

## Family Justice Services Division - B.C. Ministry of Attorney General

### Family Justice Counsellor Position

### General Information

Family Justice Services Division (FJSD) delivers programs and services that promote the timely and just resolution of family disputes within a comprehensive family justice system. Through community-based Family Justice Centres and Justice Access Centres, FJSD provides various in-person and virtual programs and services, including initial needs determination, dispute resolution, Section 211 *Family Law Act* reports and Parenting After Separation online courses.

The family justice counsellor (FJC) position in FJSD is comprised of two distinct roles:

#### 1. **Dispute Resolution (i.e. mediator)**

In this role, you will provide information, referrals, needs assessment, mediation, and short-term counselling to families experiencing separation or divorce. These services are provided to support families with family law issues and offer out-of-court processes for resolving family disputes, where appropriate. You will be responsible for screening all clients for dynamics of family violence, immediate safety planning with clients, where necessary, making referrals to appropriate community and legal resources, preparing documents, and documenting case management decisions. Travel is a requirement of the dispute resolution mediator FJC role (e.g., itinerant service delivery as applicable, training and meetings).

#### 2. **Report Writer**

In this role, you will be a member of a provincial team that prepares Section 211 reports upon order of the court. These reports are provided to help the court and parents determine parenting plans that are most appropriate for children post separation and divorce. In this role, you will be assessing the needs of the child and the parent's capacity to meet those needs in addition to views of the child through interviews and at times observations with family members and child as well as contacting collaterals. The focus of these reports is the best interests of the child. The report writer FJC is required to travel to various locations in the province to conduct assessments, that may include multiple consecutive overnight stays, along with travel for training and meetings, as needed.

Family justice counsellor career opportunities can be located on the [B.C. Government Job Postings](#) page.

## Minimum Hiring Qualifications for FJC Positions

- A recognized undergraduate degree.

**Note:** Applicants who obtained their degree in a 'foreign country' must have that degree evaluated through the International Credential Evaluation Service (ICES). Definition of 'foreign degree' is any degree outside of Canada.

- Conflict resolution courses with the focus on mediation skills development. The recommended Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC) courses are offered by the [Centre for Conflict Resolution](#):
  - [CRES-1100 Foundations of Collaborative Conflict Resolution](#)
  - [CRES-1170 Negotiation Fundamentals: Collaborative Problem Solving](#)
  - [CRES-1181 Mediation Fundamentals: Facilitating Conflict Conversations](#)
  - [CRES-1105 Navigating Intense Emotions in Conflict](#)
  - [CRES-1410 Advanced Mediation](#)

**Note:** If the applicant's conflict resolution courses are not from the JIBC, a prior learning assessment may be required to determine if an applicant meets this qualification.

- Related experience in a human service field (e.g., Indigenous organizations and community services, counselling, community service agencies, employment assistance, dispute resolution, court services, legal services).

**Note:** Experience may be gained in a professional or work, community, or volunteer setting.

## General (Government) Information for the FJC Position

General information related to the FJC position is available [here](#).

General information about programs and services offered by the Family Justice Services Division (FJSD) is available [here](#).

## Training Program Upon Hire

Once hired, you will be required to complete a 6-month training program managed by JIBC. This includes a practicum, coursework (see below) and Family Mediation Canada certification. Participation in this training program is not available until you have been offered and accepted a position. The salary range is \$71,771.66 to \$89,268.45.

The coursework involved in this training program includes:

- FAMJ-1000 Family Justice Services in B.C.
- FAMJ-1002 Family Violence: Impact on Separation and Divorce
- FAMJ-1005 Effects of Separation and Divorce on Adults
- FAMJ-1006 Effects of Separation and Divorce on Children
- FAMJ-1009 Child Support Guidelines
- FAMJ-1018 Diversity, Family Dispute Resolution & Access to Justice
- FAMJ-1019 Substance Use Issues in Family Justice

These courses are also available to the public and can be taken pre-hire. Many FJCs in training find it helpful to take these courses pre-hire. There are other courses only offered post-hire that are not included in the list above.

## General (JIBC) Information

More information about JIBC Family Justice courses or to register online for a specific course can be found [here](#).

More information about JIBC Centre for Conflict Resolution courses or to register online for a specific course can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions or issues with registration, please access [JIBC Registration](#).

If you would like to chat with someone about these family justice roles and the post-hire training, please call Chelsey Christian (Coordinator/Instructor).

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