

*“ [LEAF has] made an impressive contribution to the decisions in many of the leading Charter cases... ”*

Bertha Wilson, former justice of the Supreme Court of Canada

*“ Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age, or mental or physical disability. ”*

*The Charter of Rights and Freedoms: Section 15(1) Equality Rights*

LEAF is committed to using the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* to promote equality for women and girls.

## LEAF's cases have addressed:

- Workplace discrimination
- The right to say no to sexual advances
- Spousal and child support
- Equal access to health services for children with autism
- Compensation for survivors of residential schools
- Pay equity
- Fair access to (un)employment insurance
- Access to health insurance for immigrants
- Access to legal aid
- Parental leave: men share newborn care
- Reproductive freedom
- Fair pensions to reduce older women's poverty
- Pregnancy without penalty

For more cases, visit [www.leaf.ca](http://www.leaf.ca)



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Women's Legal  
Education and  
Action Fund

Fonds d'action et  
d'éducation juridiques  
pour les femmes

## Making equality real for all women

LEAF is a national, non-profit organization committed to using the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* to promote equality for women and girls.

LEAF works to ensure that women's equality rights are protected under the law through legal action, education, and law reform.

LEAF intervenes in landmark legal cases in crucial areas such as violence against women, reproductive freedoms, pay inequity, sexual harassment, and social and economic rights.

LEAF takes action to reveal how factors such as race, class, Aboriginal status, sexual orientation, ability, and religion compound discrimination against women.

LEAF works to improve the lives and promote the diversity of all women and girls in Canada.

## Legal Action

Even though the *Charter* protects equality rights on paper, governments must enforce these rights to make equality real for all women.

LEAF is the only women's organization in Canada that focuses on legal action to challenge laws, policies, and practices that continue to discriminate against women.

LEAF works to help the courts interpret the meaning of equality as it relates to women's lives.

LEAF has intervened in over 150 cases at courts of appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada since 1985.

## Education

LEAF raises awareness of the *Charter* and other laws that prohibit discrimination through public education.

Many people believe gender equality has already been achieved but statistics tell a different story. In Canada, too many women face poverty, violence, and workplace inequities. These inequalities are compounded for women who also experience discrimination based on income, Aboriginal background, disability, sexual orientation, race or citizenship.

LEAF provides public education to youth, students, and organizations on the impact of LEAF's legal cases in advancing human rights in Canada.

## Law Reform

LEAF contributes to the removal of discriminatory laws through high quality research and analysis on equality rights.

LEAF's expertise and case history is used by legislators, policy makers, and organization as a catalyst for change and a resource in the development and reform of laws and policies.

LEAF litigators and researchers are frequently called upon to offer expertise in policy areas such as social benefits, criminal justice, reproductive rights, and violence against women – nationally and internationally.

## You can help

- Join a LEAF branch in your area and participate in local activities
- Volunteer your time and expertise – LEAF is always looking for volunteers to contribute to its legal, fundraising, and outreach activities
- Use and share our publications and educational materials
- Join our dedicated community of donors

Yes, I want to invest in the work of LEAF by giving a monthly contribution of:

\$50  \$35  \$25  \$20  Other \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize LEAF to draw donations on the bank account (please provide a void cheque) or credit card specified, on the 15th day of every month. I understand that I may change or cancel my donation at any time.

OR

I prefer to make a single donation of:

\$200  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \_\_\_\_\_

If donating by cheque, please make payable to:  
LEAF or Women's Legal Education and Action Fund Inc.

I prefer to donate using my credit card:

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please add me to the LEAF National email list.
- Please send me information about joining the LEAF Branch in my area.
- I authorize LEAF to share my contact details with the closest LEAF Branch so I can be informed of local activities.

Thank you for your support!

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