

Parenting Coordination Services

What is Parenting Coordination?

The role of a parenting coordinator is to assist in the implementation of a parenting plan, where custody and access has already been decided. The parenting coordinator will:

- ❑ Monitor compliance of the plan;
- ❑ Help resolve disputes with the plan as they arise;
- ❑ Help standardize daily routines in the two homes;
- ❑ Help parents to focus on the needs of the children and reduce their child(ren)'s exposure to parental conflict;
- ❑ Help to communicate and plan medical, psychological or other care needs for their children;
- ❑ Facilitate discussion of discipline strategies;
- ❑ Help resolve other parenting issues raised by either parents.



London Custody and Access Project

What is the fee structure for LCAP services?

Custody and Access Assessments: The retainer required on behalf of each party for 15 hours of assessment is \$3000 plus \$150 for administrative services per party. The hourly fee for this service is \$200.00. Any surplus retainer will be refunded.

Mediation: The retainer required on behalf of each party for 5 hours mediation time is \$1000, plus \$75 for administrative services per party. The hourly fee for this service is \$200. Any surplus retainer will be refunded.

Parenting Coordination: The retainer required on behalf of each party will be \$1000, plus a \$75 for administrative services per party. The hourly fee for this service is \$200. Any surplus retainer will be refunded.

PLEASE NOTE: In the event that more time is required for any service, a further retainer will be requested.

For more information on The London Custody and Access Project or to make a referral to any of these services, please contact:

Tel: 519-679-7250 ext. 104

Fax: 519-675-7772

Email: lcap@lfcc.on.ca

Web: www.lfcc.on.ca

**A Service of
THE CENTRE FOR CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES IN THE
JUSTICE SYSTEM**



Recognizing that **different family circumstances require different kinds of assistance**, the following services are offered:

- Custody & Access Assessment
- Mediation
- Parenting Coordination

**The Centre for Children and Families
in the Justice System
254 Pall Mall Street, Suite 200
London, Ontario Canada N6A 5P6**



Formerly Known as The London Family Court Clinic

Custody and Access Assessments

What is a Custody and Access Assessment?

Custody and Access Assessments identify and provide an understanding of the needs of the children in a separated family and each parent's willingness and ability to meet the children's needs. The assessor's recommendations may assist separated parents and their lawyers in deciding on the custody and access arrangements or shared parenting plan that will best meet their children's needs.



How are referrals made?

The project accepts referrals directly from parents' lawyers, on consent of both parties, or by way of court orders under the Children's Law Reform Act (CLRA).



Who will complete the assessment?

The assessor is a highly skilled masters or doctoral level clinician who does not work for either parent/guardian and strives with the highest integrity to adopt a neutral and unbiased focus.

Throughout the assessment, all information is considered within the context of the "best interests of the child" as referred to in the CLRA.

What is involved in a Custody and Access Assessment?

The assessment:

- Typically take 3-4 months (depending on the complexity of the case);
- Consists of 3-5 interviews taking place at our London office;
- Includes a first appointment outlining the process of the assessment, gaining the consent of the parties, and explaining the limits to confidentiality for these assessments;
- Involves multiple individual interviews with parents/caregivers to discuss the current situation, the background history, parent's views on parenting, and on their children's needs;
- May consist of completing questionnaires and rating scales to learn more about each parties' psychological functioning and views on child-rearing;
- Incorporates observations of parent -child interactions;
- Involves assessing the child(ren)'s needs;
- Includes gathering information from collateral sources (e.g., physicians, counselors, police, school, friends/family).



Parents will receive feedback on the results and recommendations; a report will be prepared and made available to the parents through their lawyer.

Mediation Services

What is Mediation?

Mediation is a voluntary process that involves both parents meeting with an impartial mediator who will assist them in negotiating their own shared parenting arrangements that will be in the best interests of their child(ren).

What Should I Expect from Mediation Services?

Mediation is:

- Safe and impartial;
- Voluntary-clients can withdraw at any time;
- Confidential (open and closed mediation will be discussed);
- Informs and encourages parents to obtain legal advise.



What are the Benefits of Mediation?

- It is economical in comparison to a trial;
- Mediation teaches parents more about themselves and their children;
- The process helps parents in becoming better communicators;
- Mediation can help reduce conflict between parents.

