

# Child Custody & Access

One of the most stressful aspects of the breakdown of a relationship is determining the custody and access arrangements for the parties' children. "Custody" refers to decision-making, specifically, the authority to make important decisions regarding the child's future, including education, health care, religious upbringing, and major extracurricular activities. If parents have joint custody, this means that they will make important decisions affecting the children together. If a parent has sole custody, that parent will make the decisions on his or her own. "Access" refers to a parent's right to have the children in his or her care for periods of time.

The best interests of the child are always the primary concern in custody and access matters. Parents may address child custody and access – broadly known as "parenting issues" – through negotiation, mediation, arbitration, or the court system. As your lawyer, we ensure that you know all of the options available to you to develop a parenting plan that will work for your family.

## Contact Us

If you have questions about a child custody or access issue, please contact a member of our team by [email](#) or by telephone at [\(519\) 672-5666](#) or [Get Started Online](#). If corresponding by email, be sure to include your name and telephone number.

## Contact Us

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