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CHILD PROTECTION LAW IN CANADA 2nd EDITION

Kirwin, Stringer Release No. 6, July 2025

This resource organizes and updates child protection case law and unreported cases for Canadian common law provinces and territories.

This release features updates to Chapters 2 (Jurisdiction), 3 (Commencing the Protection Application), 5 (Protection Application – Threshold Finding), 6 (Protection Application – Dispositions), 8 (Evidence at Trial), 10 (Access) and 11 (Appeals), as well as updates to Appendix M (Saskatchewan).

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Highlights

- Holistic view of best interest test when considering grandparents application for custody joined to child protection proceeding: *New Brunswick (Minister of Social Development) v. T.S.*, 2025 NBKB 56 (N.B. C.K.B).
- The new Federal Act respecting First Nations, Inuit, Métis, children, youth and families does not provide a priority of placing an Indigenous child with siblings. The appellate court remitted the matter back to the lower court for an *inter partes* hearing of the original application on all issues related to the child's best interests including jurisdictional issues: *J.R. v. Nunavut (Family Services)*, 2025 NLCA 11 (N.L. C.A.).
- A 17-year-old, transgender youth with dystopia may choose permanent guardianship and given the right of access in accordance with his/her own views and preferences: *Minister of Social Development v. N.M. and J.M.*, 2025 NBKB 60 (N.B. C.K.B.).

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