



## Jeannette Aucoin

Partner

Family Law

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### Profile

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Family law is incredibly nuanced. It represents an overlay of different legal issues, including divorce, child support and spousal support, property, trusts, and business, and these disputes require care and attention when formulating resolutions. Jeannette's ability to balance empathy and professionalism ensures her clients are supported and cared for during these challenging processes.

Her analytical and detail-oriented nature allows Jeannette to identify the risks and rewards involved in her client's case to find a fair resolution.

#### Services

- > Cohabitation agreements
- > Marriage agreements
- > Fertility law agreements
- > Ova and sperm donation agreements
- > Surrogacy agreements
- > Trusts
- > Separation agreements
- > Divorce
- > Spousal support

- > Child support
- > Custody agreements
- > Guardianship agreements

However, sometimes disputes can break down to the point where litigation is needed. She has successfully dealt with high conflict family matters, one of which involved obtaining vexatious litigant declarations in both B.C. Supreme Court and the B.C. Court of Appeal. These declarations provided her client the relief she needed, saving both resources and time. When needed, Jeannette will fiercely advocate for her clients in a court room to get the result they deserve while minimizing costs where possible.

Jeannette is passionate about new developments in family law. She is one of only a handful of professionals in B.C. with experience in fertility and reproductive technology law and compliance with the Assisted Human Reproduction Act. With reproductive technology becoming more sophisticated, Jeannette helps clients by providing insight into the legal issues and procedures they must consider.

Family disputes can change the lives of the parties involved. Jeannette enjoys helping people navigate through the complexities of law to ensure families emerge with a new structure and relationships still in place.

## Credentials

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### Awards & Distinctions

- > Best Lawyers in Canada: Ones to Watch, Family Law, 2024

### Industry Involvement

- > Access Pro Bono, member
- > BC Law Institute, Parentage Law Reform Project member
- > Canadian Bar Association, member
- > Canadian Bar Association of British Columbia, member
- > Law Society of British Columbia, member
- > Trial Lawyers' Association of British Columbia, member

### Education & Call to Bar

- > Call to Bar, British Columbia: 2016
- > Thompson Rivers University, Juris Doctor, 2015
- > BC Court of Appeal Competitive Moot (1st Place)
- > University of Victoria, Bachelor of Arts (Political Science and Women's Studies), 2009

### External Presentations

- > Presenter, "Review of Relevant Assisted Reproductive Technology Legislation", Planned Parenthood 2022: Assisted Human Reproduction and the Law Conference, Continuing Legal Education Society of BC (October 2022)
- > Presenter, "Parents For All Purposes: A Primer On Parentage And Registration", Family Law 2021 Conference | Family Is As Family Does: Evolving Family Forms, Pacific Business & Law Institute (October 2021)

- > Guest speaker, "Assisted Human Reproduction Act and Surrogacy Arrangements", for the Dept. of Criminology, Simon Fraser University
- > Guest speaker, "Family Property, Excluded Property, and Trusts", for the ZLC Financial 41st Annual Estate Planning Seminar
- > Presenter, "14th Biennial Family Law Conference 2023", Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia, 2023

### **External Publications**

- > Contributing author, British Columbia Family Law Practice and Procedure Manual, 2024 Update: Fertility and Surrogacy Law chapter of the CLEBC Practice Manual, Continuing Legal Education Society of BC
- > Author, "Unequal Property Division Under s.95 of the Family Law Act", for The Lawyer's Daily
- > Co-author, "Reproductive Technology Law, Surrogacy and Adoption" for University of British Columbia, Peter A. Allard School of Law
- > Author, "Remedies for Wrongful Denial of Parenting Time under s. 61 of the FLA" for CanLII Connects
- > Author, "Marriage-Like Relationships, Excluded Property, and a Discretionary Family Trust" for CanLII Connects
- > Co-author, "A (Non-Exhaustive) Collection of Interesting and/or Notable Cases from 2016" for Family Law CLE Conference