

FLAP Working Group | FLO Guidelines

Family Law and Procedure Working Group Guidelines

version 1.0 November 13, 2020

Interested in joining FLAP?

1. [Read Guidelines](#)
2. [Apply to join FLAP](#)

This Guideline for the [Family Law and Procedure Working Group](#) ("FLAP") includes:

- [FLAP description & purpose](#)
- [Admission requirements and who can join FLAP](#)
- [Confidentiality, relevancy, and appropriate content](#)

This Guideline is made further to the terms and definitions in the [Universal Terms of Use](#) and [FLO Community Terms of Use](#).

FLAP description & purpose

The [Family Law and Procedure Working Group](#) consists of a forum (the FLAP forum) for family lawyers, designated paralegals, and paralegals who work in family law to share information and ask questions regarding:

- Case law
- Legislation
- Legal procedure
- Practical advice on handling family law files
- Referrals

The purpose of FLAP is to connect family law lawyers and paralegals in an online forum so that they can assist one another in the practice of family law.

Admission and membership requirements

Who can join FLAP

Any lawyer, designated paralegal, or paralegal who works in British Columbia in the area of family law and is also a member of FLO may join FLAP.

Requirements

All members of FLAP must have read and be prepared to abide by:

- These Guidelines
- [Universal Terms of Use](#)
- [FLO Community Terms of Use](#)

Furthermore, each prospective and active member must maintain a user profile that states, at a minimum:

1. their **practice area** (family law plus any other practice areas as applicable)
2. their **professional designation** (multiple designations are acceptable, but at least one must be "Practicing Member LSBC", "Designated Paralegal", or "Paralegal (BC)")

Listing the above user profile information is a precondition to admission, and is an ongoing requirement for being a member of FLAP. Those whose user profiles do not contain the required information will not be admitted. FLAP members who no longer meet the criteria for membership, or who do not maintain the required information in their user profile, may have their membership in FLAP revoked.

[To edit your user profile, [click edit profile](#), then click on "Member Details" to see relevant fields.]

Confidentiality, Relevancy and Appropriate Content

Duty to keep FLAP content confidential

To protect ethical and legal duties of confidentiality and privilege while encouraging members to participate freely by ensuring members-only discussions, members of FLAP shall:

- Only post Content (including but not limited to questions or replies) relating to a file they are involved in in a manner that ensures no other individual familiar with the file (including opposing counsel) could draw a connection between the posted Content and the specific file.
- Not use the FLAP Forum to gossip or complain about, or risk defamation of, any individual
- Not distribute Content shared to FLAP to anyone who is not a FLAP member, unless expressly permitted by the Content owner, or unless the Content is otherwise publicly available (i.e. case law or published legal research)
- Follow all ethical and legal duties surrounding confidentiality and non-disclosure, including the Code of Professional Conduct and any implied undertakings respecting disclosure

Relevant content

All Content posted to the FLAP Forum must be relevant to the practice of family law. Off-topic posts reduce the value of the FLAP Forum and are not a welcome distraction for other FLAP members. Content that fails to meet the criteria for relevance is subject to removal at the sole discretion of a FLO Steering Committee Member.

Appropriate content

Users are specifically reminded that the [Universal Terms of Use](#):

- Defines and prohibits Inappropriate Behaviour
- Prohibits posting of Commercial Messages except where expressly allowed
- Contains rules respecting privileged and confidential information
- Contains rules on identity of User accounts and responsibilities of Users to control access to their accounts

- Contains disclaimers with respect to Content monitoring by CLBC or Administrators and instructions for reporting Inappropriate Behaviour

Do not use the FLAP Forum to gossip, complain, or speak negatively about other professionals, and be mindful of the risks of defamation.

Commercial Messages related to requesting or providing family law-related referrals are allowed on the FLAP Forum, but solicitation and advertising is not allowed.

A [FLO Steering Committee](#) Member other than an employee of CLBC is a decision maker responsible for enforcing these Guidelines and may remove Content and or revoke a User's membership in FLAP if, in the decision maker's sole discretion, these Guidelines are breached.

Family Law and Procedure (“FLAP”) Registration Form

FLAP is a FLO Working Group (consisting mainly of a discussion forum) open to BC lawyers or paralegals (designated or otherwise) who work in family law. Read [FLAP Working Group Guidelines](#), ensure your profile information includes your professional designation and practice area, then submit this form to join.

[To edit your user profile, click edit profile, then click on "Member Details" to see relevant fields.]

Confirm Certification and Agreement*

I certify that

- I am a BC family lawyer or paralegal working in family law
- I have read and agree to the [FLAP Guidelines](#)
- My profile includes my professional designation and practice area

When you submit this form, its contents will be sent to one or more members of the FLO Steering Committee for review.