

leanne toews

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PROFILE

Over 30 years of providing counselling support to children, youth and families through government, private and contracted clinical avenues of service, I have developed skill sets in the areas of clinical counselling, court reporting and testimony, assessment and formal report writing, and alternative dispute resolution. I pride myself on my demonstrated ability to: establish a natural rapport with children, youth and adults; utilize clear and concise communication methods; write assessments, reports and file reviews while managing my time and resources effectively; and, employ exceptional crisis-conflict and mediation skills.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

COURT REPORTING & TESTIMONY

- written court reports and applications under the Child & Family Community Services (CFCS) Act.
- demonstrated ability to give accurate and detailed information for testimony and cross-examinations.
- successful submissions of court applications, including document service, within CFCS Act timelines.
- seven (7) years of child protection experience with the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD).

ASSESSMENT & FORMAL REPORT WRITING

- experience in the assessment and development of individualized treatment plans for clients accessing clinical support.
- professional training in suicide risk assessments.
- experience in the assessment of family violence and abuse against children.

CLINICAL CHILD, YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLING & THERAPEUTIC FAMILY REUNIFICATION

- training and extensive experience in a variety of empirically supported clinical theories.
- proficiency in Step Wise Interviewing, an unbiased interviewing process.
- managing a case load of over 30 clients and families.
- clinical experience providing diverse counselling support to children, youth and families.
- mediation skills and the ability to work in high-conflict crisis situations.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Coastality

Owner & Registered Clinical Counsellor (Victoria, BC)

2023 -

Independent Specialized Family Law Clinical & Reporting Services

Private Practice (Victoria, BC)

2015 -

Ministry of Children & Family Development

Child & Youth Mental Health Clinician Consultant - Policy Division (Victoria, BC)

2018 - 2019

Ministry of Children & Family Development

Child & Youth Mental Health Clinician (Whistler, BC)

2011 - 2016

Ministry of Children & Family Development

Child Protection Social Worker (Pemberton, BC)

2010 - 2011

School District No. 59

District Elementary School Counsellor (Peace River South, BC)

2007 - 2010

Ministry of Children & Family Development

Child Protection Social Worker (Chetwynd, BC)

2001 - 2007

EDUCATION

Arbitrator Training Course Arbitration	Royal Roads University & ADRBC	2020
Master of Arts (MA) Counselling Psychology	City University	2007
Bachelor of Arts (BA) Child & Youth Care	University of Victoria	1998
Diploma Child & Youth Care Counselling	Douglas College	1996

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DIALECTIC BEHAVIOUR THERAPY	EARLY PSYCHOSIS INTERVENTION	COGNITIVE BEHAVIOUR THERAPY	TRAUMA INCIDENT REDUCTION
SOLUTION-FOCUSED THERAPY LEVEL ONE	MEDIATION & FAMILY LAW MEDIATION LEVEL ONE	RECOGNIZING & RESPONDING TO SUICIDE RISK	ART & PLAY THERAPY
LEGAL ABUSE AS A CONTINUATION OF COERCIVE CONTROL	STRENGTHENING FAMILY LAW RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE AND COERCIVE CONTROL	THE “GOOD ENOUGH” PARENTING PLAN EVALUATION	FUNDAMENTALS OF CONDUCTING CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATIONS
FUNDAMENTALS OF CONDUCTING PARENTING PLAN EVALUATIONS			

MEMBERSHIPS

HEAR THE CHILD SOCIETY OF BC	BCACC (REGISTERED CLINICAL COUNSELLOR)	ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (PAST PRESIDENT)
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA - ADRBC	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INSTITUTE OF CANADA - ADRIC	ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY & CONCILIATION COURTS - AFCC (MEMBER)