

NP#2015-02
March 4, 2015



COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF ALBERTA

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

Grace Period New Clauses for Child Support Orders Recalculation Program

Amendments to the Child Support Recalculation Program Regulation came into effect on March 1, 2015 requiring the Court to include one of two standard clauses in its child support orders: either a clause stating the Child Support Recalculation Program (RP) may recalculate the child support amount; or a clause indicating RP shall not recalculate. These amendments are set out in detail in the *Child Support Recalculation Program (Mandatory Clauses) Amendment Regulation*, (AR 14/2015), which is available at:

http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/orders/orders_in_council/2015/115/2015_008.html

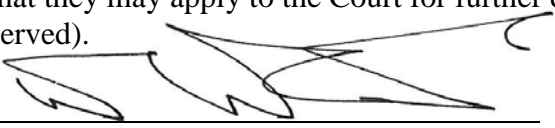
It is the responsibility of litigants or their counsel to ensure that consent orders or other orders or judgments submitted for the approval of the Court which include an amount for child support are in compliance with the amendments to this regulation.


However, to ensure continued access to justice for litigants, the Court is of the view that a reasonable grace period should be observed until May 1, 2015 before the requirement for compliance is more strictly enforced.

For example, if a consent order dealing with child support is submitted for the approval of the Court which does not contain one of the two standard clauses, it is the expectation of the Court that such documents will be accepted by the clerk of the court for the duration of this grace period, perhaps with some written information about these new clauses being provided to the submitting party.

After May 1, 2015, as a result of a review of the practices observed by the Court, the requirement for compliance may be more strictly enforced.

In the meantime, should any party or counsel feel aggrieved by an interpretation of a forms requirement made by court staff during this interim period, parties or their counsel are reminded that they may apply to the Court for further direction (on notice to any parties required to be served).


Neil C. Wittmann, Chief Justice


John D. Rooke, Associate Chief Justice