



## WHO ARE CELA & THE EHI CANADA?

The Canadian Environmental Law Association (**CELA**) is a non-profit, public interest organization that uses existing laws to protect the environment and advocates environmental law reforms. It is a specialty Legal Aid Clinic that serves as a free legal advisory clinic for the public, acting at hearings and in courts on behalf of citizens or citizens' groups who are otherwise unable to afford legal assistance.

The Environmental Health Institute of Canada (**EHI Canada**) is a charitable foundation that works to enhance and coordinate efforts at various levels to learn about, prevent, and manage chronic environment-associated illnesses, as well as to understand their underlying mechanisms.



### Canadian Environmental Law Association

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**Law Foundation of Ontario**



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, EQUITY & THE LAW:

## MAKING THE LINKS

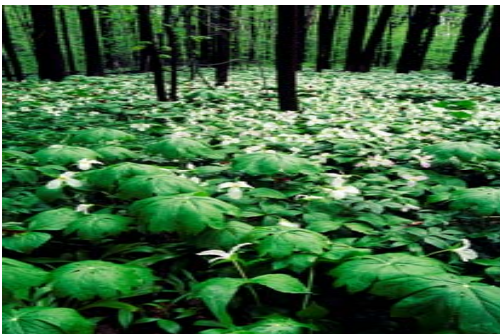




## WHAT IS THE MAKING THE LINKS PROJECT?

The Making the Links Project is an interdisciplinary outreach program being undertaken by the Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Environmental Health Institute of Canada, with funding from the Law Foundation of Ontario. It is focused on environmental law and access to justice issues in six Ontario communities in which there are high pollution burdens and incidences of environmental health issues, and high percentages of sensitive populations.

The six communities involved in the project are Brantford, Cornwall, Hamilton, Kenora, Sarnia, and Windsor.

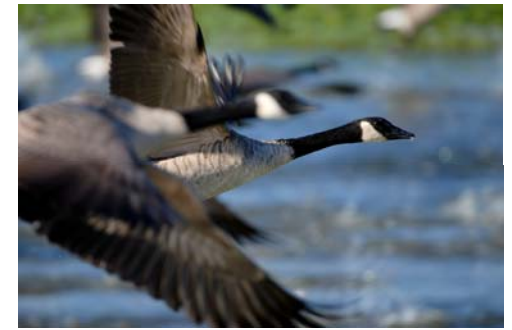


## WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT?

The goal of the project is to enhance the environmental health of the six engaged communities by focusing on the objectives of:

- increasing their level of engagement in the legal system,
- enhancing community knowledge of environmental laws and available legal tools,
- contributing to the development of community legal skills, and
- improving the capacity of frontline environmental groups and health service providers to protect the people they serve from environmental threats to health.

The project is working to build long-standing links and relationships between legal service providers, health care providers, and community members.



## WHY IS THE PROJECT IMPORTANT?

The project arises from a recognition that sensitive communities experience multiple burdens that often include higher pollution levels and greater health and environmental impacts than occur in less sensitive communities. Unfortunately, such communities are often most likely to lack the legal and health information and services necessary to address their exposures and health outcomes. In facilitating connections among health and legal service providers and the community, the project is building capacity, strengthening relationships, and facilitating local action to reduce pollution.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

You can contact the Project's Coordinator, **Renee Griffin**, of the Canadian Environmental Law Association by telephone at **416-960-2284 ext. 212**, or by email at **[rgriffin@cela.ca](mailto:rgriffin@cela.ca)**.