MEDIATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION | WORKSHEET 3 OF 3

Settlement Proposal Durability Test

Tests whether proposed terms are clear, financeable, enforceable and workable in ordinary life.

BEST USED WHEN	Use this before saying yes to a package proposal or signing settlement terms.

ALBERTA LEGAL CHECKPOINT

Mediation is most useful when participation is safe, the necessary facts are available and each person can make an informed choice. In Calgary, Alberta's Family Justice Strategy generally requires an attempt at appropriate dispute resolution before a family court application, subject to exemptions. Reaching a shared idea in mediation is not always the final step; precise written terms and legal advice can prevent a new dispute later.

Primary source: Alberta: Family Justice Strategy

PREPARED FOR ____________________ DATE ____________________

1 Complete what you know	2 Mark gaps and assumptions	3 Attach supporting records

THE PRACTICE LENS

A settlement should survive an ordinary bad week, not only make sense in the room where it was negotiated. We test dates, triggers, payment mechanics, default rules, tax assumptions and the human tasks required to make each clause work without another round of conflict.

A CONCRETE EXAMPLE

"Parents share extracurricular costs 50/50" leaves unanswered which activities qualify, whether advance consent is required, how reimbursement works and what happens above a spending cap. A durable term supplies the administration rules, not just the headline percentage.

Clarity test

Tick completed items. Circle anything that needs a document, follow-up or legal advice.

- [ ] Every payment, transfer and parenting obligation has a date or trigger.
- [ ] Key terms are defined and do not depend on future agreement.
- [ ] The proposal states what happens if a deadline is missed.
- [ ] Review, disclosure and dispute-resolution steps are included.
- [ ] The written terms match the numbers discussed in the room.

Implementation test

Use one row per issue and identify the source for every important number or date.

Term	Who acts	Deadline	What could prevent it

Pressure-test the outcome

Use short factual notes. If an answer is uncertain, write what would confirm it.

1. Can both households afford the result during an ordinary month?
2. What happens if income changes, a child's needs change or financing is refused?
3. Is one issue being traded without understanding its tax or legal value?
4. Would a third person be able to understand and enforce the wording?
5. Which term are you least comfortable with, and what information would reduce that concern?

BRING THIS TO YOUR CONSULTATION

You do not need every blank filled. Mark the three items that matter most, attach the records you relied on and use this handoff to identify the next decision.

STATUS	[ ] Ready to discuss [ ] Missing records [ ] Deadline or urgent issue
NEXT REAL DEADLINE	
RECORD OR ANSWER STILL NEEDED	
DECISION I NEED HELP WITH	

calgaryfamilylaw.ca | 403-460-1230 | Free 15-minute phone or video consultation