

Legal Aid BC Print Resources: April 5th Webinar

Separation & Divorce

Title	Notes	Language/s
Living Together, Living Apart	<p>Practical guidance on making agreements for spouses (what’s a spouse); going to provincial court, which laws/ court applies, if you are/aren’t a permanent resident. Links to child support guidelines & tables to calculate support.</p>	<p>English</p>
Now You’re Talking	<p>Mix of Illustrations and print; issues are contextualized in stories and link back to pages on the website. Practical info on separating, Info on moving away with a child, spousal and child support; abuse and violence; child protection; help with court forms.</p>	<p>English</p>
Coping with Separation during Covid-19	<p>Focused on the emotional impacts of separation on families; not specifically court related but very useful to offer in conjunction with court sources.</p>	<p>English</p>
Separation Agreements	<p>This publication is actually not about making a separation agreement, but about how to change your agreement if you think it was unfair (i.e. if the other partner had a lot of power/knowledge and kept financial info from you. Covers separating married and common-law couples. Useful to help someone understand the basic principles but more focused on Supreme Court issues than provincial. Contains some practical tips about working with lawyers – does not provide any practical help with actually drafting an agreement.</p>	<p>English, Spanish, Chinese (traditional & simplified), Punjabi, Tagalog, French</p>
How to Become a Child’s Guardian	<p>Explains who can be a guardian, includes how to apply for an order, what provincial court forms are needed (and supreme)</p>	<p>English</p>

Indigenous Specific Separation & Divorce

Who Can Stay in the Family Home on Reserve	<p>Property issues are not decided at Provincial Court, but if you have a client/patron who asks for information on this topic, this provides a concise, clearly worded explanation of the basics around Matrimonial property on reserve and what happens if you split up or one of the spouses passes away.</p>	<p>English</p>
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Child Protection

If You Can't get Legal Aid for Your Child Protection Case	<p>Explains how to make a JG Application (ask for a court appointed lawyer – gov pays for lawyer) if you are denied legal aid; includes glossary of terms</p>	<p>English, French</p>
Parents' Rights, Kids' Rights	<p>Covers Indigenous & non-Indigenous; what social workers can do, making a safety plan, processes shown in flow chart, mediation, making agreements, practical tips, options for legal help, complaints.</p>	<p>English, French</p>
Parents Legal Centre brochure	<p>Lets people know about a service that provides a free lawyer and advocate for child protection issues. Location specific (only available in some communities).</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>For Organizations Child Protection Process flow chart poster</p>	<p>Versions of this appear embedded in other publications – could be useful on a bulletin board in a public space: library, community space, etc. Online-only, would need to be printed by the organization.</p>	<p>English, French</p>

Indigenous-specific Child Protection

Aboriginal child protection wallet card	<p>Lets people know that they are able to get a lawyer/Legal Aid as soon as they are contacted by a social worker about a child protection issue.</p>	<p>English</p>
Keeping Aboriginal Kids Safe	<p>Mix of illustration and text, plain language. Covers the distinct considerations in BC Law for the care of Indigenous children in child protection situations; delegated Aboriginal agencies, what parents and members of their community can do; mediation options (how it works), court process, extended family program (how it works etc); child protection process flow chart</p>	<p>English</p>

<p>For Organizations Aboriginal Child Protection flow chart</p>	<p>Versions of this appear embedded in other publications – could be useful on a bulletin board in a public space: library, community space, etc.</p>	<p>English</p>
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Criminal

<p>If You're Charged with a Crime</p>	<p>Meant for those who don't know the law. Outlines what happens when someone is charged with a criminal offence. Provides step by step guidance on what to do after being charged, overview of what happens at court, the trial, how to avoid a criminal record, and a brief overview of legal rights.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>Representing Yourself in a Criminal Trial</p>	<p>Explains what happens when an accused person wants to plead not guilty to a summary offence. Has a guide to other LABC pubs based on where you are in the criminal justice system, includes information for pre-trial (rights, where can you get legal help, how to get info about the case, where court is, who are the people there, etc), what happens at trial, and some checklists (before trial, court process for before and at trial), and a sample letter to crown counsel to receive info about your case if representing yourself, and a glossary of terms. Directs readers to related booklets specific to the charge they are facing (Defending yourself series listed below).</p>	<p>English, French (online only)</p>
<p>If You Can't Get Legal Aid for your Criminal Trial</p>	<p>Explains why, how, and when to ask a judge to appoint a free lawyer, meant for those facing serious and complex criminal charges who have been denied legal aid but can't afford a lawyer. Explains what is needed to prove you need a court-appointed lawyer, what supporting documents are needed and what to do with them, preparing for the court hearing.</p>	<p>English, French</p>
<p><i>The Defending Yourself Series</i></p>	<p>The Defending Yourself series covers a variety of different offences, including: Assault, Breach of Court Order, Mischief, Possession of an Illegal Drug, Possession of Property Under \$5,000 Obtained by Crime, Theft Under \$5,000. Details vary from title to title, but generally includes what the prosecution must prove to find you guilty, sentencing information, how to get legal help. Goes from before trial through to trial. Aimed at self-reps. Propose selecting one of the pubs and mentioning the others are available.</p>	<p>All in English, most in French except for Possession of Property</p>

<p><u>Speaking to the Judge Before You're Sentenced</u></p>	<p>Aimed at those with no legal knowledge. For those who are pleading guilty or are found guilty. Helps prepare to speak to sentence. Provides a list of possible sentences and what they mean, defines speaking to sentence, goes over how to prepare to speak, what kinds of things you can speak about, a checklist of info to include when speaking to the judge. Finishes with a small section on fines and victim surcharge.</p>	<p>English, French</p>
<p><u>How to Appeal your Sentence</u></p>	<p>Step by step guide to appealing sentence if been convicted of a criminal offence. Starts with a flowchart from applying for legal aid lawyer through to the hearing. Covers form filing, transcript filing, grounds for appeal, doing legal research, applying for bail, preparing arguments, the hearing. Also provides forms and definitions. Would be very helpful for self-reps.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p><u>How to Appeal your Conviction</u></p>	<p>This is a step-by-step guide for appealing convictions and applies to people who are and are not in custody. It starts with a flowchart for the case from applying for legal aid through the appeal hearing. Covers getting started, important deadlines, getting information, filing the Notice of Appeal, filing transcripts, doing legal research, preparing factum, going to the hearing, and what to do after the hearing. Also provides copies of forms and definitions. Isn't about Prov Crt, but would be very helpful for self-reps.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p><u>If You Can't Pay Your Court Fine on Time</u></p>	<p>Small pamphlet: explains what you can do if you can't pay your court fine on time. Meant for people who don't know about the law. Walks through the steps for asking for an extension, asking for jail time instead, and goes over what could happen if you don't pay the fine, and how long a jail term may be.</p>	<p>English, French</p>
<p><u>If You Have a No Contact Order Made Against You</u></p>	<p>Factsheet explaining what it means when the court makes a no contact order against someone in a family violence incident. Describes 5 types of no contact orders and what might happen if they breach it.</p>	<p>English</p>

Indigenous-specific Criminal

<p>Please note that LABC no longer oversees Gladue reports, BC First Nations Justice Council (BCFNJC) does. BCFNJC has a section on their website that talks about it Information for the Public - BC First Nations Justice Council (bcfnjc.com)</p>		
<p>Gladue and You</p>	<p>Explains Gladue principles that judges must apply at bail or sentencing when an Indigenous person is charged with a crime. Explains what a judge must consider (Gladue factors, unique Indigenous and community ways to make a decision that's right for the person's particular heritage, the effects of colonialism, and systemic discrimination resulting in over-incarceration of Indigenous people), when and who the principles apply to, what happens in court, and the creation and submission of the Gladue Report. Also provides a brief intro to First Nations court.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>Gladue Submission Guide</p>	<p>Plain language guide for Aboriginal peoples, lawyers, and Native courtworkers. A Gladue submission can be given orally or in writing for a bail or sentencing hearing.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>What's First Nations Court?</p>	<p>Factsheet explaining what First Nations court is (for those who identify as Indigenous and plead guilty), how to get there, where they're located, who is there, and what a healing plan is. Stated to be for those with no legal knowledge.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>Gladue at Bail and Sentencing (Poster)</p>	<p>Infographic that shows when Gladue principles apply for Indigenous people in the criminal court process, when to get a report and submit it. Stated to be for those who don't know about the law. Advocates could hang this infographic in their office spaces.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>A Second Chance</p>	<p>A graphic novel showing what a Gladue Report is and how LABC can help in a narrative format.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>For Organizations Gladue Report Guide</p>	<p>For those familiar with legal concepts. Outlines how to prepare and write effective reports, including how to gather info and what writing guidelines to follow.</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>Best Practices for Writing Gladue Reports and Understanding Gladue Principles</p>	<p>Would be more helpful for intermediaries, not self-reps. Provides guidelines to support Gladue report writers in preparing reports to submit at bail and sentencing hearings. These are standards and best practices, prepared by LABC's Indigenous-led team for LABC Gladue report writer roster. Provides overview of the legal system, how Gladue reports can be used, Gladue</p>	<p>English</p>

	<p>principles in practice, many aspects of preparing the reports, and some report templates.</p> <p>For lawyers, the Guide for the Legal Review of Gladue Reports is also available and provides a set of guidelines for lawyers who review Gladue reports for legal accuracy before they are submitted.</p>	
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Non-print Resources

Family Law online resources

Legal Aid BC has substantial information on family law, and numerous step-by-step guides on the [Family Law in BC](#) website, the [Aboriginal Legal Aid in BC](#) website, and the [MyLawBC website](#).

Family Law in BC website

Here are some easy-to-read illustrated scenarios on a variety of court (plus other family law) topics on the [Family Law in BC](#) site:

- [A conference rehearsal](#) - A character learns how important it is to prepare for a family management conference (Surrey and Victoria).
<https://family.legalaid.bc.ca/scenarios/conference-rehearsal>
- [Trying for early resolution](#) - Explains what the early resolution process (in Surrey and Victoria) is all about. <https://family.legalaid.bc.ca/scenarios/trying-early-resolution>
- [There's a guide for that!](#) - Learn about online help for responding to a family court form.
- [Which court to go to?](#) - Explains how she and her ex decided which court to take their family issues to.
- [Help with court forms](#) - A co-worker shows his friend how to find easier-to-use versions of Supreme Court forms online.

MyLawBC website

- [The Family Resolution Centre](#) helps to provide free mediation for parents making parenting and child support arrangements – may be necessary before going to court.
- [Making a safety plan](#) – Helps make a safety plan for people living with an abusive partner. Also helps with resources for if you need a protection order.
- [I've been served with a court document](#) - This guided pathway gives you a downloadable PDF action plan to help you figure out your next steps if you've been served with (given) Supreme Court or Provincial Court documents in a family law case.
- [Get family orders](#) - This guided pathway gives you a downloadable PDF action plan to help you get the court orders you need to sort out your family law issues. This pathway will help you choose which court to go to and decide whether you need interim (temporary) or final orders.

Aboriginal Legal Aid in BC website

- [Child and family rights](#) – information for Indigenous people about family law, child protection
- [Courts and criminal cases](#) – information about Gladue principles, First Nations/Indigenous Courts and harvesting rights.

Family Law YouTube resources

There are many helpful videos in the Legal Aid BC YouTube [playlist Q&A about family law.](#)

Legal advice for self-represented litigants in Provincial Court

Family LawLINE, which gives free legal advice on many family law issues over the phone. Income requirement but it is higher than coverage income. Access via the call centre.

604-408-2172 (Greater Vancouver)

1-866-577-2525 (elsewhere in BC)

Criminal/family duty counsel and family advice lawyers in courthouses

Community worker training videos

Community workers [Training videos](#) section, where the user can search and filter our video library of trainings for advocates and service providers.

Community Partners

Legal Aid Community Partners can help people access information and resources online:

https://legalaid.bc.ca/legal_aid/communityPartners

LawMatters Reference Tools

These guides are designed for library workers to help raise awareness of legal information sources and support services available to the public. The full guides are online, but most of them have corresponding one-page pdfs that direct users back to the online guide.

- [Guide to legal terminology \(online only\)](#)
- [Helping patrons with court forms](#)
- [Legal information & legal advice](#)
- [Plain language legal resources](#)

Keep up to date with LABC Resources

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Questions or follow up?

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