

JUSTICE

Mock trials just part of the fun on Law Day

■ Event celebrates the signing of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms

SPECIAL TO THE WESTSIDE WEEKLY

Grade 6 students face a trial and Girl Guides will be under arrest on Saturday.

Judges and lawyers are conducting mock trials at the Kelowna Law Courts building as part of Law Day, an annual behind-the-scenes look at how the justice system operates in the Central Okanagan.

You can take a courthouse tour of the holding cells, court registry and courtrooms.

The RCMP, sheriffs and firefighters will allow you to check out their vehicles.

And candidates in the provincial election will man the barbecues and hand out treats in exchange for donations to the Kelowna food bank.

The four-hour event is the highlight of B.C. Law Week, which celebrates the signing of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms 26 years ago.

Legal professionals get the chance to educate people about the role they play in running an open, unbiased judicial system.

Organizers plan a citizenship reaffirmation ceremony. Lawyers will answer questions about family law, criminal law, small claims and intellectual property.

Twenty community organizations will set up tables to explain their services.

The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Law Courts on Water Street in Kelowna. ■