

FAMILY MATTERS

BC's Trusted Legal Resource for Families in Transition

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A Note From Kendelle

PAGE 2

*The Family Law Act Vs.
The Divorce Act*

PAGE 2

History of Family Day in BC

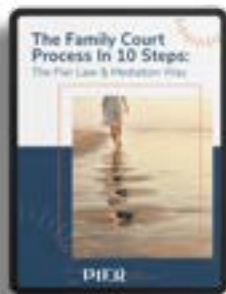
PAGE 3

Rainy Day Activities In
Metro Vancouver

PAGE 3

Valentine's Day Treats

PAGE 4



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please visit us at

www.pierfamilylawyers.com

A NOTE FROM KENDELLE

A couple of weeks ago, myself and the staff at Pier Law & Meditation got together for our **annual firm retreat** to discuss our goals for the year ahead. As a business owner, setting goals is one of the most important things you can do to ensure the success of your company. Having a **clear plan** in place can help you **focus your efforts** and stay on track, while also providing a **sense of direction and purpose** for your employees.

When it comes to establishing your personal or company goals, **clarity and measurability are key**. Develop a clear picture of what you want to achieve - define objectives that can be easily tracked, measured, and monitored for progress over time. As you make progress towards meeting your goal, take the opportunity to measure your success and adjust as required. This can be done by setting **S.M.A.R.T. goals** (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound).

At Pier Law & Mediation, one of our key goals for the year is to continue our transition to a paperless process. We also strive to further enhance and streamline our clients' experience so that they can benefit from **new and exciting changes** in the near future.

THE FAMILY LAW ACT VS. THE DIVORCE ACT

The *Family Law Act of British Columbia* and the *Divorce Act of Canada* are both laws that govern family law. One difference between the two acts is the scope of their jurisdiction.

The **Family Law Act of BC** applies to family law matters within the province of British Columbia, including issues related to marriage, cohabitation, and separation. It deals with matters such as:

- **Parenting arrangements for children**
- **Child and spousal support**
- **Division of family property**
- **Protection orders**

On the other hand, the **Divorce Act of Canada** applies to divorce and marriage matters across all provinces and territories. Example of these issues might include the following:

- **Divorce**
- **Parenting Time**
- **Decision Making**
- **Child and spousal support**

In short, both acts set out the legislative framework that address family law in British Columbia. Additionally, the *Family Law Act of BC* applies to married and unmarried couples, while the *Divorce Act of Canada* only applies to married couples.



HISTORY OF FAMILY DAY IN BC

Family Day in British Columbia was **first introduced in 2013**, as a statutory holiday observed on the third Monday of February each year. The holiday was created by the British Columbia government in an effort to provide families with an **additional day to spend together**, similar to other provinces such as Alberta and Ontario, which already observed a similar holiday.

The idea for a Family Day holiday in British Columbia was first proposed in the early 2000s. The government of British Columbia formed a task force in 2007 to study the feasibility of creating a new statutory holiday, and in 2011, the task force recommended that a Family Day holiday be introduced.

Family Day was **officially introduced in 2013** and has been celebrated annually since then. The day is intended to recognize **both parents equally** as well

as other **important familial relationships** such as extended family members or guardians.

The introduction of Family Day in British Columbia was met with support from many organizations and individuals, including the BC Federation of Labour, the BC Chamber of Commerce, and the YMCA. They all recognized the value of the holiday in **promoting family time and strengthening communities**.

Family Day is celebrated in many different ways by individuals and families alike. Often people take advantage of the extra day off to spend time with family members or friends they otherwise wouldn't get to see. Many families will plan fun activities such as road trips, picnics, movies, hikes, or other activities together. It's also an opportunity to reflect on how far we've come as a society in terms of recognizing the **important role that families play in our lives**.

RAINY DAY ACTIVITIES IN METRO VANCOUVER

- Spend the afternoon at **Science World**, an interactive science museum with exhibits and activities for children of all ages.
- Explore the **Vancouver Aquarium**, where you can see a variety of marine animals and participate in interactive exhibits.
- Kid visitors to the **BC Sports Hall of Fame** don't just get to learn about the history of sports in B.C., they also get to run around, climb the wall, kick balls and slap pucks.
- Visit the **Museum of Vancouver**, where you can learn about the history and culture of the city.



- The **H.R. MacMillan Space Centre** is another interactive science museum with exhibits that includes a computer simulation that lets you dock a shuttle at a space station using a joystick and so much more.
- The **Britannia Mine Museum** has a lot to offer families: Kids can pan for gold (and keep the gold they find), ride on the underground mine train, and check out the interactive technology displays.

MARSHMALLOW & PRETZEL TREATS

By: www.pint-sizedbaker.com

Ingredients

For the marshmallows

- 1 bag of marshmallows
- Red Candy Melts
- White Candy Melts
- Lollipop sticks
- Sprinkles

For the pretzels

- Pretzel Rods
- Red Candy Melts
- White Candy Melts
- Sprinkles

Instructions

For the marshmallows

- Melt your candy coating as directed and pour into a small bowl
- Insert the lollipop stick into the marshmallow and dip into the melted candy coating.
- Allow any excess to drip off, then add your sprinkles. Allow to dry standing up.

For the pretzels

- Melt your candy coating as directed and pour into a deep (tall) coffee mug or plastic cup.
- Dip the Pretzel Rod about 1/2 to 3/4 of the way into the melted candy coating. Allow the excess to drip off and then lay flat on wax paper. Decorate with Sprinkles!



STRAWBERRY VALENTINES MIX

By: <https://butterwithasideofbread.com>

Ingredients

- 6 cups Chex cereal
- 1 - 12oz bag of white chocolate baking chips
- 1 box of Strawberry Creme Jell-O Pudding
- Valentines M&M's and/or Sprinkles
- 1/2 tsp shortening

Instructions

- Measure out Chex cereal into a large bowl.
- Pour chocolate into a small glass dish and add shortening.
- Microwave for 80 seconds. Let sit in the microwave for 3 minutes. Remove and gently stir. If chocolate loses its shape and looks smooth, it's done. If not, return to the microwave in 15 second increments, letting cool each time, until melted and smooth.
- Add 4 TBSP of the strawberry creme pudding into the melted chocolate and stir gently until smooth.
**Optional - Add 2 drops of red food coloring.

- Pour the chocolate mixture over the Chex cereal and stir gently to coat.
- Transfer cereal mixture to a large piece of wax paper. Sprinkle with M&M's and Valentines sprinkles, if desired.
- Let cool to set. Break pieces and store in an airtight container to save.



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