



EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR JUDGES

Under the authority and direction of the Canadian Judicial Council, the National Judicial Institute has led the way in the development of a comprehensive curriculum of judicial education designed to meet the learning needs of judges throughout their career. This includes social context education that addresses difficult issues such as sexual violence.

The NJI and CIAJ (the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice) jointly deliver a 10 days seminar for new federally appointed judges. Depending on a judge's background and the kinds of cases they are assigned, the NJI will also recommend courses for their first three to five years on the bench.

In addition to a comprehensive review of the many duties of judges, focused programs are given to new judges on recent legal developments in Criminal Law, Family Law and Civil Law, social context courses with resources that include Aboriginal Law, Self-Represented Litigants and the Safety and Security of Women - a program offered jointly with the Canadian Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges Judicial education in Canada.

The development of program takes place with the participation of judges, lawyers, academia and community groups.

The CJC, for 2017-18, has approved the participation of over 900 judges to educational programs, in addition to the training given to newly appointed judges. Programs delivered last year or to be available in the coming two years include those listed below. In addition, a number of court-based programs which are customized training offered to each court are delivered throughout the year.

Overview of current programs

Criminal, Civil and Family Law - Note: The following courses integrate social context education

Civil Law Seminar

Class Actions Seminar

Criminal Jury Charge Workshop

Criminal Jury Trials Seminar

Criminal Law Seminar

Criminal Law Fundamentals: How to Conduct a Sexual Assault Trial

Evidence Workshop

Family Law and Social Media

Family Law Seminar - Financial and Property Issues
Good Judgment: Judicial Decision-Making and Judicial Method
Inter-Professional Collaboration in Forensic Science Conference

Judicial Response to Terrorism: Case and Courtroom Management
Judicial Settlement Conferencing: Clinics
National Family Law Program
National Roundtable on Administrative Law Hearing and Deciding Charter Issues
Science in the Courtroom
Settlement Conferencing

Writing and Communications Skills, including language training

Communication Skills in the Courtroom
French/English as a Second Language Immersion for Judges
French Legal Terminology for Francophone Judges from Common Law Provinces
Oral Judgments
Seminar on Judgment Writing
Style and Context: Mastering the Skill of Judgment Writing

Other

Assessing and Building Intercultural Competence
Conference on Justice and Mental Health
Conference on Cultural and Religious Diversity
Dialogues on Judging: Challenges and Rewards of a Long-Serving Career
Education seminar specifically developed for a specific province or region (Atlantic region, Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Superior Court of Québec and the Court of Québec, Northern Courts)
Federal Court Annual Education Seminar
Innovations seminar
Insolvency Seminar
Judges and Jails: The Realities of Incarceration
Judging Alone in Small Communities
Judicial Ethics Seminar: Rethinking the Principles
Look to the Future: Preparing for Life After the Bench (English and French)
Management in Difficult Cases
Newly Appointed Provincial and Territorial Judges' Skills Seminar
Safety and Security of Women
Survive and Thrive: Optimizing Judicial Productivity and Well-Being
The Art and Craft of Judging: Your "Sophomore Years"