

## Northumberland Community Legal Centre Gets Grant

The Legal Centre is a grateful recipient of Career Focus funds for this year through Service Canada. This grant is being used hire an articling student, Kulvinder Deol, an Osgoode Hall Law School graduate. Kulvinder started work on May 31 and will be with the Legal Centre for 10 months completing her articles of clerkship.

The recession produced a sharp increase in the demand for the services of the Legal Centre, which provides advice and help to low-income Northumberland residents in the area of poverty law. Worker's compensation, tenants' rights, employment insurance, Ontario Works, Ontario Disability Support, Canada Pension Plan, employment standards, criminal injuries compensation and human rights are the focus of the Legal Centre's work. Since opening in 1991, this small legal clinic has responded to more than 55,000 requests for such help from County residents, by offering services that are both free and confidential.

According to Service Canada, "under the Youth Employment Strategy, **Career Focus** provides funding for employers to help post-secondary graduates obtain career-related work opportunities in Canada to support their development of advanced skills, to help them make career-related links to the job market, and to assist them in becoming leaders in their field."

As an articling student, Kulvinder will gain invaluable experience in the practice of poverty law, and this grant makes that possible. The grant is not only a benefit to the student, however, as it will allow the Legal Centre to provide an extra person to provide direct client service to low-income County residents at a time when more hands on deck are sorely needed.

MP Rick Norlock will present these funds to the Northumberland Community Legal Centre at 10 am on July 5. The Legal Centre is located at 301-1005 Elgin Street West, Cobourg.