

Pamela Cross

Legal Director at Luke's Place Support and Resource Centre for Women

Kingston , ON, CA

Advocate and expert on violence against women and the law

Biography

Pamela Cross is a feminist lawyer; a well-known and respected expert on violence against women and the law for her work as a researcher, writer, educator and trainer. She is the Legal Director of Luke's Place Support and Resource Centre in Durham Region, where she leads the organization's provincial projects, including research, training and advocacy.

She is also a member of the teaching faculty with the National Judicial Institute, where she plans and delivers educational programs on violence against women to Canadian judges and has recently completed the development of violence against women curriculum for law schools in a project with the Law Commission of Ontario.

Pamela has worked with the Canadian Council of Muslim Women, most notably as the co-author of "Muslim and Canadian Family Laws: A Comparative Primer" and as the author of "Violence Against Women: Health and Justice for Canadian Women," as well as delivering workshops on family law to CCMW members.

Pamela's most recent paper is "When Shared Parenting and the Safety of Women and Children Collide," published in September 2016.

In her role as Luke's Place Legal Director, Pamela is the lead trainer for Ontario's Family Court Support Workers, providing both in-person and online training and support for approximately 100 frontline workers who assist abused women in family court. She is currently developing and delivering domestic violence awareness training for all Legal Aid Ontario staff, clinics and per diem and panel lawyers. She is also a member of the Violence Against Women Roundtable, which provides guidance to the provincial government on this issue.

Pamela is a 2015 recipient of the Attorney General's Victim Services Award of Distinction for her work on the issue of violence against women.

She is a frequent speaker at provincial, national and international conferences.

Industry Expertise

Legal Services, Women, Non-Profit/Charitable

Areas of Expertise

Violence Against Women, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Family Law, Criminal Law, Confidentiality and recordkeeping, Organizational and Board development, Not-for-profit policy and procedure

Accomplishments

MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL VICTIM SERVICES AWARD OF DISTINCTION: 2015

For exceptional achievements in supporting survivors of male violence, in particular, work supporting women who have been subjected to domestic violence

YWCA TORONTO WOMAN OF DISTINCTION 2006

In particular, work on a national level for custody law reform, leadership role in the No Religious Arbitration Coalition in Ontario, work providing legal information to isolated and marginalized women and mentorship of young women law students, “whose moral compasses have been set working under her tutelage.”

LINDA CLIPPINGDALE AWARD, 2001

One award made annually by the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women for “her commitment to feminist change, by her spirit, energy and good judgment.” The Institute commented particularly on mentoring role for young women.

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