

## **Glossary**

Access	Visitation rights of a child or children.
Actuary	A business professional who valuates risk and uncertainty in relation to assets, business, pension, etc.
Address	A person's street or municipal address, mailing address, telephone number, fax number and electronic mail address.
Adultery	Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone other than the lawful spouse.
Adversarial System	Two advocates in the legal system present opposing positions before an impartial decision maker.
Affidavit of Divorce	Where evidence for a divorce is supported with the swearing and filing of an affidavit. This is Form 36B under the Family Law Rules.
Affidavit of Service	This affidavit conveys particular details such as when, how, where and by who a document was served on someone. This is Form 6B under the Family Law Rules.
Age of Majority	The legal age as stated by law where one is considered as an adult. In Ontario this is age 18.
Alimony	Monetary support, periodic or lump sum, given by a spouse or estate to the other spouse. Also known as spousal support.
Annual Income	Calculated from total income on a tax return, or projected during the year on the basis of pay stubs or other financial information. The income is based on all sources of income.
Answer	A written response of important facts to defend against a court application, and may include counter-claims. This is Form 10 under the Family Law Rules.
Appellant	A person who starts an appeal.

Appellate Court	In respect of an appeal from a court, means the court exercising appellate jurisdiction with respect to that appeal.
Applicant	A person who starts an application.
Application	The document that starts a case or the procedure by which new cases are brought to the court for a final order or provisional order.
Applicable Guidelines	<p>a) Where both spouses or former spouses are ordinarily resident in the same province at the time an application for a child support order or a variation order in respect of a child support order is made, or the amount of a child support order is to be recalculated pursuant to section 25.1, and that province has been designated by an order made under subsection (5) the laws of the province specified in the order</p> <p>b) In any other case, the Federal Child Support Guidelines.</p>
Arrears	Outstanding child or spousal support monies owing pursuant to an agreement or court order. If no previous agreement or order, then when retroactive issues are determined the arrears are calculated.
Assessment	A thorough study done by a clinical professional in order to form an expert opinion relating to the best interests of children. Section 30 of the Children's Law Reform Act.
Best Interests Test	Best interests of children is a legal determination based on factors set out at Section 24 of the Children's Law Reform Act.
Birth	The complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a fetus that did at any time after being completely expelled or extracted from the mother breathe or show any other sign of life, whether or not the umbilical cord was cut or the placenta attached.
Birth Parent	In relation to an adopted person, means a person whose name appears as a parent on the original registration, if any, of the adopted person's birth and such other persons as may be prescribed.
Case	An application or any other method allowed in law for bringing a matter to the court for a final order or provisional order, and includes all motions, enforcements and appeals.

Case Law	Law base on other judges' prior decisions, where the existing case presented is similar to previous documented ones.
Certificate	A certified extract of the prescribed particulars of a registration in the records of the Registrar General.
Certificate of Divorce	A document issued by the court 31 days after date of divorce order to represent the dissolution of the marriage. This is Form under the Family Law Rules.
Certificate of Independent Legal Advice	A document attesting that an individual has received independent legal advice from a lawyer in connection with certain legal issues.
Certificate of pending litigation	Certificate registered to represent a litigant's potential interest in certain property.
Change	When used to refer to an order or agreement, means to vary, suspend or discharge, or a variation, suspension or discharge (depending on whether the word is used as a verb or as a noun).
Child	A person whom a parent has demonstrated a settled intention to treat as a child of his or her family, except under an arrangement where the child is placed for valuable consideration in a foster home by a person having lawful custody.
Child of the Marriage	A child of two married spouses or former spouses and the child is under the age of majority and has not withdrawn from parental control or is the age of majority or older but unable to withdrawal from parental charge because of illness, disability or other reason.
Child Support Guidelines	The Divorce Act discusses child support guidelines in detail indicating basic amount for child support. Also known federal child support table/guideline, child support guidelines/table, or simply tables.
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Child Support	The payment of money to financially assist or maintain a dependent.
Clerk	A person who has the authority of a clerk or a registrar of the court.
Closed Mediation	A type of mediation process that is treated as confidential, in which issues discussed are kept off the record. There is a settlement privilege that keeps matters from being disclosed in future litigations.
Cohabit	To live together in a conjugal relationship, whether within or outside marriage.
Cohabitation Agreement	A written agreement or contract to address matters of parenting, child and/or spousal support, property division, equalization, in relation to individuals who live together currently, those that plan to do so in the future, or those who plan to marry.
Collaborative Family Law	Parties and their counsel aim to come up with an amicable settlement without the intervention of the court.
Consent Order	Made on the basis of oral submissions or evidence, or pursuant to a written contract, which is filed in support of a request for a court order. Parties may not need to attend in court for some consent orders.
Consummation of a Marriage	When a married couple engages in sexual intercourse, then their marriage is considered consummated.
Contempt Motion	A motion for a contempt order.
Contempt Order	An order finding a person in contempt of court.
Continuing Record	The record made under rule 9 containing, in accordance with these rules, written documents in a case that are filed with the court.
Contested Divorce	Court litigation with opposing positions on certain issues, including divorce, custody, access, child or spousal support. Since property is a provincial matter there are no property issues decided pursuant to the Divorce Act. .

Corollary Relief	The Divorce Act uses this phrase or term referring child support orders, spousal support, access, and custody.
Corollary Relief Proceeding	A proceeding in a court in which either or both former spouses seek a child support order, a spousal support order or a custody order.
Court	The Ontario Court of Justice, the Family Court of the Superior Court of Justice or the Superior Court of Justice.
Cruelty	A ground for divorce. It is when a spouse deliberately causes mental and physical suffering.
Custody	The right to make decisions for a child. Custody is for children only under the age of majority. Also, referring to the care and control of the child under the age of majority. Without an agreement or court order, custody is <i>de facto</i> based on the facts. With an agreement or court order custody is <i>de jure</i> having been determined based on the best interests of the children.
Custody Provision	A provision of an order or agreement awarding custody of a child.
Debtor	A person who is in arrears under a support order or a support provision.
Declaration of Parentage	A person may file in the office of the Registrar General a statutory declaration, in the form provided by the Ministry of the Attorney General, affirming that he or she is the father or mother, as the case may be, of a child. This is Section 12 of the Children's Law Reform Act.
Default Hearing	A hearing under section 41 of the <i>Family Responsibility and Support Arrears Enforcement Act, 1996</i> in which a payor is required to come to court to explain why payment has not been made as required by a support order.
Dependent	A person for whom another person or estate has an obligation to provide monetary support, either child support or spousal support.
Director	The Director of the Family Responsibility Office.

Disclosure	The act where one party must exchange documents with the other party. Usually any and all financial disclosure remotely relevant and necessary to any of the issues to be determined. Routinely, the position is that “if you don’t have anything to hide, then show it”, approach to disclosure.
Dissolution of Marriage	Also known as divorce.
Divorce	When the courts legally declare an ending of a marriage. Also known as dissolution of marriage. A court of competent jurisdiction may, on application by either or both spouses, grant a divorce to the spouse or spouses on the ground that there has been a breakdown of their marriage, pursuant to Section 8 of the Divorce Act.
Divorce Act	Under the federal law, the set of rules to abide by in order to obtain divorce. Divorce Act, RSC 1985, c 3 (2nd Supp), as amended.
Divorce Judgment	Before the issuance of a Certificate of Divorce, this court order must come through first.
Divorce Proceeding	A proceeding in a court in which either or both spouses seek a divorce alone or together with a child support order, a spousal support order or a custody order.
Document	Information, sound or images recorded by any method.
Domestic Contract	A marriage contract, separation agreement, cohabitation agreement, paternity agreement or family arbitration agreement. A written agreement between two persons such as a marriage contract, cohabitation agreement, separation agreement, etc. Defined at Section 51 of the Family Law Act.
Enforcement	Pursuing legal remedies for payment of child support or spousal support or equalization or other settlement monies owing pursuant to a court order or legally valid and binding contract. Also see maintenance enforcement.

Equalization	When one spouse has greater net family property than the other spouse and is required to make a payment, pursuant to a court order or binding agreement to ensure the spouses share equally in the assets accumulated during marriage. Also known as equalization of net family property. Pursuant to Section 5 of the Family Law Act.
Equalization of Net Family Property	When one spouse has greater net family property than the other party is required to make a payment, so they share equally in the assets. Also known as equalization of net family property.
Error	Any incorrect information and includes omission of information.
Family Arbitration	<p>An arbitration that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Deals with matters that could be dealt with in a marriage contract, separation agreement, cohabitation agreement or paternity agreement under this Part, and</li> <li>b) Is conducted exclusively in accordance with the law of Ontario or of another Canadian jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
Family Arbitration Agreement	Also “family arbitration award” have meanings that correspond to the meaning of “family arbitration”.
Family Law Act	This act enforces domestic contracts as well as governs rights of married spouses relating to family property, and for married or non-married spouses relating to child support and spousal support, and governs dependent claims for damages, and provides for some amendments to common law. Family Law Act R.S.O. 1990, C Chapter F.3, as amended.
Family Responsibility Office	An agency that enforces support orders. Otherwise known as “FRO” and as described in the <i>Family Responsibility and Support Arrears Enforcement Act</i> , or any successor support enforcement agency.
Federal Child Support Guidelines	The Divorce Act discusses child support guidelines in detail indicating basic amount for child support. Also known federal child support table/guideline, child support guidelines/table, or simply tables.
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File	<p>Means to file with proof of service in the court office in the municipality,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Where the case or enforcement is started,</li> <li>b) To which the case or enforcement is transferred.</li> </ul>
Final Order	<p>An order, other than a temporary order, that decides a claim in an application, including,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) An order made on motion that changes a final order,</li> <li>b) A judgment,</li> <li>c) An order that decides a party's rights, in an issue between the parties or between a party and a non-party.</li> </ul>
Four-Way-Settlement Meeting	<p>A meeting between two conflicting parties together with their legal representatives in order to narrow issues in dispute and possibly arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.</p>
Garnishment	<p>Enforcement of money owing pursuant to a court order or binding legal contract, for child and/or spousal support or payment on account of property division, or for some other reason. A creditor under an order or agreement may enforce the payment obligation by garnishment of monies payable to the judgment debtor by other persons or third parties, and/or through salary deduction.</p>
Garnishable Monies	<p>Moneys authorized to be paid by Her Majesty by or under such Acts of Parliament or provisions thereof or programs thereunder as are designated by the regulations.</p>
Garnishee Summons	<p>Includes any document or court order of similar nature.</p>
Government Agency	<p>Means the Crown, a Crown agency, a municipal government or agency, a children's aid society or any other public body.</p>
Grandparent's Rights	<p>Apart from the parents, a child's grandparents also have the right to apply for custody or access pursuant to Section 18 of the Children's Law Reform Act. An authority is the Ontario Court of Appeal decision of Chapman v. Chapman and Chapman.</p>

Grounds for  
Divorce

Failure of marriage can be established through the following: separation, adultery, or cruelty. As to separation, the spouses have lived separate and apart for at least one year immediately preceding the determination of the divorce proceeding and were living separate and apart at the commencement of the proceeding; and the other grounds are that the spouse against whom the divorce proceeding is brought has, since celebration of the marriage, committed adultery or treated the other spouse with physical or mental cruelty of such a kind as to render intolerable the continued cohabitation of the spouses. Section 8 of the Divorce Act.

An individual, corporation, or other entity that owes or makes any payment, whether periodically or in a lump sum, to or on behalf of a payor of,

Income Source

- a) Wages, wage supplements or salary, or draws or advances therefrom
- b) A commission, bonus, piece-work allowance or similar payment
- c) A payment made under a contract for service
- d) A benefit under an accident, disability or sickness plan
- e) A disability, retirement or other pension
- f) An annuity
- g) Vacation pay, termination pay and severance pay
- h) An employee loan
- i) A shareholder loan or dividends on shares, if the corporation that issued the shares is effectively controlled by the payor or the payor and the payor's parent, spouse, child or other relative or a body corporate which the payor and his or her parent, spouse, child or other relative effectively control, directly or indirectly,
- j) Refunds under the *Income Tax Act (Canada)*
- k) Lump sum payments under the *Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance Act (Canada)*
- l) Income of a type described in the regulations

Imputing Income

The court may impute such amount of income to a person obligated to pay child and/or spousal support as considered appropriate if certain circumstances apply, and those circumstances include all of which are set out at Section 19 of the Child Support Guidelines.

in loco parentis

When a non-biological, non-adoptive parent acts in place of another. Also known as a spouse who acts in place of a parent.

Independent Legal Advice	A person with a legal issue has received legal advice from a lawyer representing that person's interests in connection with that issue, and has therefore had the opportunity to fully understand and appreciate that person's rights and responsibilities in connection with the issue.
Interim Order	A court order which is effective for a limited time only, and made in a court proceeding before a trial on the issues with all evidence and addresses issues pending trial. Defined at Rule 2(1) of the Family Law Rules.
Joint Custody	Where both parents share legal and physical custody of the child/children. Joint custody means that both parents make major decisions about the child(ren) together. Different than sole custody, split custody and shared custody.
Joint Divorce	Where both spouses apply for a divorce order and are in agreement with all the divorce details.
Judgment Debtor	A person named in a garnishee summons in respect of whom garnishable moneys are sought to be garnished under this Part.
Lawyer	A person authorized under the <i>Law Society Act</i> to practice law in Ontario.
Legal Separation	No law for legal separation Canada.
Letter of Opinion	This is needed in order to recognize ones foreign divorce.
Letters Probate	Or "letters of administration" include letters probate, letters of administration, or other legal documents purporting to be of the same legal nature granted by a court in another jurisdiction and resealed in this province.
License	A license, permit, certificate, or an authorization of any kind, and includes a passport within the meaning of section 2 of the <i>Canadian Passport Order</i> .
Lump Sum Spousal Support	The one time payment to a support recipient intended to finally satisfy any retroactive and prospective spousal support entitlements, and is different than periodic spousal support because it is not tax deductible.
Maintenance	Periodic monetary allowance given to a child, a former partner or spouse.

Maintenance Enforcement	Exercising legal ways of coercing a parent to provide child support payments. Also simply known as enforcement.
Marriage	Voluntary legal union between two people acquiring for themselves certain legal rights and obligations. A divorce must be filed if one party wishes to end their marriage.
Marriage Contract	Two persons who are married to each other or intend to marry may enter into an agreement in which they agree on their respective rights and obligations under the marriage or on separation, on the annulment or dissolution of the marriage or on death, including, matters relating to ownership or division of property, support, the right to direct the education and moral training of their children, but not the right to custody of or access to their children, or any other matter in the future settlement of their affairs. Section 52 of the Family Law Act.
Marriage License	In most cases, if you are being married in a religious or civil ceremony, you need a marriage license. However, if you are being married in a religious ceremony, you may be eligible to be married by a publication of banns (making an announcement of the details of your intent to marry in your church, mosque or synagogue). Speak to your religious official for more information. The license is effective for 3 months for its date of purchase.
Matrimonial Home	Every property in which a person has an interest and that is or, if the spouses have separated, was at the time of separation ordinarily occupied by the person and his or her spouse as their family residence is their matrimonial home. Section 18 of the Family Law Act.
Mediation	A process where two conflicting parties raise their issues in the hopes of resolving it through the assistance of an unbiased mediator. There are different types of mediation, and closed mediation is confidential and privileged, whereas open mediation requires a report and some disclosure of the matters discussed during the process.
Mediator	A qualified professional trained to assist without prejudice two opposing parties aiming to clear up a dispute.

Minutes of Settlement	A written and valid agreement to settle issues in dispute, such as, custody, access, child and/or spousal support or property division, made either on a temporary or final basis. The Minutes are filed with the court and the parties to the Minutes request an endorsement or court order to be made pursuant to the Minutes.
Mobility	To relocate or change a child's residence.
Municipality	<p>A county, district, district municipality, regional municipality, the City of Toronto or a municipal corporation formed from the amalgamation of all the municipalities of a county, district, district municipality or regional municipality, and includes,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) An Indian reserve within the territorial area of a municipality,</li> <li>b) The part of The Regional Municipality of Niagra that was the County of Lincoln as it existed on December 31, 1969.</li> </ul>
Negotiation	Written or oral attempt by disputing parties to amicably discuss, narrow down, clarify and possibly settle matters in dispute, on either a temporary or final basis.
Net Family Property	The value of all the property, except excluded property, that a spouse owns on the valuation date, after deducting the spouse's debts and other liabilities, and the value of property, other than a matrimonial home, that the spouse owned on the date of the marriage, after deducting the spouse's debts and other liabilities, other than debts or liabilities related directly to the acquisition or significant improvement of a matrimonial home, calculated as of the date of the marriage. Section 4 of the Family Law Act.
Open Mediation	Where the mediator's detailed written report contains concerns that have been discussed and concerns that were resolved.
Opinion on a Foreign Divorce	One of the requirements to acquire a marriage license is that the marrying couple must get the opinion of an Ontario lawyer that the divorce would be recognized here.

Parallel Parenting	A type of parenting arrangement applicable in high-conflict situations where the parents have little or no communication with each other. A form of custodial rights over children in which authority transfers from parent to parent as the child(ren) are exchanged.
Parens patriae	The court's inherent jurisdiction to make decisions concerning children or people who are not able to take care of themselves.
Parent	Includes a grandparent and a person who has demonstrated a settled intention to treat as a child of his or her family, except under an arrangement where the child was placed for valuable consideration in a foster home by a person having lawful custody.
Parental Alienation	Undermining the authority or child's relationship with the other parent.
Parenting Arrangements	The details of how parents plan to raise their children, which includes living arrangements, decision making, etc. Also known as parenting plan.
Parenting Plan	Written agreement between the parents detailing how they plan to raise their children, which includes living arrangements, decision making, etc. Also known as parenting arrangements.
Paternity Agreement	A paternity agreement as defined in Part IV (Domestic Contracts).
Paying Parent	A parent or a non-biological parent who acts in place of a parent who is obligated legally to pay child support.

## Payment Order

A temporary or final order, but not a provisional order, requiring a person to pay money to another person, including,

- a) An order to pay an amount under Part I or II of the *Family Law Act* or the corresponding provisions of a predecessor Act
- b) A support order
- c) A support deduction order
- d) An order under section 60 or subsection 154 (2) of the *Child and Family Services Act*, or under the corresponding provision of a predecessor Act,
- e) A payment order made under rules 26 to 32 (enforcement measures) or under section 41 of the *Family Responsibility and Support Arrears Enforcement Act, 1996*,
- f) A fine for contempt of court
- g) An order of forfeiture of a bond or recognizance
- h) An order requiring a party to pay the fees and expenses of
  - a. An assessor, mediator or other expert named by the court
  - b. A person conducting a blood test to help determine a child's parentage
- i) The costs and disbursements in a case.

Payor	A person who is required to pay support under a support order.
Periodic Payment	An amount payable at regular intervals and includes an amount payable in installments.
Personal Representative	An executor, an administrator or an administrator with will annexed.
Petition for Divorce	A written document submitted to court that initiates divorce, and may include claims for corollary relief.
Physical Custody	Refers to where a child lives and who has responsibility for supervising the child. There may be joint physical custody such that the child lives substantial time with each parent. There may also be sole physical custody, and one parent is the custodial parent and the access parent has physical custody during access visits.

## Polygamy

When a person is married to multiple individuals simultaneously. Section 2(1) of the Family Law Act provides that in the definition of “spouse”, a reference to marriage includes a marriage that is actually or potentially polygamous, if it was celebrated in a jurisdiction whose system of law recognizes it as valid

## Post-nuptial Agreement

A contract between two individuals, married or in a common-law relationship, who plan to solve their dispute as a result of the breakdown of the relationship. Also known as separation agreement.

## Pre-nuptial Agreement

A contract between two people before marriage most commonly indicating child and/or spousal support, or division and possession of assets before, during, and after dissolution of marriage, in case such happens. Also known as marriage contract.

## Presumptions of Parentage

List of situations where Section 8 of the Children’s Law Reform Act presumes a male individual as the father of a child. Unless the contrary is proven on a balance of probabilities, there is a presumption that a male person is, and he shall be recognized in law to be, the father of a child in certain circumstances.

## Primary Residency

Where a child or children will live with a parent. Primarily used for purposes of identifying the child’s address and residence for purposes of education, and possibly tax implications. May not relate to custody or access, depending on the case.

## Proof of Marriage

There are different reasons to prove marriage, and depending on the reason to do so will indicate what documents need to be presented, and may include : original or certified copy of your certificate of marriage or a certificate of the registration of marriage.

Property	<p>Any interest, present or future, vested or contingent, in real or personal property and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Property over which a spouse has, alone or in conjunction with another person, a power of appointment exercisable in favour of himself or herself</li> <li>b) Property disposed of by a spouse but over which the spouse has, alone or in conjunction with another person, a power to revoke the disposition or a power to consume or dispose of the property</li> <li>c) In the case of a spouse's rights under a pension plan, the imputed value, for family law purposes, of the spouse's interest in the plan, as determined in accordance with section 10.1 for the period beginning with the date of the marriage and ending on the valuation date.</li> </ul>
	A claim
Property Claim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Under Part I of the Family Law Act</li> <li>b) For a constructive or resulting trust</li> <li>c) For a monetary award as compensation for unjust enrichment.</li> </ul>
Provincial Enforcement Service	Any service, agency or body designated in an agreement with a province under section 3 that is entitled under the laws of the province to enforce family provisions.
Provisional Order	An order that has no effect until it is confirmed by another court and includes orders made under subsection 18 (2) of the <i>Divorce Act</i> (Canada), sections 7 and 30 of the <i>Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act, 2002</i> and section 44 of the <i>Family Law Act</i>
Recipient	A person entitled to support under a support order or the parent, other than the payor, of a child entitled to support under a support order.
Reciprocating Jurisdiction	Has the same meaning as in the <i>Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act, 2002</i> .
Reconciliation	The act of separated spouses resuming cohabitation. A period during which spouses have lived separate and apart shall not be considered to have been interrupted or terminated by reason only that the spouses have resumed cohabitation during a period of, or periods totalling, not more than ninety days with reconciliation as its primary purpose.

Retroactive Support	The payment of child and/or spousal support effective for a period of time in the past. Support payments pursuant to a binding agreement or court order have been less than required by law, or no support payments have been made at all. The support that should have been paid earlier will become immediately enforceable. The support obligations of the payor have not been met. Leading case is Supreme Court of Canada <i>DBS v. SRG</i> case.
Registrar General	The Minister of Consumer and Business Services or such other member of the Executive Council to whom the administration of this Act is assigned.
Respondent	A person against whom a claim is made in an application, answer, or appeal.
Separation	This is fact driven. The facts are still sleeping in the same room, sexual relations, structuring the finances in the same way, going to religious ceremonies, vacations, social events, or otherwise representing to the public that the spouses are still together. Basically, look at the history of the relationship, what has changed and when that change happened.
Separation Agreement	Two persons who cohabited and are living separate and apart may enter into an agreement in which they agree on their respective rights and obligations, including, ownership or division of property, support, right to direct the education and moral training of their children, custody or access, or other matters in the settlement of their affairs. Section 54 of the Family Law Act.
Separation Date	The specific date when one or both individuals have either determined or have acted to end a spousal relationship.
Shared Custody	A family law support or maintenance term referring to a situation where a child spends about an equal amount of time, at least 40% of the time over one year, in the care and home of each of the two separated or divorced parents. Also, the parents may have joint custody but shared their rights over the child with each other equally.

Shared Parenting	Formerly known as "joint custody," an arrangement by which both parents have equal or similar rights concerning their child's care, custody, and control. Shared Parenting often involves creative arrangements allowing the child to live with each parent at different times.
Sole Custody	When one parent has full custody, in relation to decision making, of all children.
Special or Extraordinary Expenses	These expenses are defined extensively at Section 7 of the Child Support Guidelines, and include child care or daycare expenses, medical or dental premiums, health related expenses beyond insurance such as orthodontic expenses, expenses for primary or post-secondary school, post-secondary education, and expenses for extra-curricular activities.
Special Party	A party who is a child or who is or appears to be mentally incapable for the purposes of the Substitute Decisions Act, 1992 in respect of an issue in the case and who, as a result, requires legal representation, but does not include a child in a custody, access, child protection, adoption or child support case.
Split Custody	Used for purposes of child support. Defined at Section 8 of Child Support Guidelines as each parent or spouse having custody of one or more children.
Spouse	Means a spouse as defined in subsection 1 (1) and in addition includes either of two persons who, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Were married to each other by a marriage that was terminated or declared a nullity</li> <li>b) Are not married to each other and have cohabitated <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Continuously for a period of not less than three years</li> <li>ii) In a relationship of some permanence, if they are the natural or adoptive parents of a child.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Spousal Support	Money legally obligated by one spouse to another as financial assistance on separation, and calculated on the basis of need and ability, and many other factors, and which may be paid for an indefinite period of time, or fixed time, or in a lump sum. .
Spouse who acts in place of a parent	When a non-biological, non-adoptive parent acts in place of another. Also known as in loco parentis.

Statutory Declaration and Consent for Travel	Commonly, a document that shows the non-travelling parent consents to the other parent travelling with their minor child outside of the governing court's jurisdiction, so in the case of non-married spouses outside of Ontario, and that the travelling parent uses to show authorities during the travel.
Substitutional Service	Permission from the court to serve documents by an alternative method that the documents will reasonably be expected to come to the attention of the person to be served, provided that steps have been taken to locate the person to be served or that person cannot be served for another reason.
Supervised Access	A minor child visiting with a parent or other person in a monitored setting presumed safe and secure for the child from the parent or person being visited. Intended to provide a safe, neutral and child-focused setting for visits between a child and non-custodial parent or other family member.
Supervised Access Centre	Ontario Ministry-funded supervised access centres provide fully supervised on-site visits in a group setting and supervised exchanges when access occurs off-site. The visits take place under the guidance of trained access center staff, and are sensitive to the needs of the child. Detailed reports of the visits are prepared.
Support Deduction Order	A support deduction order made or deemed to have been made under this Act or its predecessor.

A provision in an order made in or outside Ontario and enforceable in Ontario for the payment of money as support or maintenance, and includes a provision for:

- Support Order
- a) The payment of an amount periodically, whether annually or otherwise and whether for an indefinite or limited period, or until the happening of a specified event
  - b) A lump sum to be paid or held in trust
  - c) Payment of support or maintenance in respect of a period before the date of the order
  - d) Payment to an agency of an amount in reimbursement for a benefit or assistance provided to a party under a statute, including a benefit or assistance provided before the date of the order
  - e) Payment of expenses in respect of a child's prenatal care and birth
  - e1) Payment of expenses in respect of DNA testing to establish parentage
  - f) The irrevocable designation, by a spouse who has a policy of life insurance or an interest in a benefit plan, of the other spouse or a child as the beneficiary
  - g) Interest or the payment of legal fees or other expenses arising in relation to support or maintenance

And includes such a provision in a domestic contract or paternity agreement that is enforceable under section 35 of the *Family Law Act*.

Support Provision A provision of an order or agreement for maintenance, alimony or family financial support and includes any order for arrears of payments thereof.

Tables The Divorce Act discusses child support guidelines in detail indicating basic amount for child support. Also known federal child support table/guideline, child support guideline/table, or simply tables.

Temporary Order An order that says it is effective only for a limited time, and includes an interim order.

Transcript An electronic recording.

Trial Includes a hearing.

Uncontested Trial	A trial at which only the party making the claim provides evidence and submissions.
Valuation Date	The earliest of the following dates: spouses have separated and there is no reasonable prospect they will resume cohabitation; divorce granted; marriage declared nullity; one of the spouses commences an application based on improvident depletion; the date on which one of the spouses dies leaving the other spouse surviving.
Variation Application	Formal court proceeding, also known as Motion to Change, to alter custody and access, or child and/or spousal support, or any other legal obligation pursuant to a previous binding legal agreement or court order, and based on a material change in circumstances not foreseeable at the time of the previous agreement or order.
Variation Order	A court order that allows changes in some or all specifics requested in the variation application or motion to change proceeding.
Waiver of Spousal Support	The full and final release of spousal support by one or both spouses, usually represented through a formal and binding legal agreement, pursuant to which the spousal rights and obligations to spousal support are determined and forever ended.
Will	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A testament</li> <li>b) A codicil</li> <li>c) An appointment by will or by writing in the nature of a will in exercise of a power</li> <li>d) Any other testamentary disposition</li> </ul>