



## Provincial Court of British Columbia

---

The Provincial Court deals with the family matters listed below under various British Columbia laws.

### **Parenting arrangements and support**

The Court helps separated couples to agree on parenting arrangements and financial support under the *Family Law Act*. Judges conduct hearings and make decisions when a couple cannot agree. Judges can also make protection orders to protect at-risk family members from family violence.

The Provincial Court does not make orders under the *Divorce Act*. This is a federal law that only applies to married spouses. In BC, only the BC Supreme Court deals with divorce.

[Family Law Act](#)

[Provincial Court Family Rules](#)

[FAM 05 Guardianship Applications When There Is An Existing Order](#)

[BC Supreme Court Online Help Guide](#)

### **Child protection**

The Court conducts hearings to decide whether parents' care of a child should be supervised by a social worker or whether the child must be removed from their parents' care because of abuse or neglect, under the *Child, Family and Community Service Act*. They also conduct family case conferences to help families and social workers agree on what is necessary to reunite the family.

[Child, Family and Community Service Act](#)

[Provincial Court \(Child, Family and Community Service Act\) Rules](#)

### **Enforcement of support orders**

The Court makes orders to collect unpaid child and spousal support under the *Family Maintenance Enforcement Act*.

[Family Maintenance Enforcement Act](#)

[Provincial Court Family Rules](#)

## **Interjurisdictional support orders**

The Court makes orders about child and spousal support where the parties live in different jurisdictions (provinces, states and countries) under the *Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act*.

[Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act \(including Hague Convention on Child and Family Support provisions\)](#)

[Provincial Court Family Rules](#)

## **Adult guardianship**

The Court makes orders to protect abused or neglected adults who are unable to seek assistance for themselves due to illness, injury or some other condition under the *Adult Guardianship Act*.

[Adult Guardianship Act](#)

[Provincial Court \(Adult Guardianship\) Rules](#)

## **Child wrongly removed to or retained in another country (Hague Convention)**

Both the Provincial Court and the BC Supreme Court can hear applications regarding the return of a child believed to have been wrongfully removed or retained under the *Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*.

[FAM 04 Procedural Protocol - Return Applications under the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction](#)

[International Child Abductions: A Guide for affected parents \(Government of Canada\)](#)

---

**Source URL:**

<https://main-bvx6a6i-t74dtfugroaqq.ca-1.platformsh.site/navigating-court-case/family/types-family-matters-dealt-provincial-court>