

APB Family Mediation Project



Contact

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Why APB Mediation?



Effects on Children

Children's ability to thrive following separation is directly linked to parents' ability to communicate, focus on the child's needs and work effectively together. Mediation is better than litigation for fostering these skills. One longitudinal study found that parents who had mediated had better relationships with their children than parents who had litigated.¹



Have a Voice

Mediation allows both partners to make decisions regarding the ultimate arrangement. The mediator's job will be to provide options which will be mutually agreed to by both parties.



Cost/Time Effective

APB Mediation is free. It is also quicker than litigation. The objective is to draft a mutually agreeable arrangement in a single mediation session spanning up to 3 hours.

¹ Robert E. Emery, David Sbarra, and Tara Grover, "Divorce Mediation: Research and Reflections" (2005) 43:1 Family Court Review 22.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE APB MEDIATION PROGRAM?

LEGAL ADVICE

Attend an APB summary advice clinic to get referred into the program



APB

Once referred to the program we will contact your partner and provide them information on the program.



If they choose to participate:

They will be offered an optional legal advice appointment to understand their legal rights and frame the issues for the mediation.

If they choose NOT to participate:

You may proceed to litigation.



Mediation

At mediation, the mediator(s) will sit down with each partner independently, then together, to negotiate a mutually agreeable arrangement. If an agreement is reached, the mediator will provide either a draft consent order or a draft memorandum of understanding.



Legal Advice Appointment

Both partners will have the opportunity to have a final appointment with the lawyer that referred them to the program or that they met for their initial appointment, to discuss the agreement.



If the draft agreement or draft memorandum of understanding is no longer agreeable to both parties, the parties may return to mediation for an additional hour to address the deficiencies.



Once the draft agreement or draft memorandum of understanding is accepted by both partners they may execute the agreement.