



Public Interest Articling Fellowship Program
placement opportunity for 2027-2028
(apply by Tuesday, May 26, 2026)

The Centre for Health Science and Law, a non-profit health advocacy organization focusing on food issues, is accepting applications for articles of clerkship of the 2026-2027 articling period. This position has been made available through The Law Foundation of Ontario Public Interest Articling Fellowship Program.

The version of this posting that is published at www.HealthScienceAndLaw.ca prevails over any similar posting published by secondary job sites until the employment contract is executed.

Application: Interested candidates can email applications to Bill@HealthScienceAndLaw.ca with the subject line: “**Application for 2027-2028 articles of clerkship.**” Applications should include the following elements in a single searchable PDF:

- a cover letter,
- all university and law school transcripts,
- a list of 3L courses for which the student has registered,
- at least two writing sample (including one short and one long),
- a current resume/cv, and
- contact information for three referees (mandatory) or letters of reference (optional, but preferred).

References: In consideration of the tight timeframes for interviews and offers, referees may be contacted for multiple candidates prior to or following the interviews even though only one candidate will be retained.

Deadline: May 26, 2026

Interviews: Interviews will be conducted by Zoom. If necessary, second interviews may be requested and may including short writing, research, and/or presentation assignments.

General benefits of employment contract:

- 1) Salary: Approximately \$64,000 plus extended care health insurance
- 2) Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board applies to on-the-job injuries, etc.

- 3) Justice Canada collective agreement rules apply *mutatis mutandis* bearing in mind the impracticality of a small NGO observing some practices of Canada’s largest law firm, such as pension contributions. For instance, sick days and paid vacation will mirror the collective agreement for Justice Canada Lawyers: <https://www.tbs-sct.canada.ca/agreements-conventions/view-visualiser-eng.aspx?id=13> to the extent that they comport with Law Society rules for articling students.
- 4) Licensing process fees (application fee, licensing examination fees, and articling program fee);
- 5) \$5,000 for out-of-pocket expenditures, at the discretion of the Principal, including:
 - travel for work on case files (the most likely destinations are New York, Toronto, and possibly Geneva),
 - on-line research fees,
 - continuing legal education opportunities,
 - laptop and smartphone and service (to be used exclusively for CHSL work and returned to CHSL at the end of the articling period),
 - toner, software, paper, etc.

All expenses incurred by the student must be approved in writing by the Articling Principal (by email) in advance.

Hours of work: Generally, 35 hours per week with 30-minute paid lunch and two 15-minute breaks per day; the student will maintain records of billable hours. Start and end time is flexible although generally working in the range of 8 am to 6 pm EDT is preferred.

Nature of Work: This is a research, writing, and oral advocacy job with as much oral intervention and media communications as the student can handle proficiently. Tangible work-products include judicial/quasi-judicial pleadings, consultation comments, coalition joint-statements, journal articles, media statements, emails, and publicly open letters.

Articling students support in-house counsel. They do not serve outside clients; i.e., litigation and regulatory interventions are in the name of the Centre for Health Science and Law, not client individuals or organizations, *per se*, though there may be some exceptions, e.g., for human rights tribunals and United Nations institutions. Furthermore, law reform work involves extensive collaboration with national and international coalitions and experts.

In 2026-2027, CHSL will be initiating or continuing the following legal actions with which we expect the student to assist and, where possible, lead contributions to:

- 1) Some public interest litigation efforts in federal and provincial judicial and quasi-judicial forums related to health protection and human rights;
- 2) Help determine the implementation of the “right to a healthy environment” codified in the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*;
- 3) Amend regulatory and statutory health and environmental protection safeguards governing pesticides and toxic chemicals;
- 4) Litigate and federal regulatory reform related to the marketing and safety testing of infant formula;

- 5) Research and advocacy related to poverty reduction in partnership with the Small Change Fund;
- 6) Advocate national and international adherence to mission-relevant Sustainable Development Goals;
- 7) Negotiate international regulatory guidance to national governments on sustainability labelling for food and alcohol warnings and advertising controls at the UN Codex Alimentarius Commission, which sets standards for international trade in food that are recognized as authoritative by the World Trade Organization, as well as complementary national advocacy;
- 8) Negotiate two treaties by Working Groups of the UN Human Rights Council on the right to development and human rights and trans-national corporations. (CHSL is accredited by the UN Economic and Social Council to participate remotely through Zoom or in person in Geneva and New York.);
- 9) Research and writing analysis related to the above issues in legal, environmental protection, medical science journals;
- 10) Meet with MPs, bureaucrats, and experts related to the above.

Place of work: Students will generally work from home, though we will have:

- 1) approximately weekly face-to-face meetings at downtown Ottawa venues,
- 2) approximately daily bilateral Zoom strategy meetings or as needed,
- 3) typically, multiple weekly Zoom/MS Teams
 - strategy meetings with national and international coalitions,
 - federal government and UN consultation meetings,
 - professional development and learning events,
- 4) in-person meetings with:
 - MPs/Senators on Parliament Hill,
 - bureaucrats from various government departments in Ottawa, and
 - judicial and quasi-judicial hearings and related meetings.

A remote placement (i.e., student working from outside Ottawa, but in Ontario) will be considered. If interested, please address this in the cover letter. The start date is expected to be in May 2027, though earlier or later starts are possible and should be flagged during the interview or, preferably in the cover letter.