

COURT FILE NUMBER

Clerk's Stamp

COURT

Alberta Court of Justice

Court of King's Bench Alberta

JUDICIAL CENTRE

APPLICANT

RESPONDENT

DOCUMENT

PARTICIPATION IN ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Parents and guardians in conflict about parenting are required to attempt an Alternative Dispute Resolution process if they do not agree on plans for parenting arrangements, contact with the child(ren), guardianship, finances and/or property before seeking the assistance of the Courts.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) includes many different options and processes for resolving disputes. ADR is usually a less formal process that allows for parties to reach their own agreements with the assistance of a trained, neutral third-party that facilitates their discussions. Outcomes from ADR can be made into an agreement and can set the stage for improved communication and coordination of parenting between the parties. ADR can be an effective way for people in conflict to resolve their disputes without attendance at court or other more costly processes.

All ADR processes must consider screening for [family violence](#) and appropriateness of ADR. Further, it is important for all parties to consider independent legal advice throughout the process including prior to any attempts at ADR.

If you have concerns for your safety or the safety of others, contact the [Family Violence Information Line](#), by phone or text: 310-1818. This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To meet the ADR requirement set by the Alberta Courts, the ADR process must:

- Be delivered by a neutral third-party, familiar with parenting conflict, family violence, and the impact of conflict on children and child development.
- Include the topics or issues you want to bring to court.
- Have been attempted within the past six months.

See the attached document Considerations When Searching for Private ADR Services for additional information and considerations.

About the ADR Process

Did you attempt ADR within the last six months, for the topics or issues you want to bring to court?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Name of ADR Organization or person who delivered ADR services:	
Did you use a translator for the ADR process?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Type of ADR Process:	<input type="checkbox"/> Alberta Justice Family Mediation Program <input type="checkbox"/> Alberta Justice Child Support Resolution Program <input type="checkbox"/> Alberta Justice Parenting Intervention Program (BCI) <input type="checkbox"/> Alberta Justice Caseflow Conference Program <input type="checkbox"/> Hired a family mediator, including those that meet the qualifications for ADRIA or AFMS family mediator rosters <input type="checkbox"/> Settlement conference with both our lawyers, including Collaborative Law <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Services Family Group Conference <input type="checkbox"/> Other type of ADR process that the parties want to ask the courts to recognize (please specify): _____ _____ _____
If you did not complete the full ADR process, indicate the reason.	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable, we completed the full ADR process. <input type="checkbox"/> The other parent/party was unwilling to participate or did not attend one or more scheduled meeting. <input type="checkbox"/> ADR facilitator determined that ADR was not appropriate. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (provide details): _____ _____ _____

Indicate the topics discussed during ADR. (You must attempt ADR for topics or issues you want to bring to court)

Topic/Issue	Discussed at ADR
Guardianship	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contact with the Child(ren)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parenting Plan/Parenting Schedule	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decision Making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication Between Parents	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child Support	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spousal Support	<input type="checkbox"/>
Division of Property	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Court has the discretion to direct parties to a further ADR process or to not accept outcomes of an ADR process if the Court finds the process or agreement to be inappropriate or does not align with current legal principles and/or is contrary to the best interests of the child(ren).

Applicant Name

Date yyyy-mm-dd

Applicant Signature

Considerations When Searching for Private ADR Services:

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Anyone can call themselves a Mediator or ADR Professional. Consider what is important to you when choosing a professional to help you resolve your dispute.

Here are some considerations when searching for Private ADR Services:

- What are the professional qualifications, credentials, and experience of the person delivering services?
- Does the person delivering services have experience working with families in conflict and experiencing parenting disputes, separation, or divorce?
- Is the person delivering services a neutral third-party?
- How will my safety concerns be addressed/managed throughout the process?
- What are the cost for services, how are they calculated, and what services are included?
- What options are available if I am unhappy with the service received?
- Does the service provider have professional liability insurance?
- Is the process confidential?
- How will decisions be made, and what happens if agreement isn't reached?

A broad spectrum of ADR service providers is available and that may be recognized for the purpose of meeting the mandatory ADR requirement, including:

- Alberta Justice [Family Mediation Program](#)
- Alberta Justice [Child Support Resolution Program](#)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta [Directory of ADR Professionals](#)
- Alberta Family Mediation Society [Directory of Mediators](#)
- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Alberta [Referral List](#)
- Collaborative Divorce Alberta Association [Directory of Collaborative Family Law Professionals](#)
- [Native Counselling Services of Alberta](#)
- Social Workers familiar with parenting conflict, family violence, and the impact of conflict on children and child development
- Elders, Community, and Religious Leaders with experience as a neutral third-party facilitator and who are familiar with parenting conflict, family violence, and the impact of conflict on children and child development.

For information and resources about family violence, or for support, visit [Government of Alberta](#) or [Centre for Public Legal Education Alberta](#).

For information and resources about parental conflict, separation, and divorce, visit [Government of Alberta](#) or [Centre for Public Legal Education Alberta](#).