

Advanced Issues in Child Protection Law

Child and Youth Law



Live In-Person



Live Online

Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2026 | 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Location: OBA Conference Centre | 20 Toronto Street, 2nd Floor, Toronto

Agenda: 12:30 pm Registration Opens
 1:00 pm Program Begins
 4:30 pm Program Concludes



This program is eligible for up to:
3h 30m Substantive Content

Join our outstanding faculty for updates on the most pressing issues in child protection law. Get expert insights and advice for your practice. Whether you are counsel for a child protection agency, parent, or child, you won't want to miss this opportunity to gain helpful strategies for your practice.

Register now to secure your spot!

Program Chairs: **Dawn Dubois**, Children's Aid Society of Algoma
Allison Williams, Justice for Children and Youth

1:00pm	Welcome and Opening Remarks
1:05pm	<p>Keynote Address The Honourable Justice Stanley B. Sherr, Ontario Court of Justice</p>
1:30pm	<p>Artificial Intelligence and Self-Represented Parties in Child Protection Matters Jennifer Leitch, Executive Director, National Self-Represented Litigants Project Join us to unpack the challenges and opportunities of AI use by self-represented parties, and what it means for counsel and the Courts.</p>
2:00pm	<p>Privacy Update: Changes Coming this July to Part X of the <i>Child, Youth and Family Services Act</i> Deana DeGrace, Director, Legal Services, Peel Children's Aid Society Alison Moonsie-Mohan, Director, Legal Services, York Region Children's Aid Society New provisions under Part X of the <i>CYFSA</i>, restricting the use and disclosure of personal information, come into effect on July 1. Get up to speed on these changes and what they mean for your practice.</p>
2:20pm	Networking Break
2:30pm	<p>Parallel Administrative Proceedings Sarah Clarke, Clarke Child & Family Law Mark Hecht, Legal Counsel/Manager, Legal Services, Children's Aid Society of Ottawa Service recipients engaged in child protection proceedings are increasingly seeking relief through administrative processes, such as those at the Child and Family Services Review Board, Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario. Whether you represent parents, societies or children, it is essential that you understand these processes and how they intersect with the child protection proceeding. We'll unpack:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process essentials and relief available through these administrative forums • How evidence given in the administrative matter may impact the child protection proceeding • For parent and child counsel: how to advise your clients about whether or not to pursue these parallel proceedings • For society counsel: what to do when you are served with an administrative claim
3:30pm	<p>Child Protection Appeals: Mechanics, Strategies and Best Practices The Honourable Justice Tammy Law, Superior Court of Justice, Family Court Cathy Tempesta, Office of the Children's Lawyer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective trial practice to preserve your case for appeal • Advising your client on appeal decisions, including threshold questions and handling difficult conversations when success on appeal is unlikely

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 Questions? pd@oba.org

- Your essential toolkit on the appeals process and timelines, including LAO approvals and case management/settlement opportunities
- Practical advice for seeking a stay pending appeal

- Introducing fresh evidence on appeal

4:25pm Questions and Concluding Remarks

4:30pm Program Concludes

**Additional speakers to be confirmed*