



Family Law

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YOUR EX DOES!

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While there are many great resources online (e.g., mysupportcalculator.ca), a fluid situation like yours is best answered with an hour-long consultation with a family lawyer, who can "run the numbers" on various residency scenarios, and provide you and your husband with some accurate answers, all for a very economical price.

Child support amounts take into consideration the gross income of the payor- for example, this can be found at line 150 of the previous year's income tax return. Where custody is shared, the table amount the recipient would pay at their gross income is deducted from the table amount the payor would pay. This calculation recognizes that both parents are bearing the costs of paying for a residence with extra bedrooms, extra furniture, extra clothing and school costs, and extra food- all of the normal expenses a parent

incurs when a child lives with them more or less full-time [this set off calculation does not apply when a parent has the children living with them less than 40% of the time].

Some things to bear in mind: a child attending full time at post-secondary education still merits some child support (albeit not as much as their younger siblings who are still in grade school or high school). Child support can be paid directly, or through the Family Responsibility Office. It is prudent to have the children named as irrevocable beneficiaries on both parents' life insurance policies, to protect child support payments. Finally, remember that child support is tax neutral- this means that the payor does not get a tax deduction, nor does the recipient pay tax on, child support paid.

Your friends at Shank Law.



Roxanne C. Shank
LAWYER

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My husband and I are separating after a long marriage. We have 3 children, aged 20 (in college) 12 and 10 years of age. I have tried to figure out child support but we have not decided if the children are going to live with me or live one week with him, one week with me. What can I do to figure this out?



Phone: 705-435-5055
Email: lynn@shanklawoffice.com
Web: shanklawoffice.com

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