

# Things to think about in a Parenting Plan

Prepared by Monica Kreiner, Chartered Mediator

## PARENTING SCHEDULE

Daily living arrangements – where are the kids when

- How are drop offs/pick-up handled?

Childcare when with one parent or the other

Special Occasions

- School breaks – Spring break, days off of school
- Holidays: Christmas, Easter, summer
- Statutory Holidays: Family Day, Victoria Day, Canada Day, Labour Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving
- Special Occasions: birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, religious holidays

### THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING:

- *Work schedule*
- *Family/holiday schedule*
- *School schedule*

Changes to the schedule

Children's toys, belongings and clothing

- What is kept at each location and what moves with the children?

## DECISION MAKING:

What is a major decision that needs shared input and what is a minor decision that one person can decide? For those decisions that one parent can make, which do they need to inform the other parent of?

Education

- Daycare, After school care
- Which school to attend, program in the school
- School concerts and events
- Parent teacher interviews
- Sharing school information like report cards, activities, fundraising, etc.

Extracurricular activities

- Activities
- Who handles registrations, fundraising commitments
- How to handle special events – concerts, games, tournaments, etc.

### THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING:

- *Information about activities currently doing or things they might want to do*

Health

- Doctor visits
- Dentist visits
- Optometrist visits
- Other health professionals – physiotherapist, counsellor, specialist, etc.
- Regular immunizations
- Special health needs

### THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING:

- *Doctor/dentist/optometrist contact information*
- *Information about special health needs or medications*

Personal care

- Haircuts
- Piercing ears

Behaviour Management/Discipline

Religious/Spiritual upbringing

Involvement of extended family members and friends (grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.)

Introduction of new partners/relationships

Recreational activities – safety

Travel out of province or country

Moving

## CHILD SUPPORT

Basic Amount

Additional (Section 7) expenses:

- Education
- Medical/dental/visual and other health care
- Childcare
- Extra-curricular activities

Method of payment

## COMMUNICATION

What needs to be communicated

- Information sharing
- Simple decisions
- Complex decisions

How best to communicate

Steps to take to resolve disagreements

### *THINGS YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING:*

- *Proof of income information*
  - *Notice of Assessments for the last 3 years or all T4 slips if taxes not done*
  - *Proof of current income*
    - *3 recent paystubs*
    - *Letter from employer stating wage and hours of work*
    - *Record of employment*
    - *Proof of financial assistance*
- *Information about additional expenses*