Family Division Practice Memorandum

Part 1 - Scope and application of Rules

1.01	This Practice Memorandum applies to any proceeding started, dealt with, and
	heard in the Supreme Court (Family Division), unless a judge directs otherwise.

- 1.02 The *Nova Scotia Civil Procedure Rules*, and Rule 59 Family Division Rules in particular, apply to all of the documents and procedures provided in this Practice Memorandum.
- 1.03 Any reference in this Practice Memorandum to a particular rule number means that Rule contained in the *Nova Scotia Civil Procedure Rules*.
- 1.04 Brackets are used in the forms in this Practice Memorandum to indicate that guidance is being provided on how to complete a blank part of the Form, and italicized words in brackets are used to indicate recommended wording.
- 1.05 The brackets and guidance information contained within them, other than the applicable recommended wording, must be deleted from the version of the document or order prepared for filing.

Part 2 - Documents

Filing, format, and content requirements

- **2.01** (1) The following documents are provided in this Practice Memorandum and must be filed by the parties as required under Rule 59 and the applicable legislation:
 - (a) statement of contact information and circumstances;
 - (b) parenting statement, if custody, parenting time, contact time or interaction is claimed;
 - (c) statement of income, if child or spousal support is claimed;
 - (d) statement of special or extraordinary expenses, if child support including support for special or extraordinary expenses is claimed;
 - (e) statement of undue hardship circumstances, if child support is claimed and a party claims the amount of support should be increased from, or decreased from, the table amount on the basis that child support in the table amount would cause undue hardship;
 - (f) statement of expenses, if spousal support is in issue, or child support is claimed and a party claims an amount that is different from the table amount, or the table amount plus special or extraordinary expenses;
 - (g) statement of property, if spousal support is in issue or there is a claim for division of assets;
 - (h) motion for directions, and affidavit supporting a motion for directions, if a party seeks to proceed to a hearing under Rule 59.37;
 - (i) request for a date assignment conference, if a party seeks to proceed to a divorce trial under Rule 59.41;
 - (j) waiver of financial statements, if the parties agree to waive, and meet the requirements under either Rules 59.21(3) or 59.47(3);
 - (k) affidavit supporting an uncontested divorce under Rule 59.47(1)(e).

(2) The format and content for each document are mandatory as set out in the Forms listed in the following table, unless a judge orders otherwise prior to a hearing or trial of any motion or proceeding:

Form Number	Description	
FD 1	statement of contact information and circumstances	
FD 2A	parenting statement	
FD 2B	statement of contact time and interaction	
FD 3	statement of income	
FD 4	statement of special or extraordinary expenses	
FD 5	statement of undue hardship circumstances	
FD 6	statement of expenses	
FD 7	statement of property	
FD 8	notice of motion for directions (family)	
FD 9	affidavit supporting a motion for directions (family)	
FD 10	request for a date assignment conference (divorce)	
FD 11	waiver of financial statements	
FD 12	affidavit supporting an uncontested divorce	
FD 13	notice of motion for interim relief (family proceedings)	
FD 14	ex parte motion (family proceedings)	

Part 3 - Settlement Conferences

- **3.01** (1) The purpose of the settlement conference is to effect an early and inexpensive resolution and this requires full and frank disclosure of the merits and weaknesses of the respective cases.
 - (2) Rule 10.16 addresses the confidentiality of communications, recordings and documents in a settlement conference.
 - (3) To encourage participation in these settlement techniques, and to avoid the parties being concerned that they might be prejudiced by a settlement conference if the case goes to trial, the judge conducting the settlement conference will not be the trial judge.
- 3.02 A judge who conducts a settlement conference at which the parties reach agreement is responsible for advising the court officer who scheduled the proceeding of the effect the agreement may have on the requirements for trial or hearing dates.

Part 4 - Orders

Purpose

- **4.01** This part 4 of the Practice Memorandum provides standards for clauses in orders.
- 4.02 These standards comply with the requirements of the *Guidelines* for the corollary relief of child support, and for child support in family proceedings.
- 4.03 This Part also provides notes to explain in greater detail the content of the clauses, and provides a list of alternative clauses to assist parties in preparing orders.

Definitions

4.04 In this Part 4,

"Guidelines" means the Federal Child Support Guidelines or the provincial Child Support Guidelines or both, as the context requires;

"order provision" means a written statement of an order being made by a judge, which may include directions and rulings;

"payor" means the party paying support;

"recipient" means the party receiving support;

"recital" means a written factual statement that provides required background information for the provisions of an order;

"table amount" means an amount of child support determined under section 3 of the *Guidelines* using the tables provided in Schedule I of the *Guidelines*;

"variation order" means an order made to vary, rescind, or suspend another order made under the *Divorce Act* or the *Parenting and Support Act*.

Filing, format, and form requirements

- **4.05** (1) The following orders are provided in this Practice Memorandum and must be drafted and settled as required under Rule 59, Rule 78 Order, and this Part 3:
 - (a) interim order for child support or maintenance made by a judge or court officer under Rule 59.33;

- (b) divorce order and corollary relief order under Rule 59.48;
- (c) final order for an original proceeding other than a divorce proceeding and for a motion under Rule 59.53;
- (d) order for a paternity testing made by a court officer under Rule 59.55.
- (2) A judge may give directions on the format and content of an order at any time prior to the order being made.
- (3) The form for orders listed in the following table are provided in this Practice Memorandum, and the format and content of each form of order are recommended:

Order Number	Description
FDO 1	interim order for child support
59.48A	divorce order
59.48B	corollary relief order
FDO 4	order (family proceeding)
FDO 5	order for paternity testing
FDO 6	order for an assessment

Corollary relief order

- **4.06** (1) The *Federal Child Support Guidelines* set out specific requirements for the contents of a corollary relief order made under the *Divorce Act*.
 - (2) Form 59.48B is to be used for a corollary relief order made for child support at the table amount under the *Federal Child Support Guidelines*, or for child support at the table amount plus special or extraordinary expenses.
 - (3) Additional clauses from the list of alternative clauses provided in this Part 4, or as otherwise required, may be added to the corollary relief order to address the other situations in which a child support order is made.
 - (4) Form 59.48B also provides clauses for corollary relief relating to custody, parenting time, contact time or interaction, and spousal support, as well as property division.

Order (family proceeding)

4.07 (1) The provincial *Child Support Guidelines* set out specific requirements for the contents of an order for child support made under the *Parenting and Support Act*.

- (2) Form FDO 4 is to be used for an order made for child support at the table amount under the provincial *Child Support Guidelines*, or for child support at the table amount plus special or extraordinary expenses.
- (3) Additional clauses from the list of alternative clauses provided in this Part 4, or as otherwise required, may be added to the order (family proceeding) to address the other situations in which a child support order is made.
- (4) Form FDO 4 also provides clauses for relief relating to custody, parenting time, contact time or interaction and spousal support, as well as property division.

Variation order

- **4.08** (1) The variation order is entitled variation order and either Form 59.48B or FDO 4 may be used as the standard recital and order provisions.
 - (2) The variation order must refer to the order or orders being varied and provide the date of the order or orders being varied in the recitals.
 - (3) Additional clauses from the list of alternative clauses provided in this Part, or as otherwise required, may be added to a variation order to address the other situations in which a child support order is made.

Order notes and alternative clauses

4.09 The remainder of this Part 4 provides the following:

- (a) General note for orders;
- (b) Notes on standard clauses for recitals in orders;
- (c) Notes on standard clauses for order provisions;
- (d) List of alternative clauses with notes for recitals and order provisions.

General note for orders

Using the name of the party rather than "applicant", "petitioner" or "respondent" is simpler and less prone to error. Although full names are used in the heading, it is generally recommended that only the first given name and the surname be used in the recitals and provisions of the order, for ease of reading.

Notes on standard clauses for recitals in orders

Titles for clauses are not necessary in the recitals. They are used in this section for ease of reference. The information provided in this section applies to the corresponding recitals used in Forms 59.48B and FDO 4.

Child's name and birthdate

Section 13(a) of the *Guidelines* requires that the order provide the name and birth date of each child to whom the order relates.

Income information

Section 13(b) of the *Guidelines* requires that the order include "the income of any spouse whose income is used to determine the amount of the child support order".

There are different definitions of income, used for different purposes within the *Guidelines*. The recitals must be clear on what income has been determined and for what purpose, for example:

- The recitals need only mention the payor's annual income for the "table amount only" version of the orders.
- The incomes of both parties are required to determine the sharing proportions for special or extraordinary expenses and both incomes must be stated pursuant to ss. 7 and 13(b) of the *Guidelines* in the "table amount plus special or extraordinary expenses" version.

Effect of spousal support on income

Spousal support paid by one party to another must be deducted from the payor's "table" income and added to the recipient's income, before calculating the respective proportions. [Reference: *Guidelines*, Schedule III, s. 3(2)]

Notes on standard clauses for order provisions

Titles provide easy reference for the order provisions found in the body of an order and they are recommended. The headings provided in this section correspond to the headings used in Forms 59.48B and FDO 4.

Child support payments

The table amount is to be specified or, when another amount is used, one of the alternative clauses provided in this Part 4 is to be used to describe the amount and circumstances. [Reference: *Guidelines*, s. 13(c)]

Specific information concerning "special or extraordinary expenses" must be included in the order. [Reference: *Guidelines*, s. 13(e): "the particulars of any expense described in subsection 7(1), the child to whom the expense relates, and the amount of the expense or, where that amount cannot be determined, the proportion to be paid in relation to the expense"]

The Director of Maintenance Enforcement prefers that an actual amount for special or extraordinary expenses be stated, and not just the proportions, for enforcement purposes.

When child support payments are due

The payment schedule must be stated, including either lump sum or periodic payments and the date or dates when payments are to be made. [Reference: *Guidelines*, ss. 11 and 13(f)]

Child support through health plan

Section 6 of the *Guidelines* provides for insurance coverage to be a term of child support. Any affidavit relating to child support should provide information to the court indicating whether or not such coverage exists or is to be acquired, in order for the court to include this term. [Reference: *Mannett* v. *Mannett* (1992), 111 N.S.R. (2d) 327 and *Robski* v. *Robski*, [1997], N.S.J. No. 444]

Ongoing disclosure for child support

If the order is for the table amount only, ss. 21 and 25 of the *Guidelines* require the disclosure of only the payor's income. Annual production is ordered here instead of requiring a written request from the recipient each year, under section 25 of the *Guidelines*.

Disclosure by the recipient is only required when the order provides for an amount other than the table amount, as in the following cases under the *Guidelines*: special or extraordinary expenses [s. 7], split custody [s. 8], shared custody [s. 9], children 19 or over [s. 3(2)(b)], incomes over \$150,000 [s. 4(b)], undue hardship [s. 10], and spousal support when ordered or not ordered by reason of priority to child support. The version of this order provision for the mutual exchange of income tax returns is to be used, because the annual incomes of both parties must be disclosed.

Spousal support

If spousal support is to be paid, the payment schedule must be stated, including either lump sum or periodic payments and the date or dates when payments are to be made.

Director of Maintenance Enforcement

The method of payment preferred by the Director is for the payor to provide postdated cheques for one year. If the preferred method of payment is adopted, the clauses should read:

All support payments must be made by way of post-dated cheques for a period of one year. The cheques must be made payable to [name of party receiving support]

The post-dated cheques must be sent by [name of party paying support] to the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement, PO Box 803, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2V2, while the order is filed for enforcement with the Director.

Notes: Under section 9 of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*, all maintenance orders are filed with the Director of Maintenance Enforcement and enforced by the Director, unless the parties opt out or withdraw the order from enforcement. The court cannot order that the parties "opt out" of the Maintenance Enforcement Program. Parties wishing to opt out must do so in accordance with section 10 of the *Act*, which requires that a written consent signed by both parties must be filed with the Director. Parties may make reference in the terms of the order to an existing written consent signed by them and filed with the Director. In some circumstances, a party may apply to the Director under s. 12 to have the order "withdrawn from enforcement".

The current designated addresses of both parties, provided under *Rule* 59.15, are to be sent by a court officer with the order to assist with registration in the Maintenance Enforcement Program.

Section 42 of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act* requires parties to maintain current addresses with the Director of Maintenance Enforcement and also advise on any changes in employment. Parties must provide the information regarding a change in address or employment within ten days from the date of the change.

List of alternative clauses with notes for recitals and order provisions

This section provides a list of alternative clauses to assist litigants in the preparation of an order. The purpose is to maximize standardization and uniformity of clauses, as well as compliance with the detailed requirements of the *Guidelines*.

Each new clause has a heading and is immediately followed by either recital notes or order provision notes depending on the type of alternative clause.

Imputation of Income

[name] has failed to provide income information when required by the [order/notice] dated and [his/her] annual income is imputed to be \$ [amount] for the purpose of determining the amount of child support.

Recital Notes: If a party has not provided the necessary income information, this recital clause may be used to give the background for the necessary imputation, made under ss. 19(1)(f), 21 and 22 of the *Guidelines*. The party must have failed to provide income information "when under a legal obligation to do so", before income can be imputed under section 19(1)(f), and a reference is made to the order or direction that requires the disclosure. Section 21 sets out the information to be disclosed and section 25 sets out the continuing obligation to disclose.

Rounding-Up of Table Amount

[name] must pay child support to [name] pursuant to the [Federal Child Support Guidelines/provincial Child Support Guidelines] and in excess of the Nova Scotia table, the amount of \$ [amount] per month payable on the first day of each month, and commencing [date] .

Order Provision Notes: The parties may agree to "round up" the table amount, e.g. from \$478 to \$480 or \$500, or agree to fix child support at an amount higher than the table amount, rather than detail some small amount of special or extraordinary expenses. In either case, this alternative clause in the order provisions identifies that the "basic amount" is in excess of the table amount. The *Guidelines* set a floor for child support purposes and parties are free to agree to a higher amount.

Undue Hardship

[name], resident of Nova Scotia, has an annual income of \$ amount [and his/her spouse [describe relationship of person in household sharing expenses], [name], has an annual income of \$ amount] for the purpose of determining the table amount of child [support] and [his/her] household standard of living.

[name] has an annual income of \$ amount [and his/her spouse [describe relationship of person in household sharing expenses], [name], has an annual income of \$ amount] for the purpose of determining his/her household standard of living.

<u>Recital Notes:</u> The bolded heading is not required in recitals. For undue hardship, the incomes are set out in the recitals that are used in the calculation of the respective household standards of living, under s. 10(3) of the *Guidelines*. Incomes of all relevant members of the household should be identified, using Schedule II for guidance as necessary.

Undue Hardship

3 [name] 's household has a higher standard of living than [name] 's household.

[name] would suffer undue hardship by reason of [set out undue hardship circumstance] if required to pay child support pursuant to the [Federal Child Support Guidelines/provincial Child Support Guidelines] and in accordance with the Nova Scotia table in the amount of \$ [amount] per month.

[name] must therefore pay child support to [name] in the amount of \$ [amount] per month, payable on the first day of each month, and commencing [date].

<u>Order Provision Notes:</u> If allowed, undue hardship changes the table amount which would otherwise be ordered. The table amount and the new amount must be stated in the order

provisions as required by s. 13(c) of the *Guidelines*. Any subsequent review or variation is then clear on what would have been ordered and what was actually ordered.

Child 19 or Over

[name] has an annual income of \$ [amount], and [name] has an annual income of \$ [amount], [and the child [name] has an annual income of \$ amount] for the purpose of determining child support for the child [name], born [date].

<u>Recital Notes:</u> The bolded heading is not required in recitals. The parties may agree, or a judge may decide, that the "table amount plus special or extraordinary expenses" is "inappropriate" under s. 3(2)(b) of the *Guidelines*. Alternative ways of determining support include using the older method of working out a child's budget and sharing it proportionately between the parents/guardians. If the child has income, then the budget deficit is what is shared between the parents/guardians.

Child 19 or Over

[name] must pay to [name /the child, name,] pursuant to section 3(2)(b) of the [Federal Child Support Guidelines/provincial Child Support Guidelines] the amount of \$ [amount] per month for the support of the child [name], payable on the first day of each month, commencing [date].

<u>Order Provision Notes:</u> Parties have the option to agree that the child receive the monthly payments directly.

Split Custody

[name 1], resident of Nova Scotia, has an annual income of \$ [amount] and [name 2], resident of Nova Scotia, has an annual income of \$ [amount], for the purpose of determining the table amount of child support.

<u>Recital Notes:</u> The bolded heading is not required in recitals. For consistency in the order provisions, the party who will be paying child support is "name 1" and the other party is "name 2". The party paying support is often the party with the higher income. However, if one party has fewer children than the other, that party may be the one to pay support.

Split Custody

[name 1] would otherwise pay to [name 2] for the support of the [child/children name/names] the table amount of \$ [amount], and [name 2] would otherwise pay to [name 1] for the support of the [child/children name/names] the table amount of \$ [amount].

[name 1] must therefore pay child support to [name 2] in the amount of \$ [amount] per month, payable on the first day of each month, and commencing [date].

<u>Order Provision Notes:</u> Section 8 of the *Guidelines* provides for the net difference to be paid in split custody situations. It may be necessary in some circumstances to include not just table amounts, but also special or extraordinary expenses in the calculation of the net difference, which should then be reflected in alternative clauses.

Shared Custody

NOTES: A standard clause for child support in a shared custody situation under Section 9 of the *Guidelines* has not been included as there are a wide variety of possible shared custody arrangements in practice. It may be possible to modify some of the alternative clauses to fit the particular shared custody situation.

Waiver of Financial Disclosure

By agreement of the parties, [name] and [name] are not required to file financial statements in this proceeding.

Order Provision Notes: This clause may be used if there are no children of the marriage and both parties agree to waive the filing of the financial statements. This would include cases in which the parties are not seeking relief regarding spousal support or matrimonial property, or the parties have reached an agreement regarding spousal support and matrimonial property and they have also agreed to waive the filing of the financial statements. This clause cannot be used where there are any dependent children, even if child support has been agreed upon, due to the requirements under s. 21 of the *Guidelines*.

Reduced Spousal Support

No spousal support shall be paid by [name] to [name] as a result of giving priority to child support.

OR

[name] shall pay spousal support to [name] in the amount of \$ [amount] per month, payable on the first day of each month, and commencing [date], which amount is less than it otherwise would have been as a result of giving priority to child support.

Order Provision Notes: Section 15.3(1) of the Divorce Act requires that the court give priority to child support over spousal support. Where that priority eliminates, or reduces the amount of, spousal support, the order should so note, consistent with the duty to record reasons in s. 15.3(3).

Form FD 1

20	No.
20	NO.

Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

	Statement of Contact Information and Circumstanc	es
		Respondent
	and	
		Applicant/Petitioner
Between:		

Please complete all sections regarding your case. Please print in ink.

You may discuss the shaded sections for contact information and service directions with a court officer before completing these sections.

Section A	Information about you. (APPLICANT)	Information about the person against whom you are making this application. (RESPONDENT)	
Name	Last Name:	Last Name:	
	First Name:	First Name:	
	Middle Name: Previous Names: Other Names, Alias, etc.;	Middle Name: Previous Names: Other Names, Alias, etc:	
Prefix	□ Mr. □ Ms. □ Other:	□ Mr. □ Ms. □ Other:	
Gender	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other	

Birth Date	DayMonthYear	DayMonthYear
Telephone Email Fax	Home	Home Business Message. Other Email Fax.
Address	P.O. Box	P.O. Box
Legal Counsel	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe If yes: Lawyer's Name: Firm Name: Address: Phone: Email: Fax:	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe If yes: Lawyer's Name: Firm Name Address: Phone: Email: Fax:
Current Marital Status	☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Spousal or Common law relationship ☐ Single	☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Spousal or Common law relationship ☐ Single

Income	☐ Employment Income (salary/wages)	☐ Employment Income (salary/wages)		
	☐ Commission/Bonuses/Overtime	☐ Commission/Bonuses/Overtime		
	☐ Self-employed	☐ Self-employed		
	☐ Income from a Partnership/Corporation	☐ Income from a Partnership/Corp oration		
	☐ Employment Insurance	☐ Employment Insurance		
	☐ Social Assistance/Family Benefits	☐ Social Assistance/Family Benefits		
	☐ Worker's Compensation	☐ Worker's Compensation		
	☐ Pension Income	☐ Pension Income		
	☐ Income from a Trust	☐ Income from a Trust		
	☐ Other	☐ Other		
	Explain:			
Occupation	Occupation	Occupation		
	Fundamental formation	F1 If		
	Employer Information Name:	Employer Information Name:		
	Name.	Name		
	Address:	Address:		
	Phone Number:	Phone Number:		
	Filone Number.	Filone Number		
	Email:	Email:		
	Fax:	Fax:		
	☐ Other Places of Employment	☐ Other Places of Employment		

Section B Relationship Between Applicant and Respondent

☐ Married
Date of Marriage:
Date of Separation:
☐ Spousal or Common Law
Date spousal or common law relationship began:
Date of Separation:
□ Divorced
Date of Divorce Judgment:
□ Single
☐ Parent of Applicant's Child
□ Other
Explain:

Section C	List below the full names and dates of birth of all children who are the subject of this Application.			
Last Name	Given Names (underline name used)	Date of Birth	Gender (M/F/ Other)	Presently Living With:

Section D	Most Recent Court Order or Written Agreement
Most Recent Court On	rder (if any):
Date Issued:	
Court:	
File Number:	
Most Recent Written	Agreement (if any):
Date:	
Other Court Proceeding	ngs (if any):
Type:	
Court:	
File number:	
Section E	Accessibility requests
Do you have any lan	guage, communication, or health needs that require accommodation?
Yes □ No □	
If yes, please explain	t:
Signed on	, 20 By:
	Print Name:

Form FD2A

20	No.
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		Supreme Court of (Family Div		
Between:				
			Applicar	nt/Petitioner
		and		
				Respondent
		Parenting Sta	tement	
Please check the bo	ox that applie	s to You:		
$\Box \text{I am the Ap} \\ OR$	plicant (the p	erson making the ap	plication/petition)	
☐ I am the Res	spondent (the	person responding	o an application/petition)	
This matter relates	to the follow	ing child or children		
Full name (Includin	ng Middle Na	me) Age	Birthdate (M/D/	<u>Y)</u>
The child or childre	en receive chi	ld care or attend pre	-school or school as follows:	
Child's Name	<u>Days</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Location</u>	
_		n have special nee or parenting arrange	ds or disabilities that may affectments:	et decision-
Child's Name	Special N	eeds or Disabilities	<u>Details</u>	

PRESENT PARENTING ARRANGEMENTS

1. Th	The present parenting arrangements for each child:				
a)	Whe	Where does each child live now?			
b)	Wha	at is the schedule of parenting time for each child now?			
PROPOS	ED PARE	ENTING ARRANGEMENT			
2. Th	ne propose	ed parenting arrangements for each child:			
a) W	here do y	ou want each child to live?			
b) W	hat sched	ule of parenting time do you want for each child?			
(1)	Reasona	able parenting time (flexible parenting schedule that you both agree to)			
<u>OR</u>					
(ii)	_	d parenting time (give specific details including dates and times) Attach a e if necessary:			
	a. Reg	ular parenting time (i.e. throughout school year)			
		weekend time (specify)			
		weekday time (specify)			

b.	Holi	day/Special Occasion parenting time (specific days and times) March Break
		Summer Holiday
		Christmas/Hannukah/Kwanza
		Easter
		Other
<u>OR</u>		
(iii)		pervised parenting time (visiting that takes place with another adult sent), if so, give specific details (who would supervise/where and when):
3. Do you or t	the o	ther parent work outside the home, if so what are the days and hours of work
I declare that the	he ab	ove information is accurate to the best of my knowledge.
Signature Signed on		, 20
		Signature
		Print Name:

Form FD2B 20		No.
	Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)	
Between:		
_		Applicant/Petitioner
	and	
_		Respondent
	Statement of Contact Time and Interaction	
Completed by:	[first and last name of person]	
Completed on:	[day/month/year]	

You are advised to seek legal advice if you need help in completing this form.

[The term "child/children" in this document means the child or any of the children who are the subject of the court application.]

[If you do not have enough room to give information in any section, please attach extra page(s) and mark with the section number.]

Section 1: RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD

Please describe your relationship to each child:

Child's Last Name	Child's First and Middle Names	Date of Birth (d/m/y)	Relationship (e.g. grandparent, sibling of parent, family friend, etc.)

Section 2: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTIES

Relatio	onship between the parties
	I am a parent of
	[name of parent/guardian of child/children]
	I am a relative of
	[name of parent/guardian of child/children]
	Other [describe relationship]:
	Section 3: CURRENT CONTACT TIME/INTERACTION AVAILABILITY
	I work from home
	I am retired and not working
	I work regular days and hours from [day] to [day] and [hour] from to [hour]
	I work shift work and my regular pattern of days and hours is as follows [describe]:
	I work part time irregular days and hours as follows [describe]:
	I am not working because:
	☐ I am unemployed.
	☐ I am on maternity or parental leave.
	☐ I am disabled.
	$\hfill \square$ I am financially supported by [describe person or circumstances]:
	☐ Other [describe circumstances]:

	Section 4: REASONS FOR REQUESTING AN ORDER
	I have asked for contact or interaction with the child/children and all of my requests were refused
	I have not had any contact or interaction with the child/children since [date]
	Other [describe circumstances]:
I pro	Section 5: CONTACT TIME PROPOSAL opose the following regular schedule for contact time with the child/children:
]	a weekend visit once every [describe time period: week/month/number of weeks/months] beginning [day] at [a.m./p.m.] until [day] at [a.m./p.m.].
[a weekday visit once every [describe time period: week/month/number of weeks/months] beginning [day] at [a.m./p.m.] until [day] at [a.m./p.m.].
[at times and places I have agreed upon, or the court orders, with supervision of my contact time by [name].
[at times determined with and supervised through a Supervised Access and Exchange (SAE) program (may not be available in all areas).
[other [describe when the child/children will be in your care]:
I pro	opose the following contact time with the child/children during holidays:
	no additional time beyond the regular schedule for contact time. additional contact time [describe each holiday and time request in detail]:

Section 6: TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN HOMES

		will pick up the child/children from the home of the parent/guardianme] and return the child/children to the parent's/guardian's home.
	I w	vill go to the home of the parent/guardian [name] pick up the child/children and the parent/guardian will pick up the child/children from whome.
	Ιw	vill meet the parent/guardian [name] at
		[name the location] to pick up and drop off
		e child/children.
		vill pick up and return the child/children to and from the child care provider or school.
	Ot	her [describe]:
		Section 7: INTERACTION PROPOSAL
Ιp	ropo	ose the following interaction with the child/children:
		attend the following activities [describe, for example: school events, extracurricular activities, religious and cultural events]:
		send cards or gifts [describe when, for example: birthday, holidays, special events]:
		receive cards or gifts [describe when, for example: birthday, holidays, special events]:
		communicate with each child in writing by [describe, for example: letters, e-mails, texts]:
		with the following frequency [describe frequency: number of times per week or month]:

	communicate with each child verbally by [describe, for example: telephone, internet conferencing]:			
	with the following frequency [de	escribe frequency: number of times per week or month]:		
	receive photographs of each chil	ld from a person named in the order		
	 receive information regarding the health, education and well-being of each child from a person named in the order 			
	other [describe]:			
I declare	that the above information is acc	urate to the best of my knowledge.		
Date		Signature		
		Full name [please print]		

F	0	rr	n	F	D	3

20		No.
Between:	Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)	
	and	Applicant/Petitioner
		Respondent
S	tatement of Income of	
	prepared on	
I make oath/affirm and	l give evidence as follows:	
_	onverts my gross income as stated on my filed or a	
[If you have two incor	ne sources, use one chart for each source.]	
First Income Source:_		(Name of Source)

GROSS INCOME - MONTHLY CONVERSION CHART				
MY PAY PERIOD	CONVERSION FORMULA	MONTHLY INCOME		
Weekly	\$x 4.33	\$		
Every second week	\$x 2.17	\$		
Twice per month	\$x 2	\$		
Monthly		\$		

Second Income Source: ______(Name of Source)

GROSS INCOME - MONTHLY CONVERSION CHART				
MY PAY PERIOD	CONVERSION FORMULA	MONTHLY INCOME		
Weekly	\$ x 4.33	\$		
Every second week	\$ x 2.17	\$		
Twice per month	\$x 2	\$		
Monthly		\$		

Adopted on May 11, 2017 Amended 2. The following is a statement of my current **monthly** income from all sources:

GROSS MONTHLY INCOME (from the Monthly Conversion Chart)	AMOUNT	COMMENTS			
A) Gross Salary or Wages or Net Professional Income					
B) Overtime/Commissions/Bonuses					
C) Employment Insurance Benefits					
D) Social Assistance/Family Benefits					
E) Pension Income					
F) Actual Dividends Received Before Gross-up					
G) Income from Trust					
H) Investment Income					
I) Other -					
J) Other -					
K) Other -					
L) SUB TOTAL					
M) Deduct Union Dues					
N) Deduct Other Schedule III Adjustments					
O) TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME (FOR TABLE AMOUNT CHILD SUPPORT)					
P) Child Tax Benefit					
Q) GST Credit					
R) TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME					
Total Monthly Income for table amount: (Line O, ab					

3. Attached are true copies of my personal income tax returns filed with Canada Revenue Agency for the three most recent taxation years.

4. Attached are true copies of Notices of Assessment (or Re-Assessment) issued by Canada Revenue Agency for each of the three most recent taxation years.

5. THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MARKED WITH AN AX= APPLY TO ME:

□ IAM AN EMPLOYEE:

Attached is a true copy of my two most consecutive recent statements of earnings or pay stubs indicating my total earnings paid in the year to date, including overtime (*or alternatively*, a letter from my employer setting out my annual salary or remuneration, my earnings to date for this year, including overtime).

☐ *I AM UNEMPLOYED*:

Attached is a statement of my income to date this year from (include particulars of all income received by way of employment insurance benefits, social assistance, pension income, Workers= Compensation, disability or such other benefits or income as may apply. If a statement of income is not available, provide a letter from the applicable source of income stating the required information).

☐ *I AM SELF-EMPLOYED*:

I am self-employed and attached are:

- (i) true copies of the financial statements of my business *or professional* practice (other than partnership) for the three most recent taxation years; and
- (ii) a statement showing a breakdown of all salaries, wages, management fees or other payments or benefits paid to, or on behalf of, persons or corporations with whom I do not deal at arms' length.

☐ I AM A MEMBER OF A PARTNERSHIP:

I am a partner in the partnership known as _______[name of Partnership] and attached hereto is confirmation of my current income and draw from that partnership and my capital in the partnership for the three most recent taxation years.

		I CONTROL A CORPO	ORATI	ON:
	(i)	-		financial statements for the corporation oration], in which I have a controlling interest,
			•	s. [Where a party controls a corporation, the
				recent taxation years for that corporation must tements for that company=s subsidiaries].
	manage corpora	ement fees and other pay	ments	g a breakdown of all salaries, wages, or benefits paid to, or on behalf of, persons or on, and every related corporation does not deal
		I AM A BENEFICIAR	Y UND	PER A TRUST:
		± •		lement agreement of which I am a beneficiary recent financial statements of the trust.
		I AM AN ADMINISTR	ATOR	OR A TRUSTEE OF A TRUST
Sworn to/A	Affirmed	before me)	
on	ijj ii mea	, 20)	
at	, N	ova Scotia)	
Signature	of Autho	ority	<u> </u>	Signature of
Print Name	e:			
Official Ca	apacity:			

20 No.

Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

ween:			
		and	Applicant/Petitioner
		and	
	-		Respondent
	of	Statement of Undue Hardship Circumsta prepared on	
ıke oa	th/affirm and	give evidence as follows:	
	_	<u> </u>	the following circumstances
a)	-		<u> </u>
b)	-	• •	ich I have reasonably
c)	I have unusu	ally high expenses in relation to exercising a	ccess to my child;
d) I have a legal duty under a judgment, order or written separation agreement to support any person (other than the child(ren) to whom this proceeding relates);			
e)	C	, II I	usehold (other than the
f)	_	• • •	——————————————————————————————————————
g)	I have some	other undue hardship circumstance (be as spe	ecific as possible):
	ake oad icate vanicate vanicat	I am claiming unicate which of the formal icate which icate whic	Statement of Undue Hardship Circumsta of

2.	Residing with me as part of my household are the following individuals (in the case of the adults, also include their gross annual incomes for the past year):			
	(a) Spouse or Partr	ner:		
	Name	Gross and	nual income:	
			of majority or over) who shares living expenses with conomic benefit as a result of living together:	
	Name	Gross and	nual income:	
	Name	Gross and	nual income:	
	(c) Any child or ch	ildren who reside(s) wi	h me:	
	Child=s Full Name		Date of Birth:	
	Child=s Full Name		Date of Birth:	
3.		-	ssessment and Income Tax Return for the preceding ted in paragraph 2 above.	
4.	Employment Insura income provider) co	nce stubs, social assista	secutive income statements (for example, pay stubs, nce stub) or, instead, a letter from the employer (or year-to-date for the current year, 20, for each of	
5.	I would suffer undue h	nardship in paying the re	equired amount of child support because:	
6.	factor that has cause support of any mem	ed my undue hardship; ber (including any chil	g annual amount(s) which I am relying upon as a [Note: Do not list any amount attributable to the d) of the household that is not incurred due to a and do not list any amount listed in paragraph 7]:	
	Factor: Factor:	Annual Amour Annual Amour		

Signature of

Print Name: Official Capacity:

Signature of Authority

Form FD 6

20	No.
20	INU.

Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

Between:			
			Applicant/Petitioner
		and	
			Respondent
	of	Statement of Expenses prepared on	

I make oath/affirm and give evidence as follows:

1. The following are my current budgeted monthly expenses: (*If you reside with another person with whom you share living expenses, list only your expenses, not the expenses paid by the person with whom you reside*).

NOTE: ALL ITEMS ARE TO BE CONVERTED TO A MONTHLY AMOUNT

EXPENSES	MONTHLY BUDGETED EXPENSES	COMMENTS
1. Rent/Mortgage		
2. Municipal Taxes		
3. Property - Fire Insurance		
4. Heat		
5. Electricity		
6. Water		
7. Telephone, Postage		
8. Cable		
9. House Repairs, Maintenance, Appliance & Furniture Repairs and Replacement		
10. Food		
11. Toiletries, Household Supplies		
12. Clothing		

EXPENSES	COMMENTS	
EAI ENSES	MONTHLY BUDGETED EXPENSES	COMMENTS
13. Laundry and Dry-Cleaning		
14. Motor Vehicle: (a) Payment		
(b) Gas		
(c) Maintenance/Repair		
(d) Insurance, License, Registration & Inspection		
(e) Parking & Tolls		
15. Taxis, Public Transportation		
16. Section 7 Child Related Expenses: (a) Child Care Expense (day-care or baby-sitting)		
(b) Children=s Medical or Dental Insurance Premiums		
(c) Health Related Expenses		
(d) Primary or Secondary School Expense		
(e) Post Secondary School Expense		
(f) Extracurricular Activities		
17. School Supplies, Tuition, Books		
18. Children=s Allowances and Activities		
19. Costs related to having time or interaction with a child or children (for example, travel costs)		
20. Hair and Grooming		
21. Life Insurance/Medical Insurance		
22. Drugs		
23. Dental		
24. Glasses		
25. Christmas, Birthdays, Events & Gifts		
26. Newspapers and Magazines		
27. Charitable Donations		
28. Holidays		
29. Entertainment		
30. Savings		
31. Child Support (paid for a child other than the child(ren) to whom this proceeding relates)		
32. Spousal Support (for a spouse other than a party		

Adopted on May 11, 2017		Amended on June 25, 2021
EXPENSES	MONTHLY BUDGETED EXPENSES	COMMENTS
to this proceeding)		
33. Miscellaneous		
34. Other -		
35. Other -		
SUB-TOTAL (add lines 1 to 35)		
Debt Payments:		
36.		
37.		
38.		
SUB-TOTAL (lines 1 to 35 + lines 36 to 38)		
39. Income Source Deductions, excluding Income Tax		
(1)CPP		
(2)EI		
Pension		
Union Dues		
Medical Plan		
Other -		
TOTAL EXPENSES (Sub-total from above, + line 39 total)		
SUMMARY		
Total Income Before Tax (from Statement of Income)		
Less: Total Expenses (from above)		
Surplus (Deficit) Before Tax		
Less: Income Tax (Attach Calculations)		
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		

[To be completed if either party is making a claim for *undue hardship* pursuant to Section 10 of the Child Support Guidelines <u>or</u> *spousal support*.]

2. The following are the names, occupations or sources of income of all persons with whom I currently reside or with whom I share living expenses or from whom I receive an economic benefit as a result of living with that person.

If you are making a claim for undue hardship, you must provide the following information. If you do not provide the following information your application for undue hardship may not be considered.

NAME		OCCUPATION OR SOURCE	OF INCOME
Sworn to/Affirmed before me)		
on , 20)		
at ,	Nova Scotia)		
)		
)		
)		
Signature of Authority		Signature of	
Print Name:			
Official Capacity:			

No.

Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

Betv	ween:		
		Applicant/Petition	er
		and	
		Responder	ıt
		Notice of Motion for Interim Relief (Family Proceeding)	
To:	[name	of respondent]	
Mot			
proc		(name), the in thi moves for an order for the following relief:	3
		interim decision-making responsibility/custody; interim parenting time, contact time or interaction; leave to apply interim child support; interim spousal support; interim exclusive occupation or possession of residence or matrimonial home; other interim relief, specifically	
The	motion	is to be heard by a judge on , 20 ata.m./p.m. at the located at:	
		aking the motion requests the motion for hearing for aking the motion says that the motion will not require more time.	

Adopted on May 11. References	, 2017	Amended on June 25, 2021
The party mal	king the motion relies on the following legislation, Rules, or poir	nts of law:
□ the <i>i</i> □ the <i>i</i> □ inter	Divorce Act, section(s); Parenting and Support Act, section(s) Matrimonial Property Act, section(s) rim spousal support or spousal maintenance; er:	;
		
Evidence and The evidence	d documents in support of the motion is as follows:	
	affidavit ofother affidavits, specifically:	
	t also relies on the following documents in support of the motion:	
A copy of eac	parenting statement statement of contact time and interaction statement of income statement of special or extraordinary expenses statement of undue hardship circumstances statement of expenses statement of property pre-hearing brief ch document is to be delivered to you with this notice.	
You may file whether the p	er against you an affidavit and a brief, attend the hearing of the motion, and sta proposed order should be made. If you do not attend, the judge mater notice to you.	
Signature		
Signed on	, 20	

Signature

Print name:

20 No.

Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

	(I willing 251 vision)	
Between:		
	and	Applicant/Petitione
		Responden
	Interim Order for Child Support	
Before [the Honourable Justi	ice / Court Officer name or blank]:	
A motion was made on order for child support at the circumstances of motion];	, 20 , by [name of moving pa table amount under the <i>Child Support Guiden</i>	-
The parties have [number	child/children]: [provide full name of each	h child and birth date].
	is found to have an annual income of \$ [amount annual income is determined] for the purple;	
	ving party] was determined after [hearing] ing party only with name of other party f	=

[And upon the Court Officer being satisfied that it would be appropriate to grant an Order in accordance with Civil Procedure Rule 59.33;]

On motion of [name of moving party, parties, or counsel]: the following is ordered under [section 15.1 of the Divorce Act. / section 9 of the Parenting and Support Act.]

Payment of child [support / maintenance]

[name of other party] shall pay child support to [name of moving party] pursuant to the *Child Support Guidelines* and in accordance with the Nova Scotia table, the amount of \$ [amount] per month, payable on the first day of each month, and commencing , 20 .

Method of payment

All support payments must be made payable to [name of party receiving support] .

The payments must be sent by [name of party paying support] to the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement, P.O. Box 803, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2V2, while the order is filed for enforcement with the Director.

A court officer must send the current designated addresses of the parties, and a copy of this order, to the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement in accordance with section 9 of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*.

Both parties must advise the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement of any change to their address, within ten (10) days of the date of the change, under section 42(1) of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*.

[name of party paying support] must advise the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement of a change in location, address and place of employment, including the commencement or cessation of employment, within ten (10) days of the date of the change, under section 42(2) of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*.

Issued , 20 .

Court Officer

[Add the following when the order is made by a court officer

Note that when an order is made by a court officer, the Civil Procedure Rules permit you to make a motion to the court officer to terminate or change the order, or appeal the order to a judge. The motion must be made or the appeal started, no more than ten days after a copy of the order is delivered to you.]

Form FDO 4

20 No.

Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

Between: [copy standard heading]

[name] [Petitioner/Applicant]

and

[name] Respondent

Order (Family Proceeding)

[may add words to distinguish from other orders or to identify a consent order]

Before the Honourable Justice [name or blank]

This proceeding is before the court for determination [following a hearing / describe circumstances including when the parties agree with the terms as a consent order].

Proof of service of the notice was established and the [application / application and response], and the evidence presented by [affidavit/testimony/affidavit and testimony], were considered.

[add if there are children]

The parties have the following [child/children]:

Name of Child Date of Birth

[add if applicable]

[name] acknowledges that he is [the father / a possible father] of the [child / children] :

Name of Child Date of Birth

[add if child support is to be paid]

[name of party paying child support] is found to have an annual income of \$ [amount] . [add if child support includes special or extraordinary expenses]

For the purpose of making an order for payment of special or extraordinary expenses, the [name of party receiving child support] is found to have an annual income of \$ [amount] .

OR

[replace the two income clauses with the following, if applicable]

For the purpose of making an order for payment of child support in an amount other than the table amount and special or extraordinary expenses, the [name of party paying child support] is found to have an annual income of \$ [amount] , and the [name of party receiving child support] is found to have an annual income of \$ [amount]

[add if there is a court order for contact time with the child/children] Contact time/interaction arrangements involving the [child/children] of the marriage were granted pursuant to the [Divorce Act/Parenting and Support Act] by court order dated [date issued] bearing the court file number [insert #].

On motion of [name of moving party, parties, or counsel]: the following is ordered under the [Parenting and Support Act. / Parenting and Support Act and name of applicable legislation. |

[a selection from paragraphs 1 to 10, as applicable, is required]

[delete paragraphs 1 to 6 if there are no children]

Custody

1 Custody of the following [child/children] is granted to [name/both parties jointly]:

Name of Child

Date of Birth

Parenting time

2 [name] has primary care and residence for the [child/children], and [name] has parenting time at the following times, according to the following terms:

[name] has primary care and residence for the [child/children], and [name] will have reasonable parenting time with the [child/children] on reasonable notice to [name] or at times agreed to by the parties.

OR

The parties will share parenting time with the [child/children], such that each parent cares for the [child/children] for a minimum of 40% of the time over the course of a year, according to following schedule and the following terms: [provide details]

Child support payments

a. [name] must pay child support to [name] in the amount of \$ [amount] each month, based on the applicable table amount of the *Child Support Guidelines*.

[add if an amount for special or extraordinary expenses is to be paid]

b. In addition to the table amount, [name] must pay child support to [name] in the amount of \$ [amount] each month for [their] share of the following special or extraordinary [expense / expenses]:

[use the following list for each child's expense or create a chart providing this information]

Child's name:

Description of expense:

Total monthly net expense: \$
Monthly amount to be paid: \$
Percentage: %

c. In total, [name] must pay child support to [name] in the amount of \$ [amount] each month, consisting of the table amount of \$ [amount] per month, plus special or extraordinary expenses of \$ [amount] per month.

When child support payments are due

Child support payments are due on the first day of each month starting on 20 .

OR

[provide payment schedule, for example, weekly, bi-weekly, or twice per month on specified dates]

Child support through health plan

[name] must [continue/acquire and continue] medical, dental and drug plan coverage for the [child/children] available through [their] present or subsequent employer and and [name] must see that the other party is reimbursed without delay after a receipt is delivered by the other party for submission to the insurer.

OR

[set out specific terms]

Ongoing disclosure for child support

No later than June 1 of each year, [name /st both parties] must provide [name /each other] with a copy of [their] income tax return, completed and with all attachments, even if the return is not filed with the Canada Revenue Agency, and also provide each other with all notices of assessment from the Canada Revenue Agency, immediately after they are received. If non-taxable or unreported income is earned or received, [name] must provide [name] with supporting documents to show all non-taxable and unreported income earned for the prior income tax year.

Spousal support

Neither party is required to pay spousal support to the other.

OR

7 [name] must pay spousal support to [name] in the amount of \$ [amount] each month.

When spousal support payments are due

[delete if neither party is to pay spousal support]

8 Spousal support payments are due on the first day of each month starting on 20 .

OR

[provide payment schedule, for example, weekly, bi-weekly, or twice per month on specified dates]

Director of Maintenance Enforcement

[delete if neither party is to pay support]

- a. All support payments must be made payable to [name of party receiving support] .
 - b. The payments must be sent by [name of party paying support] to the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement, P.O. Box 803, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2V2, while the order is filed for enforcement with the Director.
 - c. A court officer must send a copy of this order, under section 9 of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*, and the current designated addresses of the parties, to the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement.
 - d. Both parties must advise the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement of any change to their address, within ten (10) days of the date of the change, under section 42(1) of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*.
 - e. [name of party paying support] must advise the Office of the Director of Maintenance Enforcement of any change in location, address and place of employment, including the start or end of employment, within ten (10) days of the date of the change, under section 42(2) of the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*.

Enforcement

- a. A requirement to pay money under this order, that is not enforced under the *Maintenance Enforcement Act*, may be enforced by execution order, or periodic execution order.
 - b. The sheriff must do such things as are necessary to enforce this order and, to do so, may exercise any power of a sheriff permitted in a recovery order or an execution order.

c. All constables and peace officers are to do all such acts as may be necessary to enforce the terms of this order and they have full power and authority to enter upon any lands and premises to enforce this order.

Issued	, 20	
		Court Officer

Form FDO 5

20 No.

	Supreme Court of Nova Scotia	
Between:		
		Applicant/Petitioner
	and	
		Respondent

Order for a Paternity Testing

Before [the Honourable Justice / Court Officer name or blank]:

[A motion was made on , 20 , by name of moving party , for an order for a paternity test. / describe the circumstances of motion and conciliation as applicable.]

[name of possible father] has been identified as a possible father of the child, [name and birthdate];

On the motion of [name of moving party] , the following is ordered:

Testing

The mother, [name] , possible father, [name] , and the dependent child, [name and birthdate] , shall submit to one or more blood grouping tests or DNA profile comparison tests to be made by a duly-qualified medical practitioner or other qualified person, to determine whether or not the possible father can be excluded as being the father of the child.

Responsibility for arrangements and costs

The [mother/possible father], [name] is responsible for all arrangements and all costs associated with the testing, including costs incurred by the other party and the dependent child, [name and birthdate].

The [applicant], [name] is responsible for all arrangements and all costs associated with the testing, including costs incurred by the other party and the dependent child, [name and birthdate] are to be paid by the applicant in accordance with section 27(3) of the Parenting and Support Act.

OR

The parties agree that they will be equally responsible for all arrangements and further agree that all costs associated with the testing, including costs incurred by the dependent child, [name and birthdate] will be paid by [describe how the costs are to be paid].

Return to conciliation meeting

The parties shall return to the courthouse at , [Street/Avenue] , , Nova Scotia to attend a conciliation meeting with a court officer [name] , at [a.m./p.m.] on , 20 .

Issued , 20 .

Court Officer

[Add the following when the order is made by a court officer

Note that when an order is made by a court officer, the Civil Procedure Rules permit you to make a motion to the court officer to terminate or change the order, or appeal the order to a judge. The motion must be made or the appeal started, no more than ten days after a copy of the order is delivered to you.]

Amended on June 25, 2021 Adopted on May 11, 2017

No.	
	No.

and

Applicant/Petitioner

Respondent

Order for an Assessment Report

Before the Honourable Justice [name or blank]

Proof of sufficient grounds to grant the preparation of an assessment report were established.

The parties have [a dependent child / dependent children] born of their relationship who is/are:

Birth Date Name

For the purposes of determining the cost to the parties for the preparation of the assessment report, [name of applicant] is found to have a gross annual income of approximately \$ [amount] and [name of respondent] is found to have a gross annual income of approximately \$ [amount] .

[On motion of name of moving party, parties, or counsel , the / The] following is ordered:

Preparation of report

[Select the applicable request]

- 1. A [decision-making responsibility/custody, parenting time and interaction/parenting time and interaction/ parental capacity/(when required add "including psychological testing) /voice of the child] assessment shall be prepared by an assessor selected from the approved Supreme Court (Family Division) list of assessors and agreed upon by the parties or, in the event that the parties are unable to agree, as selected by the court.
- 2. The assessor is to conduct the assessment and provide an opinion about

[sample wording below – the assessor must know what you expect to receive]

Decision-Making Responsibility/Custody, Parenting time and Interaction

What may be an appropriate decision-making responsibility/custody, parenting time and interaction arrangement for the child/children commenting upon any needed conditions or restrictions attached to recommendations made.

Parenting time and Interaction

The appropriate parenting time and interaction, if any, to be exercised by [name] with the child/children commenting upon whether any conditions or restrictions should be placed upon [name] while he/she has the child/children in his/her care.

Parental Capacity

What may be an appropriate decision-making responsibility/custody, parenting time and interaction arrangement for the child/children commenting upon [name (s)] parenting capacity and upon any needed conditions or restrictions attached to recommendations made.

Voice of the Child

The child's/children's observations, viewpoint, and life experiences with each parent including the child's/children's preferences if they wish to express a preference about anything relevant to the present or future parenting arrangements.

The ability and maturity of each child to arrive at and express his/her viewpoint and preferences.

The independence of the children's viewpoint and preferences as expressed.

Responsibilities

Notwithstanding Civil Procedure Rule 70.32, the assessor shall, for the purpose of completing the assessment, have access to the file maintained by the Court in this proceeding.

Both parties shall co-operate in the assessment and do whatever is reasonably necessary to facilitate the completion of the assessment including making themselves and the children available to meet with the assessor when requested to do so.

Both parties shall inform (named collaterals) that they have consent of the parents to provide the assessor all information requested by the assessor.

The assessor shall file the assessment report with this Court upon its completion and shall make copies available to each of the parties unless the assessor is concerned about the impact this report may have in which case the concern is to be provided in a separate letter to the Court and it will decide how and when to release the report to that parent or counsel for each of the parties.

Cost of report

3. The cost of this report shall be as prescribed by the *Costs and Fees Act* and the appropriate contribution of each party shall be determined by a separate order of this court.

OR

[use the following clause if the court orders that the report be prepared at the expense of the Department of Justice]

3. The Assessment shall be prepared at the expense of the Nova Scotia Department of Justice in accordance with the *Costs and Fees Act*

Issued	, 20	
		Court Officer