

# POVERTY LAW ADVOCACY



## Cowichan Women Against Violence Society

The **Poverty Law Advocacy Program** provides free, confidential legal information, advocacy and referrals to low-income residents of the Cowichan Valley, Gulf Islands, and beyond. In partnership with the Law Foundation of BC, the advocate provides support in the following areas:

- **Disability benefits:** Provincial Persons with Disability (PWD); Federal CPP-Disability (CPP-D)
- **Tenancy issues:** Dispute Resolution process and Residential Tenancy Branch Hearings
- **Income assistance:** Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction applications; Rent bank; Community Crisis grants
- **Debt and consumer law:** Looking at options & solutions
- **Seniors issues:** Old Age Security; CPP; GIS
- **Human rights issues:** BC Human Rights Tribunal
- **Low income housing:** Applications with BC Housing
- **Employment law:** Workers' Rights; Employment Standards Act
- **Family law:** Information and referral only

Call the PLA at 250.748.7000 Ext 119

## Uncertain of Your Rights?

If you have questions or concerns about housing, employment, debt, or welfare and struggle with contacting government personnel on the phone, or if you would like help filling out forms, contact the Poverty Law Advocate today!

## How We Can Help

Within these areas of service, the Poverty Law Advocate can help you:

- Understand your rights and responsibilities
- Identify deadlines and limitation periods
- Clarify your goals and options
- Review legislation, statutes and regulations to Assess the likelihood of success
- Get started with applications, reconsiderations and appeals
- Communicate with landlords, government agencies, creditors and decision-makers
- Prepare for hearings, tribunals and your first meeting with a lawyer
- Address systemic issues that affect you as a member of a marginalized group
- Understand your right to be heard and the likelihood of judicial review
- Locate other helpful resources

*Advocates are not lawyers and cannot give legal advice*



246 Evans St.  
Duncan BC V9L1P8  
250.748.7000  
[www.cwav.org](http://www.cwav.org)