



Position: 2022-2023 Articling Student

Articling Term: October 3, 2022 to September 29, 2023

Application Deadline: May 29, 2022 at 11:59 pm PST

About the position:

The BCCLA is seeking an articling student for the Oct 2022-October 2023 term. The student will work in the BCCLA's core program areas: litigation, policy, and public legal education. Under the supervision of the student's principal, the BCCLA's Executive Director, and working frequently with members of the Policy and Litigation departments, the articling student will assist and conduct litigation in a diverse range of practice areas including constitutional, criminal, and administrative law. The articling student will also undertake legal and policy research, draft legal and policy documents and engage in advocacy and education on behalf of the BCCLA.

We are looking for an articling student to start in October 2022 (i.e. interested 3L students should apply). This is a 12-month articling student position (including the duration of the student's PLTC participation)

The successful candidate will have a deep knowledge of and interest in human rights and civil liberties issues, strong ethics, and a deep commitment to equality, justice, and freedom.

This position is based at our office in Vancouver, British Columbia at #306-268 Keefer St, on unceded Indigenous lands belonging to the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil Waututh) nations.

In light of COVID-19, this position will work partially in-person, in compliance with WorkSafeBC guidelines for in-office work during the pandemic, and partially remotely. A laptop and access to all required platforms will be provided.

We anticipate interviews will be conducted by BCCLA staff through video-conference in June.

What We Offer:

Compensation: \$49,000 for the 12-month term. The BCCLA will cover the student's PLTC and call fees. This position is generously funded by the Law Foundation of British Columbia's Public Interest Articling Fellowship grant.

BCCLA also offers a holistic package:

- Comprehensive health benefits that includes extended health and dental plan for all staff, spouses and dependents.
- Life insurance, Long-term Disability Insurance, and AD&D for staff, family and dependents included within health benefits.
- Health benefits starting immediately and not dependent on completion of probationary period.
- Paid breaks.
- Team-wide professional development and training.
- Team-wide staff celebrations and staff appreciation.
- A workplace where your experience and voice are valued.
- A staff team of diverse backgrounds that is committed and passionate about civil liberties, human rights, equity and justice.

Application Process:

To apply, please submit the following materials combined into one PDF by email to careers@bccla.org with the subject line “Articling Student Application.” Deadline to apply is May 29, 2022 at 11:59pm PST

- 1) Resume**
- 2) Cover letter**
- 3) Current law school transcripts**
- 4) One legal writing sample of 5-8 pages (excerpts are acceptable)**
- 5) Contact information for two references**

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Candidates may be asked for a second writing assignment as part of the screening process for interviews.

The BCCLA is committed to ensuring that equity, diversity, and inclusion are priority considerations, including in building a workplace that honours the particular experiences and expertise of communities marginalized through state violence and social oppression. The BCCLA strongly encourages applications from all qualified Indigenous students, Black students, immigrants and refugees, students of colour, working class students, and LGBTQ+ students. Applicants are encouraged to self-identify, should they feel comfortable doing so, in their cover letter and are invited to share how their lived experience would inform their approach and ethics in this position.

About the BCCLA:

The BC Civil Liberties Association (BCCLA) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit national leader whose mission is to promote, defend, sustain, and extend civil liberties and human rights. The BCCLA is the oldest and most active civil liberties and human rights group in Canada. The BCCLA has been actively advancing human rights and civil liberties through litigation, law

reform, community-based legal advocacy, and public engagement and education for the last half century. Though we are based in BC, our work is national in scope with legal interventions and law reform advocacy across Canada.

BCCLA focuses on the relationship between people and the state, and the ways in which the state can limit or advance human rights and liberties. BCCLA's work pays particular attention to the needs of vulnerable individuals and oppressed communities, who would otherwise have difficulty getting redress for violations and limitations on their rights despite being the most susceptible to state regulation and violations of their fundamental rights. We recognize that liberty, dignity and equality are mutually-reinforcing, and that such rights are inalienable and necessary for the flourishing of individuals and human society.

With a mandate that includes work on police accountability, government transparency, democratic rights including freedom of expression, prisoners' rights, patients' rights, privacy rights, surveillance and national security issues, immigration detention, and criminal legal reform, we are one of the most vibrant and visible advocacy groups in Canada. The BCCLA is a small team with a big reach, and we want you to be a part of our work.

Responsibilities Include:

- Conduct legal research and analysis and draft memoranda on various civil liberties issues.
- Identify and evaluate cases for potential interventions.
- Assist in work on BCCLA test cases, both ongoing and in development.
- Research policy positions for the BCCLA for informational and analytical purposes and/or to provide recommendations.
- Conduct research and writing to support policy submissions to various bodies (usually legislative and parliamentary committees) or other decision makers.
- Present preliminary research outcomes to staff and/or board, identify gaps and further information or expertise needed.
- Assist in drafting policy-related complaints related to privacy and police oversight.

Skills and qualifications Required:

- Must be eligible to become a member of the Law Society of British Columbia upon completion of articles
- Analytical thinking
- Strong research and writing skills
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to prioritize tasks and meet deadlines
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Passion for civil liberties and human rights issues
- Lived experience or professional experience working on issues related to BCCLA's mandate

The BCCLA would like to thank the generous support of the Law Foundation of British Columbia for making this position possible.