

# INTEGRATED FINANCIAL & LEGAL SOLUTIONS

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**Interdisciplinary Collaborative Divorce** is a *new* way to resolve disputes respectfully-without going to court-*and* get the benefits of specialized expertise and guidance in the important aspects of your life.

**The essence of Collaborative Divorce** work is to provide to you and your spouse the:

- Support, protection, and guidance of your own lawyers<sup>1</sup> - without adversarial court proceedings.
- Benefits of specialists in law, financial analysis and planning and parenting as needed; all working collaboratively on your team.

**The core elements** of your contractual commitments in a Collaborative Divorce case are to:

- Negotiate an acceptable settlement instead of handing it over to "the system" and to Judges.
- Maintain full financial disclosure throughout the negotiation process.
- Create shared solutions that acknowledge the highest priorities of all concerned.

The **International Academy of Collaborative Professionals** research of 933 collaborative cases current to July 2010 generated valuable information, including **relative costs and savings**.

Average cost of collaborative cases	Easy case average cost	\$12,127
	Moderate case average cost	\$21,633
	Difficult case average cost	\$32,588
"Difficult" or "complex" cases involving one or more of these four issues	Spousal support	47%
	Division of property	41%
	Valuation of property	32%
	Child support	28%
Lawyer's hourly rates <sup>2</sup> before tax and disbursements	\$250 - \$299	30%
	\$300 - \$400	59%
Financial Expert's hourly rates before tax, etc.	\$150 - \$199	29%
	\$250 - \$300+	58%
Education level of clients	College graduate	48%
	Advanced degrees	30%
Total value of assets in issue	\$200,000 - \$499,000	24%
	\$500,000 - \$2,000,000	39%
"Very difficult" or "difficult" cases	Canadian	51%
"Moderate" difficulty cases	Canadian	34%
"Easy" or "very easy" difficulty	Canadian cases	16%

<sup>1</sup> Whereas, in MEDIATION a neutral expert in law and/or financial planning guides both parties to their solution options. Qualified clients share the cost of one mediator rather than two lawyers.

<sup>2</sup> Combined hourly charge-out rates of senior matrimonial lawyers and financial experts are between +\$550 and +\$700 per hour. **We offer both legal and financial divorce services at substantially lower rates.**