



To Whom it May Concern,

The HTC Society has prioritized building diversity within its roster of trained non-evaluative child interviewers and Board. Thanks to the Law Foundation funding we will be presenting a dedicated pro-bono Non-Evaluative Child Interview Training (NECIT) course on May 11 and 12, 2023 to encourage and welcome Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour who are interested in applying to the HTC Society Roster. In addition, the goal is to expand the diversity of our Board to be more representative of the people of BC.

We have 20 pro-bono spots in this training program and invite professionals who:

- meet the diversity criteria;
- meet with and interview children and believe children should have a voice in family justice matters that affect them; and
- are interested in applying to the Hear the Child Society Roster and need the 13 hours of child interview skills and child development training to meet the requirements for successful roster application.

A summary of the training criteria follows below. The application and full roster admission criteria can be found on our website at [www.hearthechild.ca](http://www.hearthechild.ca).

*At least 30 hours of training/education on listening to and reporting the views of the child including:*

- *6.5 hours on child development and structured interviews of children, research on children in family justice decision-making, and ethics of interviewing children;*
- *6.5 hours on child interview skills including building rapport, child friendly interview environments, appropriate language usage and questions, and effectively reporting the views of the child; and*
- *17 hours of other relevant education on topics such as the rights of children, research on the inclusion and exclusion of children in family justice decision-making, the impacts of family breakdown or transition on children, risks and protective factors for children in family justice processes, family dynamics of separation and divorce including high conflict family dynamics.*



As part of this training the participants **are required to attend a follow-up feedback session on May 15 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm** to provide input as to how the HTC Society can improve its diversity and provide culturally appropriate services. As a result of this initiative the NECIT training will be updated with a diversity lens and the HTC Society hopes to have a more diverse roster thereby meeting the needs of children and families who otherwise might not have an opportunity or desire to use this service. In addition, the HTC Society will be looking for additional people to join our Board and continue the work on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Applications will be reviewed, and qualifying participants will be notified by April 27, 2023. Priority will be given to people who only need the 13 hours of child interview skills and child development training in order to apply to the roster. However, consideration will be given to all other interested participants.

Applicants that do not qualify for this pro-bono training are welcome to apply to attend the June 8/9, 2023 training offering. Registration forms for this offering will be available at a later date. To be put on the mailing list for this program please email [info@hearthechild.ca](mailto:info@hearthechild.ca).

Please email any questions you have to Bev Churchill at [bev@bevchurchill.ca](mailto:bev@bevchurchill.ca) or Bobbi Poushinsky at [bobbidr@telus.net](mailto:bobbidr@telus.net).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bev Churchill', written over a light grey circular stamp.

Bev Churchill, Chair

BC Hear the Child Society



## Proudly Presents: Non-Evaluative Child Interview Training and Building Diversity

- When:** May 11 and 12, 2023
- Time:** 9:00 am to 5:00 pm each day
- Where:** Via online platform: involves participant interaction; computer or other device with a camera and microphone will be required
- Cost:** This is a pro-bono training program sponsored by the Law Foundation and offered to people who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour and who meet the application criteria.
- Trainers:** Bev Churchill and Viviane Wingerak
- What you will learn:**

- Child development—ages and stages
- Trauma and impact on children
- Benefits and cautions of listening to the voice of the child/adolescent
- Mechanisms for hearing the voice of the child
- Integrating the child's voice into different dispute resolution options
- Background and history of Hear the Child Reports
- How to conduct a HTC interview and write a non-evaluative HTC report
- Effective interviewing skills, inc. video conferencing
- Sample questions and reports
- The art of introspection—understanding how our values, life experiences, culture and biases affect the interviewer's lens
- Pitfalls to avoid as a non-evaluative child interviewer
- Review of case law with respect to HTC reports

Opportunities to practice the skills of conducting a non-evaluative child interview and writing a non-evaluative report will be integrated over the 2-day workshop giving participants the opportunity to develop or enhance their proficiency in conducting non-evaluative child interviews and writing non-evaluative reports.

As explained in the covering letter we are prioritizing applicants who only need the 13 hours of child interview skills and child development training in order to apply to the Hear the Child Roster. Consideration will also be given to other participants.

Do you identify as Indigenous, Black, or Person of color (if yes, please continue with registration)

### Registration

Listed below are the requirements for joining the Roster, please indicate which of these you already meet

	I am either a member in good standing of: the Law Society of BC; OR a mental health profession in BC with standards of professional conduct and ethics and a disciplinary process; OR the Family Roster with the Mediate BC Society or certified mediator with Family Mediation Canada; OR a member of another profession (must demonstrate equivalency to the categories above)
	I have one of the following: 5 years of family law practice; OR 5 years of practice as a mental health professional; OR 5 years family mediation proactice; OR demonstrated equivalency (proof to be provided)
	I maintain professional liability insurance: \$2,000,000 aggregate; OR coverage though the Law Society of BC

In order to apply to the roster applicants require at least 30 hours of training/education on listening to and reporting the views of the child including:

- 6.5 hours on child development and structured interviews of children, research on children in family justice decision-making, and ethics of interviewing children;
- 6.5 hours on child interview skills including building rapport, child friendly interview environments, appropriate language usage and questions, and effectively reporting the views of the child; and
- 17 hours of other relevant education on topics such as the rights of children, research on the inclusion and exclusion of children in family justice decision-making, the impacts of family breakdown or transition on children, risks and protective factors for children in family justice processes, family dynamics of separation and divorce including high conflict family dynamics.

Please list the training you have had to date including the name of the program, the date you attended and the number of hours. Applicants needing the 13 hours of child interview skills and child development training will be given priority. For further information on eligible training please see the application form at [www.hearthechild.ca](http://www.hearthechild.ca).

Eligible Program	Instructor(s)	Date Attended	Number of Hours

**REGISTRANT INFORMATION:**

FULL NAME (as you would like it to appear on your certificate)

ADDRESS

COMPANY

CITY

PROVINCE

POSTAL CODE

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

I confirm that I will attend the May 15, 2023 5:30pm to 6:30pm feedback session.

Please submit this registration to [info@hearthechild.ca](mailto:info@hearthechild.ca) no later than April 21, 2023.