

Family Law

CALL US - BEFORE YOUR EX DOES!



Roxanne C. Shank LAWYER

Q My wife and I separated 8 years ago, and now our youngest is 20 years of age. When can I stop paying child support? My wife refuses to talk about it [our daughter lives with her]. What can I do? The answer to your question, is – it depends. If you completed a separation agreement, look at the child support termination clauses. Does child support stop at age 18? Are there exceptions to that – such as, child support continues until age 23, if the child is dependent [this can mean that the child is in post secondary education full time].

It depends on your intentions when you drafted the agreement- did you intend to support your child through a first degree or diploma? Are you prepared to resume paying support after a break when your child was working full time or traveling, then wishes to resume schooling?

It depends on your contribution to her post secondary education (which can easily cost \$24,000 a year in Canada). In this case, as there is only so much money to go around, your wife may be prepared to agree to a reduction or end to child support on the understanding that you will pay most or all of your daughter's schooling costs.

The best solution is to talk the issue out and then have your separation agreement amended by a family law lawyer. Good agreements make for good parenting.

Your friends at Shank Law.



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