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## **COVID-19 Legal Aid Clinic Free Legal Aid Hotline**

**Quebec City, March 19, 2020** – Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Québec Sonia LeBel and President of the Barreau du Québec Paul-Matthieu Grondin announced the launch of a COVID-19 legal aid clinic as of Friday, March 20, 2020. The clinic is a free legal aid hotline for citizens who have questions about their rights and obligations in the context of the ongoing pandemic.

To reach the COVID-19 legal aid clinic:

- 1 866 699-9729 (toll-free)
- 418 838-6415 (National Capital)
- 514 789-2755 (Montréal)
- 819 303-4080 (Gatineau)

The Minister of Justice and the President of the Barreau du Québec have respectively mandated the Commission des services juridiques, which manages the legal aid network, and the Centre d'accès à l'information juridique (CAIJ) to set up this free service for citizens.

Up to 200 lawyers across Quebec will be available by phone Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., to answer legal questions about the application and effects of the emergency measures implemented by the Quebec government to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Please note that citizens with broader questions about COVID-19 or experiencing flu-like symptoms should call the government's coronavirus information hotline at 1 877 644-4545.

### **Quotes**

"I am delighted that we are joining efforts with the Barreau du Québec and other members of the legal community to set up this front-line service dedicated to legal inquiries. In the current context, I felt it was crucial to engage the Commission des services juridiques so that legal aid network lawyers could offer free and timely phone consultations to Quebecers in order to help them safeguard their rights."

*Sonia LeBel, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Québec*

"The coming weeks will see all Quebecers pooling their talent and determination to contribute to our collective well-being. Among them, an unprecedented number of lawyers

have stepped forward to provide legal advice to their fellow citizens through this clinic. I particularly want to thank the Minister of Justice for her responsiveness, her coordination efforts and her concern.”

*Paul-Matthieu Grondin, President of the Barreau du Québec*

**Related links:**

Ministère de la Justice du Québec: <https://www.justice.gouv.qc.ca/coronavirus/>

Barreau du Québec: <https://www.barreau.qc.ca>

Commission des services juridiques: <https://www.csj.qc.ca>

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**Sources:**

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