



## **RESOURCES FOR LITIGANTS IN FAMILY CASES**

October 2021, Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Newmarket)

**Note:** this is not a comprehensive list of all resources available for Family Law issues, and the provision of this list should not be seen as an endorsement of any of the respective content, but rather a starting point for your own research

### **GENERAL RESOURCES**

#### **Finding Community Services**

Visit your local Family Law Information Centre

[www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/family\\_justice\\_services.php#flic](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/family_justice_services.php#flic)

Listings at 211.ca

<https://211ontario.ca/211-for-help/looking-for-help/>

#### **Finding Legal Services**

Legal Aid Ontario Toll Free: 1-800-668-8258

<https://www.legalaid.on.ca/services/family-legal-issues/>

#### **LEGAL AID/ADVICE LAWYER**

Legal Aid has also created a new line for clients who are seeking to get legal advice (up to 20 min) they can access that service for **Duty Counsel (for your court date)** or **Legal advice (any other time)** by calling **905-967-0921 or 1-888-616-0119, ext. 18** It is a call back service - please leave a message and then wait for a call back

**You will get a quicker response for Duty Counsel and Legal Advice via EMAIL**  
[gendcfamnewmascj@lao.on.ca](mailto:gendcfamnewmascj@lao.on.ca)

To apply or learn more about Legal Aid Certificates the alternative is to contact the Client Service Centre (Summary Legal Advice – Family) at **1-800-668-8258**



**York Region Law Association:**

<https://yorklaw.ca/family>

**Law Society of Ontario**

**Law Society Referral Service:**

<https://lsrs.iso.ca/lsrs/defineLocale.action?currentLang=en>, or email [lsrs@iso.ca](mailto:lsrs@iso.ca)  
Law Society Referral Service **1-855-947-5255**

**Law Society Lawyer and Paralegal Directory:**

<https://iso.ca/public-resources/finding-a-lawyer-or-paralegal/lawyer-and-paralegal-directory>

**Ontario Bar Association Directory of Lawyers:**

<http://www.oba.org/for-the-public/find-a-lawyer>

**Unbundled Services** in family law and Ontario's Family Law Limited Scope Services Project where you can hire a lawyer on an as-needed basis called "unbundled services"  
<https://www.familylawlss.ca/>

**Advice and Settlement Counsel** - One hour of legal assistance at an affordable rate. No appointment needed. Virtual services  
[www.ascfamily.com](http://www.ascfamily.com)

**Family Justice Centre** – Legal advice and assistance with court forms  
[www.probonostudents.ca](http://www.probonostudents.ca) (commences early 2021)

**URGENT/EMERGENCY FAMILY LAW REFERRAL TELEPHONE LINE – 1-800-268-7568 OR 416-947-3310**

- to provide assistance to people who are self-represented (SRLs)



- to determine whether or not their family court matter meets the criteria to be heard by the Court on an “urgent” basis
- if so, how to proceed in making their request

This emergency service will connect SRLs with a family lawyer, working on a pro bono basis, who **will provide 30 minutes of legal advice** specific to determining whether or not their family court matter is **urgent** and will provide referrals to other available legal services.

## ***Family Law Mediation Services***

### **MEDIATION SERVICES via York Hills Family Mediation and Information Services – 905-853-4816**

- If you would like to try to settle your family matter outside of court, mediation may be appropriate for you.
- Visit their website for more information: <https://www.yorkhills.ca/services/family-mediation/>
- To start the mediation process, call the Information and Referral Coordinators at **905-853-4816**. It is a callback service, please leave a message and wait for a call back.

**Court-Connected Family Mediation** Programs in Ontario, Ministry of the Attorney General

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/mediation.php>

**Locate an accredited family mediator** through, Ontario Association for Family Mediation, Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario or ADR Institute of Ontario

[www.oafm.on.ca/](http://www.oafm.on.ca/)

[www.fdrio.ca/members/](http://www.fdrio.ca/members/)

<http://adric.ca/>

## ***Family Law: General***

Steps to Justice, Community Legal Education Ontario

<https://stepstojustice.ca/legal-topic/family-law>



Family Law Information Program, Legal Aid Ontario  
<http://www.legalaid.on.ca/en/getting/flip.asp>

Family law legislation, rules and forms  
[www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/family/legislation-forms/](http://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/family/legislation-forms/)

## **Family Law Court Procedures and Forms**

Guide to Process, Superior Court of Justice  
<http://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/news/publications/guide-family/>

Family Court Forms, Ministry of the Attorney General  
<http://ontariocourtforms.on.ca/en/>

Assistance Completing Your Court Forms, Community Legal Education Ontario (Guided Pathways)  
<https://stepstojustice.ca/guided-pathways>

Guide to Procedures at Family Court, Ministry of the Attorney General (court filings)  
<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/guides/fc/>

Family Law Rules  
<http://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/990114>

Family law flowchart (Community Legal Education Ontario)  
<https://familycourt.cleo.on.ca/en/about-flowcharts>

## **Procedures in the Superior Court of Justice**

Practice Directions of the Superior Court of Justice  
[www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/](http://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/)

List of Often Cited Family Law Cases  
[www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/practice-directions/list/](http://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/practice-directions/list/)



## **Domestic Violence**

Assaulted Women's Helpline  
<https://www.awhl.org/home>

Services for Women Experiencing Domestic Violence, [www.settlement.org](http://www.settlement.org)  
<https://settlement.org/ontario/health/family-health/domestic-abuse/where-can-i-get-help-for-domestic-abuse/>

Information about Violence in the Family, Ministry of the Attorney General  
[www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/violence.php](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/violence.php)

Family Court Support Worker Program, Ministry of the Attorney General  
[www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/family\\_court\\_support\\_worker\\_program/service\\_providers.php](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/ovss/family_court_support_worker_program/service_providers.php)

Legal Aid Ontario Domestic Violence Legal Advice Certificates  
<https://www.legalaid.on.ca/services/domestic-abuse/>

## **Court Support with Yellow Brick House**

**Urgent** matters such as accessing our shelter or having any safety concerns, please call the **24-hour crisis-line at 1-800-263-3247**. A crisis counsellor will be able to provide immediate assistance.

## **Court Support with Yellow Brick House**

For other **non-emergency inquiries**, please call our outreach intake screening at **1-877-222-8438 Ext. 5004**

A worker will triage and direct caller to receive appropriate services. Messages will be checked during business hours on a daily basis except holidays and weekends.

If need be (especially for D.V. cases) individuals can contact Florence via email at [florencet@yellowbrickhouse.org](mailto:florencet@yellowbrickhouse.org) **OR IF YOU ARE IN DANGER CALL 911**





## **Parenting Issues**

Steps to Justice – Community Legal Education Ontario  
<https://stepstojustice.ca/legal-topic/family-law>

Decision-making, parenting time and parenting plans (Community Legal Education Ontario)  
<https://yourlegalrights.on.ca/resource/separation-and-divorce-child-custody-access-and-parenting-plans>

### **Guides, checklists and tools to help create a parenting plan**

Department of Justice Canada  
<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/parent/plan.html>

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC-Ontario)  
<https://afccontario.ca/parenting-plan-guide-and-template/>

Steps to Justice, Community Legal Education Ontario  
<https://stepstojustice.ca/steps/family-law/2-make-agreement-court-can-enforce>

Parenting Scheduling and Communications Tools  
<https://www.ourfamilywizard.com/> (subsidies may be available)  
<http://coparently.com/>  
<https://coparenter.com/>  
<https://talkingparents.com/home>  
<https://www.2houses.com/en/>  
<https://truece.com/>  
<https://appclose.com/>  
<http://kidganizer.com/>  
<https://www.custodyjunction.com>  
<http://www.parentingtime.net>

Information about child custody assessments, including hiring a private assessor and services that are available through the Office of the Children’s Lawyer



<https://stepstojustice.ca/questions/family-law/what-child-custody-and-access-assessment-why-would-i-want-one>

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/ocl/custody.php>

[www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/ocl/](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/ocl/)

Intake materials for the Office of the Children’s Lawyer

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/ocl/intakeform.php>

Information about supervised access services in Ontario

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/supaccess.php>

## ***Child Protection Issues***

Information about child protection cases, Ministry of the Attorney General

[www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/divorce/child\\_protection/](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/divorce/child_protection/)

Steps to Justice – Community Legal Education Ontario

<https://stepstojustice.ca/legal-topic/family-law/child-protection>

**Let’s Talk Child Witness Program** (run by sand house & Sandgate Women’s Shelter)

To help children 4-18 years old) throughout York Region understand the cycle of abuse and deal with their feelings as witnesses or victims of domestic violence. The program aims to provide children with a safe and supportive environment where they can talk about their experiences and participate in a variety of activities aimed at assisting them in working through their feelings.

Yellow Brick House 1-877-222-8438 [www.yellowbrickhouse.org](http://www.yellowbrickhouse.org)

Sandgate 1-800-661-8294 [www.sandgate.ca](http://www.sandgate.ca)

## ***Support Issues***

Steps to Justice, Community Legal Education Ontario

<https://stepstojustice.ca/legal-topic/family-law>

General information regarding child support and spousal support,

**Community Legal Education Ontario**



<https://yourlegalrights.on.ca/legal-topic/family-law/child-support>

<https://yourlegalrights.on.ca/resource/separation-and-divorce-spousal-support>

How to determine child support

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/child-enfant/index.html>

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/fl-lf/child-enfant/guide/>

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/child-enfant/ft-tf.html>

How to determine spousal support

<http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/divorce/support/spousal.php>

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/spousal-epoux/index.html>

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/spousal-epoux/ssag-ldfpae.html>

Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/spousal-epoux/ssag-ldfpae.html>

Set up or Update child support online and support calculation tools

[Set up or update child support online | Ontario.ca](#)

<https://www.mysupportcalculator.ca/>

Information about enforcement of support orders

<https://stepstojustice.ca/questions/family-law/how-does-family-responsibility-office-enforce-child-support>

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/paying-and-receiving-child-and-spousal-support>

<https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/fl-df/enforce-execution/index.html>

Family Responsibility Office, re: support enforcement: [www.thefro.ca](http://www.thefro.ca)





## **Property Issues**

General information regarding division of property for married spouses (includes information about pensions and the matrimonial home)

[http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/divorce/division\\_of\\_property/](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/divorce/division_of_property/)

Steps to Justice – Community Legal Education Ontario

<https://stepstojustice.ca/legal-topic/family-law/property-and-debts-married-couples>

Property Division, Community Legal Education Ontario

[www.cleo.on.ca/en/publications/propertydiv](http://www.cleo.on.ca/en/publications/propertydiv)

Matrimonial Real Property on Reserves: Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

[www.aadnc.gc.ca/MRP](http://www.aadnc.gc.ca/MRP)

## **Restraining Orders**

Ministry of the Attorney General: Self-Help Guide to Applying for a Restraining Order

[http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/guides/restraining\\_order/](http://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/family/guides/restraining_order/)

## **Consolidated Web Page with Various Links and Case Summaries**

Links to court decisions, practice directions, legislation, legal links, a financial disclosure program, useful apps and other services/resources

[twitter.com/protopage.com/corollaryrelief](https://twitter.com/protopage.com/corollaryrelief)

## **ZOOM Trouble Shooting**

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806-Frequently-asked-questions>

## **Current Directions for Attendances, Materials and Filing**

**Conferences and Motions are scheduled for one hour** and are set by the trial coordinator. **Cross-motions** that are not scheduled by the trial coordinator will not proceed. **Page limitations must be followed.**



## Case Conference and Settlement Conference Briefs

**Case Conference Briefs should be limited to the four-page form set out in the *Family Law Rules* with a maximum of four additional pages of narrative and proposals**, other than supporting material such as lists of outstanding disclosure or professional reports. Case conference briefs that exceed the eight-page maximum may be returned to the parties, and the matter may be placed at the bottom of the list. Lengthy or unduly adversarial case or settlement conference briefs may not be read. The matter may also be placed at the bottom of the list and costs may be awarded. For additional information please review the NEW Notice to Profession effective September 1, 2021.

## Motion Materials

**There shall be a strict page limit for affidavits in support of motions. Affidavits shall not exceed twelve pages of narrative and the total number of pages of exhibits shall not exceed ten pages. Reply affidavits and/or third party affidavits shall not exceed 5 pages including exhibits.** Copies of relevant court orders are excluded from the page limit and should be included. Materials may reference exhibits that can be made available to the judge upon request. Moving party's motion materials due 30 days in advance of the motion. Responding party's motion materials due 14 days before the motion. Reply due 10 days before the motion. All pages must be single sided and double spaced with a 12 point font. The parties must file a 14B motion requesting an extension to the filing page limits 30 days prior to the filing deadlines to account for the lag time between filing and disposition. The request should include the approximate number of pages for the affidavit and the exhibits, and the necessity of same. For additional information please review the Notices to Profession effective September 13, 2021 (Ontario-wide) and January 4, 2021 (Central East Region).

[Province-wide Notice to the Profession Regarding Family Law Cases | Superior Court of Justice \(ontariocourts.ca\)](https://www.ontariocourts.ca/notice-to-the-profession-regarding-family-law-cases)

[Notice to the Profession and Family Law Litigants – Protocol for Family and Child Protection Matters in the Superior Court of Justice, Central East Region \(Effective January 4, 2021\) | Superior Court of Justice \(ontariocourts.ca\)](https://www.ontariocourts.ca/notice-to-the-profession-and-family-law-litigants-protocol-for-family-and-child-protection-matters-in-the-superior-court-of-justice-central-east-region-effective-january-4-2021)



**Court materials should be filed in accordance with the *Family Law Rules* and the Ontario-wide and Central East Practice Directions through the Family Submissions Online portal - [Ontario.ca/familyclaims](https://www.ontario.ca/familyclaims) and Caselines**

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/file-family-court-documents-online>

The file naming protocol can be found at: [Consolidated Notice to the Profession, Litigants, Accused Persons, Public and the Media | Superior Court of Justice \(ontariocourts.ca\)](#)

**Court materials filed late (even with the consent of the other party) may not be available to the judge on the hearing date. Early filing is recommended.**

**If at any time you need to contact the family section of the Newmarket filing office, the best way to reach them is via email at:**

[newmarketscjfamily@ontario.ca](mailto:newmarketscjfamily@ontario.ca)