



FACULTY RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

March 27, 2013

Inclusivity as a Measure of Access to Justice

a talk by
Dr. Patricia Hughes

12:30 - 2:00 pm / Room 2027, Osgoode



This presentation will be a draft of a paper being prepared for the CBA Envisioning Equal Justice Summit. The goal is to explain the theoretical basis for using inclusivity as a measure for assessing access to justice and to propose ways of measuring whether access to justice has been achieved on this metric. “Access to justice” for the purpose of the Summit is being treated narrowly as access to legal services; however, “access to justice” will be defined in a broader context that includes access to legal services but speaks to whether the use of the justice system is meaningful given the particular circumstances facing litigants, circumstances related to characteristics such as economic status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity, Aboriginality, cultural identification, age, geographic location, caregiving responsibilities and disability.

Dr. Hughes is the Executive Director of the Law Commission of Ontario which has its official home at Osgoode Hall Law School. Upon her call to the Bar of Ontario, she joined the Policy Development Division of the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General where she focused on Charter compliance. She subsequently served as a vice-chair with the Ontario Labour Relations Board and as Alternate Chair to the Ontario Pay Equity Hearings Tribunal. She taught for nine years at the University of New Brunswick’s Faculty of Law, until she was appointed as the Dean of Law at the University of Calgary. She spent the year before returning to Toronto as the Executive Director Education (Alberta) and Scholar-in-Residence in the Calgary office of Bennett Jones LLP.

Dr. Hughes has taught in the areas of constitutional law, feminist legal theories, dispute resolution and legal method and has written and spoken extensively in those areas and on issues arising in labour law, legal aid, administrative law and practice, legal education and law reform.

All are invited to attend. Lunch will be served.
Please RSVP: www.osgoode.yorku.ca/research/rsvp
Event Code: **FRS8**

