses

➤ Legal Aid \$ 759 059
 Salaries : \$ 624 377
 Operations : \$ 106 908
 Judicial fees : \$ 27 774

➤ Contractual positions, summer projects
and other activities \$ 24 520

➤ Salary adjustments..... \$ 16 588

TOTAL **\$ 800 167**

Difference : (**\$ 11 845**)

Reserved funds and their use

➤ Beginning of fiscal period :

\$ 156 111

➤ End of fiscal period :

\$ 139 626

➤ **Use : \$ 16 585**

(salary adjustment and equipment acquisition)

For 2010-2011: our projected income

➤ CCJM (Legal Aid section) \$ 725 396

➤ SACAIS and other \$ 37 000

TOTAL \$ 762 396

For 2010-2011 : Our projected expenses

- Permanent staff salaries \$ 594 198
- Operations \$ 106 000
- Judicial fees \$ 35 000
- Contractual positions, summer projects and other activities \$ 35 000

TOTAL \$ 770 198

Anticipated deficit : (\$ 7 802)