

# MINISTRY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

(FORMERLY MANAGEMENT BOARD SECRETARIAT AND MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES)

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**Positions available: TBD (up to 3)**

**Website:** <http://www.mgs.gov.on.ca/english/welcome.htm>

**Application Deadline: Sept. 22nd, 2006 with interviews beginning the week of Oct.23rd, 2006**

**Additional Application Requirements:** No additional requirements.

If you would like to speak to a current Articling Student about their experience please contact:  
(416) 325-9393

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## BRIEF OVERVIEW

MGS plays a very important role in the delivery of government services to the people of Ontario and is responsible for the government's workforce, procurement and technology resources.

The ministry is focused on modernizing and improving front-line public services that people depend on, while ensuring a fair, safe, dynamic and informed Ontario marketplace.

MGS is responsible for building the best public service in the world in order to deliver on the government's commitment to being a responsive and innovative world leader in customer service and consumer protection.

Our Legal Service's Branch has one Practice Group and 4 Law Groups:

**Labour Practice Group:** This group is responsible for providing labour relations and employment law services to ministries and Crown agencies and representation to the ministry in litigation before administrative tribunals and on judicial review applications. This group is responsible for the general court litigation carried on or supervised by the Branch.

**Employment Law and Governance Law Group:** This group is responsible for providing employment, labour and pension law advice primarily to MGS, the Civil Service Commission and the Centre for Leadership. It also provides legal services pertaining to public law governance matters.

**I&IT Corporate Commercial Law Group:** This Group is responsible for providing legal services involving commercial law, information technology (IT) law, insurance law and real estate law as well as supporting procurement activities. It provides advice in connection with complex insurance litigation matters and is also responsible for managing some MGS legislative initiatives.

**Access & Privacy Law Group:** This group provides access and privacy law advice across government as well as advice pertaining to conflict of interest and political activity.

**Consumer Protection and Business Services Law Group:** This group advises and assists in the development and implementation of consumer protection legislation as well as prosecutions under consumer protection statutes. The group provides advice relating to the administration of MGS statutes by independent authorities responsible for technical standards and safety, real estate and business brokers, the motor vehicle industry, the travel industry and electrical safety. They provide advice with respect to business registration and personal and real property registration as well as conducting hearings under certain of those statutes. The group provides advice to the Office of the Registrar General. Additionally the group provides advice with respect to the agencies MGS works with such as the Alcohol and Gaming Commission, Ontario Film Review Board, Ontario Racing Commission and the Ontario New Home Warranty Program (Tarion).

## **DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLING PROGRAM**

Articling students will spend rotations throughout the branch.

In the Labour and Employment Law Practice students participate in a high-volume labour and employment law practice. Students assist counsel in preparing for appearances before boards, tribunals and courts and attend with counsel at hearings and mediations. They also conduct research and writing in support of the legal services and advice provided by branch counsel to senior officials and staff of the Ministry of Government Services, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions. This area will always have two articling students assigned to it at any given time.

In the Corporate/Commercial and Access and Privacy Law Practice students will provide assistance in a busy and diverse corporate/commercial law practice and access and privacy law practice. They will assist counsel on a wide variety of commercial matters, including drafting and reviewing procurement and contract documents, and will participate in negotiations with vendors of goods and services, with an emphasis on information technology products, services and licensing. They will also conduct research and writing on relevant areas of law, including commercial, information technology, procurement, intellectual property and information (access/privacy) law.

In the Consumer Protection and Business Services Practice Group students will assist counsel in preparing opinions and advice in the areas of consumer protection, property (real and personal), corporate and administrative law matters. Students will participate in the process of preparing legislation and regulations for Cabinet consideration. Students will also provide litigation support with respect to quasi-criminal matters.