



**STAFF COUNSEL
1 Permanent Full-Time Position**

Family and Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County is committed to the decolonization of the child welfare system while remaining focused on the safety and wellbeing of children with their families and kin. This includes challenging and responding to the structural inequalities experienced by families. Fundamental to the work are the foundations of Equity, Anti-Oppression, Indigenous Justice, and Trauma in child welfare using the practice models of Signs of Safety and Family Finding.

POSITION SUMMARY:

Reporting to the Senior Legal Counsel, the Staff Counsel is responsible for providing comprehensive legal consultation, representation and training for Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County and its staff in all matters related to the execution of its mandate under the Child, Youth and Family Services Act.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor of Law Degree and membership in good standing of the Law Society of Upper Canada
- At least 1-2 years of experience representing children, parents or a Children's Aid Society in CYFSA or Family Law proceedings preferred
- Excellent knowledge of case preparation, presentation and litigation techniques and alternative dispute resolution strategies
- Advanced knowledge of legislation governing child welfare including the CYFSA, Family Law Rules, Rules of Evidence, Ontario Courts of Justice Act, regulations and related statutes
- Basic knowledge of relevant industry computer applications such as LAD, CPIN, preferred
- Knowledge and experience in the application of related legal theory and practice
- A satisfactory Police Records Check is required
- Valid Driver's License and access to a reliable motor vehicle with appropriate business class liability insurance is preferred
- Demonstrates an understanding of systemic barriers faced by agency clients and applies AO-Equity principles in one's daily work with agency staff and in litigation
- Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required

Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County is committed to working from an Anti-Oppressive and Equity practice and dedicated to building a workforce that reflects the diversity of the community in which we live and serve. The agency encourages applications from members of an Equity seeking group and/or with lived experience. We are committed to creating an accessible environment for all. Please let us know if you have any accommodation needs. We thank all applicants; however only those considered for interviews will be contacted.

Qualified individuals are invited to send their resume by **November 9, 2021** to:

Human Resources - Family & Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County
employment@fcsgw.org

Posting Date: October 26, 2021