

Application for Permission to Use Published Court Decisions for a Commercial Activity

(A) INTRODUCTION

The Chief Justices and Chief Judge of British Columbia's courts have authority over court records, including court decisions. Court decisions are often referred to as “reasons for judgment” or “judgments”. The term “**court decisions**” is used in this document.

Published court decisions from the BC Supreme Court and BC Court of Appeal are available for free at www.bccourts.ca and www.canlii.org.

No permission from the courts is required to use court decisions for a scholarly, journalistic, or government purpose, provided users exercise due diligence to ensure the accuracy and currency of any court decisions used, identify the Court by name as the source of any information that uses published court decisions, and do not suggest that court decisions have been used in affiliation with or with the endorsement of the Courts.

Permission is required to use published court decisions for a primarily commercial (profit-seeking) activity such as commercial redistribution of court decisions; developing and/or providing user pay legal research tools or software; and/or developing and/or providing user pay judgment analytics.

To seek permission to use published court decisions for a commercial activity, please complete this application and send as an attachment to the following email address(es):

- to use BC Provincial Court decisions: JDBC@provincialcourt.bc.ca
- to use BC Supreme Court decisions: SC.Publishing@BCCourts.ca
- to use BC Court of Appeal decisions: CAJ@BCCourts.ca

In reviewing the application, the Courts will consider, among other factors, whether granting permission for the use sought by the applicant will:

- serve the public interest – for example, by improving access to court decisions or public understanding of the law;
- help to maintain public confidence in the integrity and independence of the court system and the administration of justice; and

- prevent use of court decisions for improper purposes, such as to profile or identify individuals for commercial purposes or for direct marketing purposes.

(B) THE APPLICANT

1. Applicant contact information
 - Name of applicant organization:
 - Address:
 - Contact name:
 - Contact position:
 - Telephone:
 - Contact email address:
2. If more than one organization is involved in the application, list the organizations and the governance model of the project or group.
3. Describe the applicant (e.g. corporation) and describe the purpose of the applicant's work as it relates to the application.

(C) COURT DECISIONS SOUGHT AND PURPOSES

4. Identify the British Columbia courts (Provincial, Supreme, and/or Court of Appeal) whose decisions the applicant seeks permission to use for a commercial activity.
5. Is the applicant only seeking permission to use court decisions published on a go-forward basis or is the applicant also seeking permission to use previously published court decisions?
6. Why (for what purpose) does the applicant seek to use the court decisions?
7. Describe how the applicant would use court decisions, and include information (if any) about how the applicant has already used court decisions.

(D) USER ACCESS

8. In the following table, identify the individuals associated with the applicant who will have access to the court decisions (“users”), and their positions and contact information. Please add rows as needed.

Name of user (first and last)	Position	Contact information

9. Are all of the potential users under the direct supervision of the applicant organization (e.g. are any users under the supervision of a different organization)?

(E) STORING, MAINTAINING AND DISTRIBUTING COURT DECISIONS

10. Describe how the applicant will store and maintain the court decisions.
11. Describe whether the applicant will distribute the court decisions, or excerpts, summaries or other information derived from the court decisions, to others, including by what method and to whom.