



Export Development Canada's Articling Program

Articling with Export Development Canada (EDC) will appeal to students who are interested in working in a dynamic and challenging in-house environment. Working alongside approximately 28 lawyers within EDC's Legal Services Division, the articling student will serve his/her Articles of Clerkship learning from their extensive knowledge and experience in business/corporate commercial law. The articling student will work with and be supervised by legal counsel in the Legal Services Division and Corporate Secretariat at EDC. EDC's Legal Services Division recruits articling student(s) each year for its articling program.

Commencement of Articles

Articling students commence their articles with EDC during the summer and are offered a 12-month contract (despite the articling period requirement of only 10 months).

Practice Areas

Throughout the articling term, the articling students may be assigned work by any of the lawyers in the Legal Services Division in the practice areas of corporate financing, project financing, and insurance law. Students may also be assigned work in the following practice areas: administrative law, commercial law, corporate law, bankruptcy/ insolvency law, privacy and confidentiality law, crown law, procurement, employment and labour law, international law, litigation and securities. An articling student's exposure to one or more of the areas listed above may be greater or lesser, depending upon the requirements of the Legal Services Division and Corporate Secretariat during that student's articling term.

Principals/Mentoring

Articling students will be assigned one Principal for the duration of their articling period. In addition, each student will be matched with a Mentor. The role of mentors is to provide students with additional support and guidance and to assist them in managing their workload.

Work Responsibility and Allocation

Articling students will be given a high level of responsibility which will encourage their professional growth and help them to develop their substantive legal skills. In addition to performing legal research, articling students will draft various legal documents, including credit agreements, guarantees, amending agreements, security agreements, insurance policies and endorsements. They will also participate in meetings and negotiations with EDC's internal clients, outside counsel and other related parties. The articling students will be required to complete all of the activities and tasks listed in the Articling Student's Assignment Checklist.

Educational Seminars

EDC has a broad Continuing Learning Education (CLE) program for articling students and lawyers alike: off-site skills training, in-house seminars and seminars prepared by professionals from outside law firms and corporations located worldwide. The articling students will have an opportunity to attend such educational seminars and EDC will cover the costs of fees for these seminars. EDC's CLE program will significantly enrich the students' articling experience.

Guidance and Advice

Articling students are encouraged to approach their Principal/Mentor to discuss, in confidence, any problems or areas of concern relating to the articling student's articling experience.

Professional Responsibility

During the articling term, the articling students will be given explanations of a lawyer's professional responsibilities relating to the confidentiality of information provided by and advice given to clients and other relevant parties, avoidance of conflicts of interest, and other ethical issues.

The articling students will also be given sufficient time during their articling term to ensure that they complete the Professional Responsibility and Practice Course (the "PRP Course"). Principals will administer the PRP Course and also review (and provide input in relation to) the articling students' answers to the questions in the assessment.

Evaluation Process

All of the lawyers, as well as mentors, who have worked with one or both articling students, will provide ongoing, constructive feedback during the articling term. The principals will provide their articling student with an individualized evaluation report.

Benefits/Holidays

Among other benefits, articling students are provided with three weeks vacation leave as well as free 24-hour access to EDC's gym and aerobic facilities. A Health Spending Account in the amount of \$1000 is also provided to articling students for the purpose of reimbursing certain health-related expenses. The usefulness of a health spending account is very broad and covers a wide variety of health and dental expenses.