

Unified Family Court in Canada

Province	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	New Brunswick	Newfoundland and Labrador
Date established	1978	1984	1977	1999	1975	1979	1979
Locations	<p>Saskatoon was the first location. UFC expanded to Regina in 1994. UFC has exclusive jurisdiction in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert and concurrent jurisdiction in the rest of the province.</p> <p>UFC sits on circuit in some areas. Provincial court handles family cases within provincial jurisdiction in northern and rural areas.</p>	<p>Winnipeg was the first location. UFC expanded in 1989 and sits in all judicial hearing centres (Winnipeg, Brandon, Selkirk, Morden, Portage la Prairie, Dauphin, Swan River, Flin Flon, The Pas, Thomson). There are also filing centres in Virden and Minnedosa.</p> <p>UFC has exclusive jurisdiction in Winnipeg, Brandon, Selkirk and the rural municipalities closest to them. Although there is concurrent jurisdiction in the rest of the province, the provincial court doesn't actually handle many family cases, except in the north.</p>	<p>Hamilton was the first location. UFC expanded to 4 more locations in 1995 and expanded again in 1999. UFC is now in 17 locations and also sits regularly in 3 other locations, which makes UFC available to about 40% of the province's population.</p> <p>Ontario has plans to expand UFC to serve the entire province.</p>	<p>UFC is located in Halifax (serving Halifax Regional Municipality) and Sydney and Port Hawkesbury (serving Cape Breton). The court also sits at circuit locations, including Baddeck, Port Hood and Arichat. UFC serves about 75% of the province's population.</p> <p>Nova Scotia has plans to expand UFC to serve the entire province.</p>	<p>UFC serves the entire province (sits in Charlottetown, Summerside and Georgestown).</p>	<p>Fredericton was the first location. UFC expanded province-wide in 1983. There are 8 UFC locations serving the province.</p>	<p>UFC originally served St. John's and environs. In 1998, it expanded to serve the rest of the Avalon Peninsula and Bonavista Peninsula.</p> <p>UFC serves about half of the province's population.</p>
Level of court	Court of Queen's Bench Family Law Division – judges are appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench	Court of Queen's Bench, Family Division - judges are appointed to the Family Division	Superior Court of Justice Family Court Branch – judges are appointed to the Family Court	Family Division of the Supreme Court – judges are appointed to the Family Division	Supreme Court Trial Division (Family Section) – judges are appointed to the Supreme Court	Court of Queen's Bench, Family Division – judges are appointed to the Family Division	Supreme Court – Unified Family Court – judges are appointed to the Supreme Court

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Number of judges	<p>8 judges assigned as Family Law Division judges</p> <p>The Chief Justice may assign a Family Law Division judge to hear cases outside the Family Law Division as long as the judge spends the “substantial majority” of his or her time on Family Law Division cases.</p>	<p>15 Family Division judges (currently 4 supernumerary), including the Associate Chief Justice (Family Division)</p> <p>The Chief Justice may assign a Family Division judge to responsibilities outside Family Division from time to time and may designate other Queen’s Bench judges to act as Family Division judges as required.</p>	<p>32 Family Court judges, with other Superior Court judges temporarily assigned on rotation (the Superior Court General Division is expected to provide the same level of resources as were devoted to divorce and property cases prior to the establishment of the unified court.)</p> <p>The Chief Justice may temporarily assign a Family Court judge to hear cases outside the Family Court and may assign other judges of the Superior Court to Family Court from time to time.</p>	<p>11 Family Division judges, including the Associate Chief Justice of the Family Division.</p> <p>A Family Division judge may hear cases outside the Family Division as long as the judge spends the “substantial majority” of his or her time on Family Division cases. Other Supreme Court judges may hear cases in Family Division.</p>	<p>No judges are designated as exclusively responsible for family matters, due to the small number of judges and the potential for conflicts with a small population.</p>	<p>8 Family Division judges, plus 1 supernumerary. Some locations have a Queen’s Bench judge who splits time between Family Division and Trial Division.</p> <p>The Chief Justice may assign Family Division judges to hear cases in Trial Division from time to time.</p>	<p>2 judges assigned to UFC</p> <p>The Chief Justice must assign one or more Supreme Court judges to the UFC</p>
Jurisdiction – includes child protection or young offenders?	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Does not include young offenders</p>	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Does not include young offenders</p>	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Does not include young offenders</p>	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Includes young offenders aged 12-15</p>	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Does not include young offender</p>	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Does not include young offender</p>	<p>Includes child protection</p> <p>Does not include young offender</p>