



Legal Information and Resource Network

Introducing LiRN LiNK!

LiRN LiNK is an exciting initiative from the Legal Information and Resource Network (LiRN) intended to connect you to the law — anytime, anywhere.



This initiative will deliver centralized services and drive innovation projects that expand access to legal information across Ontario.

LiRN LiNK includes the following core programs:

- **Centralized Research and Reference Services** – Delivered through LibChat, this will offer real-time support to legal professionals across the province.
- **e-LiRN Toolkits** – Practice-specific toolkits that include access to e-LiRN resources, training, and links to additional resources. Remote access is provided where possible; in library access is available for all resources.
- **Strategic Innovation Projects** – Developing original tools and content in partnership with other organizations to enhance access to legal information. These projects will prioritize open-access solutions, interoperability, and user-centered design to ensure broad and equitable access to legal knowledge.

First Steps

1. Hire a law librarian! This contract position will launch the chat service, create the toolkits, and assist in assessing and managing the strategic innovation projects. Current LiRN staff will also work on this initiative, but the new hire will be the main staffing on this initiative.
2. Invite applications for strategic innovation projects.

Goals and Outcomes

LiRN LiNK will lead the delivery of centralized, innovative legal information services across Ontario. Its goals reflect LiRN's commitment to advancing access to justice through collaboration, technology, and service excellence. This project will run from February 2026 to February 2027 with potential for renewal or expansion.

Our key goals include:



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- **Establish a Centralized, Remotely Accessible Reference and Research Service** – Launch a province-wide virtual reference service, initially staffed by a dedicated LiRN law librarian and later supported by volunteers from the courthouse library network.
- **e-LiRN Toolkits** – Launch toolkits for Criminal and Family Law.
- **Strategic Innovation Projects** – Launch 2 – 3 projects.

Strategic Alignment

LiRN LiNK directly supports LiRN's [strategic priorities](#):

1. **Meeting the Needs of Courthouse Library Users—Now and in the Future**
Remote and increased access to legal information addresses evolving user needs and expands availability to both legal professionals and the public.
2. **Supporting Libraries and Librarians**
The centralized reference service will provide network library staff with professional support and training opportunities.
3. **Collaborating for Excellent and Equitable Service**
Partnerships with external organizations are central to LiRN LiNK, especially with respect to strategic innovation projects.
4. **Making Evidence-Based Decisions**
User feedback consistently highlights the demand for remote access—LiRN LiNK is designed to meet this need with scalable, data-informed solutions.

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