



Program offered by Kawartha Family Court Assessment Service

**Agreement to Participate
in New Ways for Families®**

The New Ways for Families® counsellor is retained on the following terms:

Role of the New Ways for Families® Counsellor

1. The NWFF® counsellor is an impartial third party who provides a neutral and balanced approach to the process and to the participants. The NWFF® counsellor will not make decisions, take sides, or provide legal advice. The NWFF® counsellor will not provide reports, letters or provide evidence in the legal matter between the parties.

Process

2. The NWFF® counsellor will first meet with the parent, to review the NWFF® process, goals and objectives.
3. In consultation with their NWFF® counsellor, the parent may choose to have their new partner or child(ren)'s grandparent(s) involved during specific sessions throughout the NWFF process.
4. The parent and their NWFF® counsellor will set mutually agreeable dates for the NWFF® counselling sessions. The parent, along with their NWFF® counsellor, will work independently for six (6) sessions. If both parents are in agreement, they may choose to come together for the 6th session alongside their counsellor for a joint, final session.
5. At the completion of the six sessions, the parent in consultation with their NWFF® counsellor may decide to continue the service to include three (3) sessions each with the parent & child(ren) or with the other parent.

Terminating the Process

6. NWFF® counselling is a voluntary process. Withdrawal from the NWFF® counselling process can occur by either parent with written notice to their NWFF® counsellor.
7. The NWFF® counsellor may terminate the process if they deem that the process has been exhausted.



Confidentiality

8. The clients agree that counselling is confidential with the following exceptions:
- a) The counsellor may talk or write about the case, without using identifying information, for research or educational purposes;
 - b) The counsellor must report any suspicions that a child may be in need of protection under the Child, Youth and Family Services Act;
 - c) The counsellor must disclose where there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is a real or perceived threat to any person's life or physical safety;
 - d) The counsellor may speak to a third party where an individual consents to the disclosure of their own personal information;
 - e) The client agrees that the counsellor cannot be subpoenaed, required to testify or be called to give evidence relating to representations, statements or admissions made during the course of counselling, nor to produce documents/provide prepared or exchanged documents during counselling.

Communication

9. The NWFF® counsellor will use email solely for scheduling purposes.
10. The parent agrees to not email, text or use social media to contact the counsellor except the use of email or text for scheduling purposes.
11. Any issues raised in a phone call, email or text will be dealt with at the next scheduled appointment.

I have had full opportunity to read and understand this document outlining the NWFF® process. I consent to participate in the NWFF® program and agree to abide by the terms of the process as outlined in this document.

Participant's Name (Please print)

Participant's Signature

Date