

Do I still need to pay support

**With COVID what happens to support obligations?**

The government has stepped in and implemented funding support programs.

Service Canada is so overwhelmed that wait times to even speak to someone to get information is 2 hours or more in some cases.

Even when you do get through and registered some programs will take weeks to payout – and the need for the money to arrive is today.

Sounds like our response to COVID all over again!

Enough political commentary. If you are paying or receiving child or spousal support the burning question is either (a) do I still need to pay? or (b) how will I get the money and how much will I get?

**Do I still need to pay?**

The simple answer is yes. Until other arrangements are made or a new court issued the obligation to pay continues.

Now:



- How do you get blood from a stone?
- Now is not the time to kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

So,

- (a) Contact the other person (the one the money needs to be paid to) and discuss alternate financial arrangements for while this financial and economic crisis continues.
- (b) Write out any agreements and make sure you both read and agree that what you have written is accurate.

- (c) If you agree on a plan, contact MEP and let them know, in writing if possible, what has been agreed
- (d) Whether or not you can come to an agreement contact MEP and explain the situation.

How will I get the money and how much will I get?

- How do you get blood from a stone?
- Now is not the time to kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

So,

- (e) Contact the other person (the one paying the money) and discuss alternate financial arrangements for while this financial and economic crisis continues.
- (f) Write out any agreements and make sure you both read and agree that what you have written is accurate.
- (g) If you agree contact MEP and let them know, in writing if possible, what has been agreed.

But, what if we cannot agree?

The courts are closed. If no agreement is put in place something else has to be done.

Contact a Family Mediator or Collaborative Lawyer and ask for their assistance in getting to an agreement.

If you would like further information go to our contact page and email us. We are equipped to offer video conferencing so that the social distancing protocols can be observed while also working with you to find a 'way forward' agreement.