

## Agreement to Participate in Family Justice Services

**Family Justice Services (FJS) assists families to resolve their family law problems outside of court.**

### **1. I understand that:**

- a. FJS employees are neutral, and their role is to help us find solutions through open and honest discussions with each other.
- b. I may talk to a lawyer at any time before, during or after the FJS process.  
**FJS cannot give legal advice.**
- c. If I have a lawyer, FJS will share information with my lawyer.
- d. All discussions and communications from the entire FJS process are confidential. I cannot use any FJS discussions or documents in court proceedings, unless permitted or required by law as evidence in the proceeding.
- e. FJS can share my information, including financial information, with the other person(s) if it is believed sharing the information will help us reach an agreement.
- f. If FJS becomes aware of a possible safety risk to any person, FJS will report the risk to the appropriate authorities.
- g. If our family law issues are not resolved or if I choose to withdraw, FJS will close the file and notify the court, if required. FJS will then inform me of my options.

### **2. I agree that:**

- a. I will keep all communications and discussions from the entire FJS process confidential, except to share them with my lawyer. Further, I will not audio, video or photo record any sessions with FJS.
- b. I will participate in good faith, attend all scheduled appointments and provide all documents requested by FJS such as income tax assessments, pay stubs, agreements, court orders, etc. FJS may make copies for their file. If I do not attend appointments or provide the documents in a timely manner, my file may be closed and returned to the Court indicating my failure to participate in the FJS process.
- c. I will not engage in threatening or abusive behaviour towards FJS employees. Failure to act respectfully during the mediation process may result in my file being closed and returned to Court.
- d. If Child Protection agencies are involved, or have been involved with my family, I will notify FJS and provide the necessary consents for the sharing of information.
- e. I will not call any FJS employee as a witness in any legal proceeding.
- f. I have read this Agreement to Participate form (or I have had it read to me). I have asked FJS about any terms that I did not understand. I am bound by the terms in the Agreement to Participate. I have received a copy of this Agreement to Participate.