



Environmental Law Clinic Lawyer

Environmental Law Centre

1.0 FTE Term Appointment (to be negotiated for 2023)
and anticipated to be ongoing

The Environmental Law Centre in the University of Victoria Faculty of Law invites applications for a full-time Environmental Law Clinic Lawyer. This is a unique opportunity to practice public interest environmental law within an institutional setting working with passionate students, colleagues and clients, working on the most important environmental issues of our time. Check out our work at elc.uvic.ca.

Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

The Environmental Law Centre (ELC)

The Environmental Law Centre is a leader in both Canadian legal education and in environmental law advocacy. We have received national and international recognition for our innovative work in inspiring and mentoring the next generation of Canada's public interest environmental lawyers. Law students who were motivated to provide legal assistance on environmental issues founded the ELC over 25 years ago. That same mandate endures today with the ELC, a non-profit organization, working with the Faculty of Law at the University of Victoria to deliver a unique clinic program through which ELC students and staff provide thousands of hours of *pro bono* legal assistance to British Columbians each year. ELC students collaborate with our clients – environmental and Indigenous organizations, First Nations and individuals – on law reform, public legal education and legal advocacy projects. We provide critical capacity to organizations to help them fulfill their long-term ecological health and environmental justice goals.

The ELC's vision is to attain and support strong laws that protect air, land, and water. Our mission is two-fold: to train the next generation of public interest environmental lawyers; and to provide legal aid to those who would otherwise not access legal assistance to address public interest environmental law issues. All ELC work is based on partnerships with First Nations, non-governmental organizations, community groups, environmental organizations, and lawyers with an interest in public interest environmental law.



Our activities involve a range of legal approaches and solutions each term, including legal opinions, submissions, law reform proposals, model codes, public information, supporting advocacy before tribunals and courts, and the creation of manuals and training tools for community groups. We regularly engage lawyers in the public interest and private Bar and provide public education opportunities through hosting webinars and posting reports and other resources on our website.

Working at the ELC, you are part of a small, high impact and dedicated team of legal and communications professionals who are enthusiastic about improving ecosystems, community health, environmental justice, and collaborative environmental governance arrangements. The ELC lawyer will work with students to provide legal services to a diverse array of community, Indigenous and individual clients. Emphasis is placed equally on providing an excellent student learning experience and crafting legal solutions that make a difference. The ELC lawyer will also carry out a range of activities related to public interest environmental law practice in a non-governmental organization that includes client and funder development, and participating in the wider public interest environmental law community.

As a member of the ELC staff, the ELC lawyer will:

- Carry a caseload and provide legal and procedural advice for ELC clients who present with a wide range of public interest environmental law issues;
- Prepare a variety of legal products to assist clients;
- Work with the ELC team to generate a case roster for the beginning of each term;
- Teach, supervise and mentor students in the ELC Clinic course, including providing specific direction and instructions to help them complete their files;
- Act as a Principal to articling students (if qualified) and supervise co-op students working full-time in the ELC;
- Provide continuity of service for clients and undertake client development; and
- Support the ELC team with communications and ELC practice administration.

QUALIFICATIONS

Basic requirements

- J.D. or LL.B. degree.
- Membership or eligibility for membership in the Law Society of British Columbia.
- A minimum of three years call to the bar in British Columbia or equivalent experience in another Canadian jurisdiction.
- Three years recent experience working in the area of public interest environmental law or equivalent.
- Experience in using a range of environmental law strategies, tools and processes for public interest clients.

Knowledge, skills and abilities

- Significant knowledge of environmental law and practice.
- Demonstrated ability to work with Indigenous people and communities.
- Knowledge of a range of processes used to resolve or engage with environmental law disputes.
- Experience and interest in public legal education.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written).
- Demonstrated ability to develop resourceful solutions to legal problems of clients.
- Demonstrated ability to work within a small team in a collaborative, supportive and problem-solving manner.
- Awareness and sensitivity to cultural influences in the community.
- Ability to work effectively and inclusively with people (clients and students) facing marginalization due to race, income, disability, literacy, language of origin, gender identity, sexual orientation or otherwise facing historical disadvantage.

This is a full-time position but some flexibility could be considered in the initial stage of employment if other employment commitments need to be accommodated for a limited period of time. Subject to public health orders, physical presence at UVic for several days per week is required.

Remuneration will be commensurate with educational background and experience. We anticipate remuneration to start in the \$80,000 to \$120,000 range. Although this is a one-year appointment, we are hiring for the future - ongoing funding is in place. This position come with an attractive benefits and pension package upon reappointment.

What you have to do to apply

Submit a maximum two-page cover letter outlining your suitability for the position, a *curriculum vitae*, and the names of (and contact information for) three references to the ELC Search Committee as soon as possible via elc-application@uvic.ca.

For enquires about the position, please contact Deborah Curran, ELC Executive Director at dlc@uvic.ca.

Consistent with UVic's values, we acknowledge and respect the $l\acute{a}k'w\acute{a}n\eta\eta\acute{n}$ peoples on whose traditional territory the University stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and $W\acute{S}\acute{A}N\acute{E}C$ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day. The ELC and UVic is committed to upholding the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in our living, learning and work environments. In pursuit of our values, we seek members who will work respectfully and constructively with differences and across levels of power. We actively encourage applications from members of [groups experiencing barriers to equity](#). Read UVic's full equity statement here: www.uvic.ca/equitystatement.

In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada are requested to self-identify themselves in their application.