



Early resolution for family court cases expands to Port Coquitlam on November 1, 2024

The early resolution approach provides people involved in family disputes with a needs assessment, referrals to address both legal and non-legal needs, and at least one consensual dispute resolution session before they file a court application. In Victoria and Surrey, about 60% of families participating in these services do not proceed to court with unresolved issues. By helping families sooner, early resolution makes them healthier, reduces future conflict, reduces the Adverse Child Experiences related to parental separation, and decreases costs for our health and justice systems.

Starting November 1, 2024 these early resolution steps will apply in the Port Coquitlam registry to some *Family Law Act* applications including: parenting arrangements; child support; contact with a child; guardianship of a child; spousal support; and ownership or possession of a companion animal when families are separating.

By the end of 2025, early resolution services will be available throughout the Lower Mainland.

[Getting ready for family court](#)

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