

A2J

Access to Justice Week

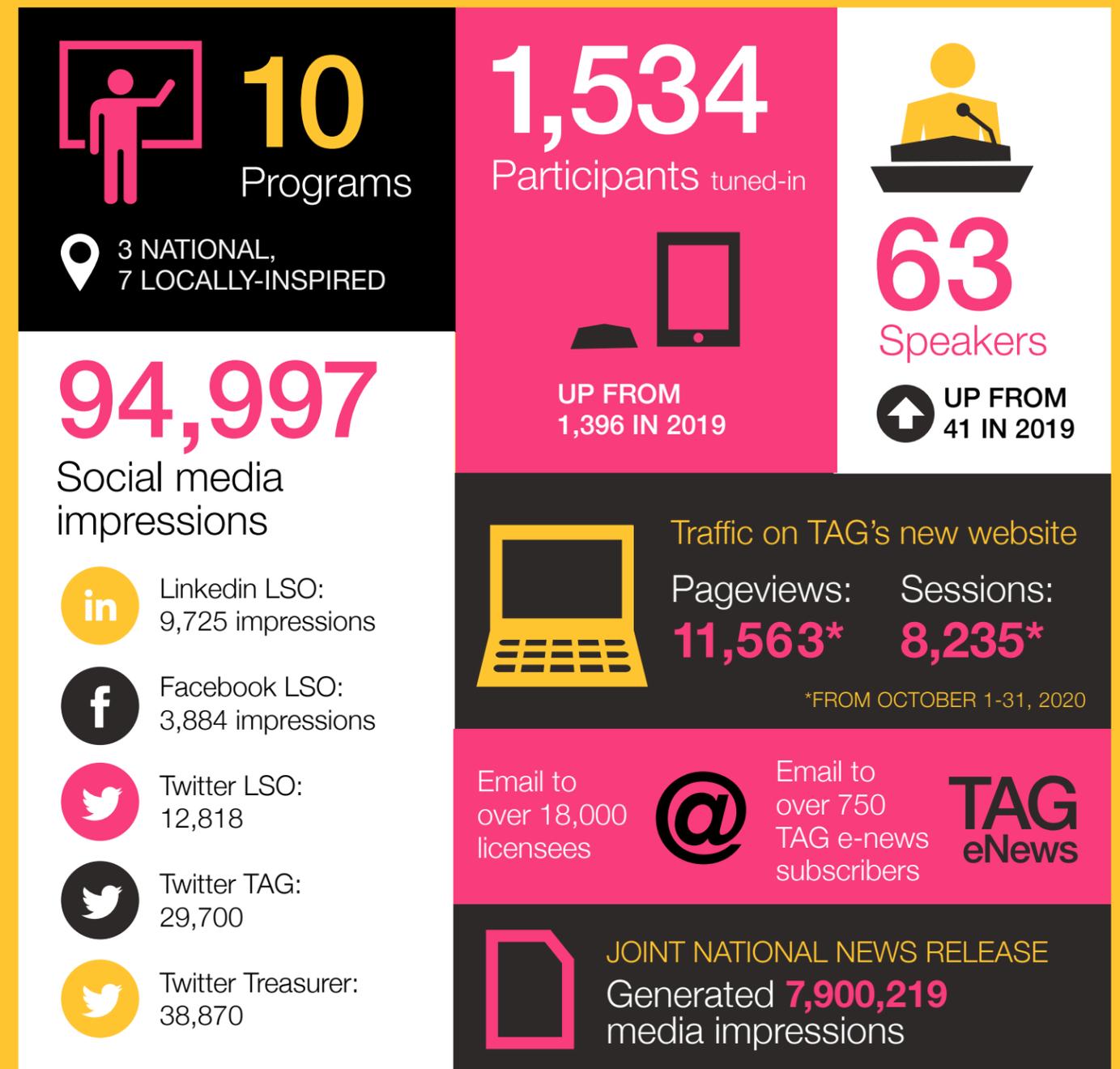
OCTOBER 26 TO 30, 2020

Committing to an Inclusive Justice System

Today & Post-Pandemic

Ontario hosted its fifth Access to Justice Week from October 26 to 30, 2020. A series of awareness-building programs, held virtually, focused on the impacts of COVID-19 on legal professions, the justice sector, public legal education, mental health, as well as Indigenous and language rights. In coordination with the Law Society of Ontario, three programs were organized in partnership with access to justice coordinators in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan, in addition to local programming.

Access to Justice Week brings together a range of justice sector stakeholders to develop meaningful, public-centred solutions that advance systemic change in the justice system. This Week is an opportunity to learn about new initiatives, connect with diverse partners and explore this critical issue from different perspectives with the additional lens of the impacts of the pandemic.



Program overview

Keynote and fireside chat with Tanya Talaga

OCTOBER 26

Kicking off the Week with welcoming remarks from Law Society Treasurer Teresa Donnelly, and a keynote address, Anishinaabe author and storyteller Tanya Talaga spoke of systemic discrimination against Indigenous peoples in Canada. Her powerful address was followed by a fireside chat with Law Society of Ontario Bencher Dianne Corbiere. This live webcast welcomed 109 viewers.

Watch the archived recording:

<https://iso.freestonelms.com/viewer/wEJrVbzp84Q4e2zdxX5FCmLTE2TBkPVAxdZXYjLz5LDZjoGcc>

Legal Coaching & Unbundling

OCTOBER 26

This program featured a discussion of a potentially cost-effective and efficient alternative for people looking for legal help. Panelists included John-Paul Boyd QC (accredited family law arbitrator and family law mediator), Lisa Eisen (founder, Family Law: A La Carte) and Sonali Sharma (founder, Athena Law). This live webcast welcomed 150 viewers.

Watch the archived recording:

<https://vimeo.com/474741823/350237dbca>

The Invisible Crisis: Coping & Caring for Mental Health, Today & Post-Pandemic

OCTOBER 27

Developed in partnership with FOLA, Treasurer Donnelly led a discussion about reducing the stigma associated with mental health, increased pressures in mental health, wellness and addictions as a result of the pandemic, suicide prevention. The panelists were Janet Ozembloski (VP, Legal Counsel at Medcan), Alysia Davies (Staff clinician, Homewood health) and Beth Beattie (Senior counsel, MAG). This live webcast welcomed 122 viewers.

Watch the archived recording:

<https://youtu.be/TkQK6WmLCN8>

A Conversation about Access to Justice & Systemic Racism

OCTOBER 27

The University of Alberta Faculty of Law hosted a panel discussion featuring Trevor Farrow (professor, Osgoode Hall Law School) and Joshua Sealy Harrington (lawyer, Power Law and doctoral candidate, Columbia Law School), facilitated by University of Alberta Faculty of Law Dean Barbara Billingsley. This live webcast welcomed 296 viewers.

Watch the archived recording:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwxPK0Oaf1Q&feature=emb_logo

Exploring Community Justice Help to Advance Community-based Access to Justice

OCTOBER 28

A presentation of Community Legal Education Ontario's (CLEO) recent report. Authors Julie Mathews (Executive Director, CLEO) and David Wiseman (professor, University of Ottawa) presented a report overview, then invited attendees to consider the framework's application in 11 breakout rooms, divided by jurisdiction. This live webcast welcomed 208 viewers.

Watch the archived recording:

<https://youtu.be/FncdQdeXKcY>

Family Justice System: Access to Justice and the Changing Landscape

OCTOBER 28

While access to justice remains a pressing issue for family law disputes, much has changed in the legal landscape over the last few years, including several projects that were developed in response to COVID. Join our discussion about a number of these projects and the impact that they have already had on access to family law services. This live webcast welcomed 166 viewers.

Watch the archived recording:

<https://youtu.be/fV4kwplAXYc>

