The Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines
Three and a Half Years (almost) Later

Professors Carol Rogerson and Rollie Thompson

June 16, 2008, revised August 1, 2008

Appendix III: Case Summaries by Province, Sept. 12, 2007— July 10, 2008

As we prepare this update on the Advisory Guidelines for presentation at the National Family Law Program at Deerhurst we are not yet certain about the status of the revised and “final” version of the Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines that has been anticipated since January of this year. Unfortunately, the “fine-tuning” has taken more time than we originally expected. We are hoping that the document will released at the National Family Law Program in July. If not, it will be available by September at the latest. Given that there is some possibility that the final version will not be released in July, we will use this paper to first outline some of the changes that will be found in the final version. Most of these changes were discussed in greater detail in our previous update paper, “The Advisory Guidelines 31 Months Later” (September 20, 2007) found on the Advisory Guidelines web site at: http://www.law.utoronto.ca/faculty/rogerson/ssag.html


1 This paper was originally prepared for the National Family Law Program, 2008, July 14-17. The case summaries were subsequently updated to July 10, 2008.

The appendices at the end of the paper provide summaries of recent Guidelines cases (since Sept. 12, 2007). In this period there have been 167 decisions: 10 appellate decisions, as noted above, and 157 trial decisions. B.C. and Ontario have generated the largest number of cases; 66 trial decisions and 4 appeals from B.C. and 50 trial decisions and 2 appeals from Ontario. Over time it is becoming apparent, as we predicted, that a significant majority of the cases would involve dependent children. In B.C. for example, 27 of the cases were under the without child support formula and 39 under the with child support formula. In Ontario, 16 of the cases were under the without child support formula and 34 under the with child support formula.

A. WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE FINAL VERSION

The changes that you will see in the final version of the Advisory Guidelines when it is officially released, whether in July or somewhat later, will by and large be no surprise. Much of the basic structure of the Guidelines remains the same. The document has been rewritten and re-organized to clarify meaning, to incorporate the three years of on-the-ground experience with the Guidelines, and to focus attention on issues that are often ignored, such as entitlement, application, using the ranges, restructuring, exceptions and self-sufficiency.

First, what won’t be changed in the final version:

- Even after the final version, the Guidelines will not be legislated, but will remain “advisory”.
- The two basic formulas – the without child support formula and the with child support formula – will not be changed, although there will be some minor tweaking.
- There will not be formulas to deal with some of the hard issues on variation and review: remarriage or repartnering of the recipient, second family obligations of the payor, or post-separation income increases for the payor.

Second, with respect to significant revisions, we have flagged the majority of these in our on-going updates:

- **definition of income**: social assistance to be excluded for spousal support purposes; Universal Child Care Benefit (UCCB) to be included
- **without child support formula**: maximum end of range for amount to be capped at 50 per cent of net (rather than gross) income

---

3 For the rest, the distribution is: Alberta (9), Saskatchewan (5), Manitoba (4), New Brunswick (3), P.E.I. (1), Nova Scotia (8), Newfoundland & Labrador (8), and N.W.T. (1).

4 The final version was released in July 2008, see note 2 supra. The changes from the Draft Proposal, as discussed in this paper, are set out more fully in the “Report on Revisions” (July 2008) which was released together with the final version and is available at: [http://canada.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/rpad-res/spag/s-p/index.html](http://canada.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/rpad-res/spag/s-p/index.html) (English) and [http://canada.justice.gc.ca/fra/pi/rpad-res/spag/p-s/index.html](http://canada.justice.gc.ca/fra/pi/rpad-res/spag/p-s/index.html) (French).
• “indefinite” support: change of terminology to “indefinite (duration not specified)
• with child support formula: addition of lower end of range for duration based on length of marriage and age of children (school age)
• with child support formula, shared custody: shared custody formula adjusted to always include a 50/50 split of net family income
• step-children: with child support applies
• with child support formula, adult children: a special, hybrid formula added for adult children who are receiving child support under s.3(2)(b) of the Child Support Guidelines
• exceptions: several new exceptions added:
  • reapportionment of property in B.C.
  • basic needs/hardship: inability to meet basic need in shorter marriages under the without child support and custodial payor formulas where the recipient has little or no income
  • special needs of child (with child support formula)
  • inadequate spousal support under with child support formula due to priority given to child support under s. 15.3 of the Divorce Act
  • non-taxable payor income

B. RECENT APPEAL DECISIONS

1. Ontario Court of Appeal

(a) Fisher v. Fisher: The Ontario C.A. Endorses the Guidelines

Fisher v. Fisher, [2008] O.J. No. 38, 2008 CarswellOnt 43, 2008 ONCA 11, 47 R.F.L. (6th) 235, is the first decision of the Ontario Court of Appeal to address the Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines. Following the “seminal” B.C.C.A. decision in Yemchuk, Justice Lang, with Justices Doherty and Goudge concurring, endorsed the Advisory Guidelines as a “useful tool” and applied them to the facts of the case. The Court reached a result consistent with the without child support formula, after restructuring was explicitly taken into account. Following in the footsteps of other appellate and trial courts, the Ontario Court of Appeal accepted the Guidelines as a “cross-check” or “starting point” that “will help in the long run to bring consistency and predictability to spousal support awards, encourage settlement, and allow parties to anticipate their support responsibilities at the time of separation” [para 100]. The Court expressed its optimism “that with experience, the Guidelines will become accepted as a reliable tool for the resolution of many cases” [para 101].

Fisher, like the B.C.C.A. decision in Yemchuk, offers a careful and thoughtful analysis of the legal status of the Advisory Guidelines. Understanding the Guidelines to be a “reflection of current law” rather than a “radically new approach,” Justice Lang analogized them to a “distillation of current case law” and compared their use in the
courtroom to “counsel’s submissions about an appropriate range of support based on applicable jurisprudence” [para 98]. Cognizant of concerns, such as those expressed by the Quebec Court of Appeal, that the Guidelines might be used inappropriately as a rigid mathematical formula that precludes consideration of the parties’ individual circumstances, Justice Lang attached some important caveats to the Court’s endorsement of the Guidelines. She emphasized that the Guidelines do not replace an individualized analysis, but rather supplement it, and that the Guidelines must be applied in their entirety with attention to issues such as entitlement, ceilings and floors, restructuring, and exceptions:

[98] … Importantly, in all cases, the reasonableness of an award produced by the Guidelines must be balanced in light of the circumstances of the individual case, including the particular financial history of the parties during the marriage and their likely future circumstances.

[99] Accordingly, the Guidelines cannot be used as a software tool or a formula that calculates a specific amount of support for a set period of time. They must be considered in context and applied in their entirety, including the specific consideration of any applicable variables and, where necessary, restructuring.

While Fisher does not mandate the use of the Advisory Guidelines by courts or lawyers, it does recognize that the Guidelines are increasingly becoming part of the everyday fabric of spousal support decision-making. The Court indicates that the Guidelines “will assist in informing an appellate standard of review” and certainly suggests that where the parties have raised the Advisory Guidelines, trial judges should address them:

[103] In my view, when counsel fully addresses the Guidelines in argument, and a trial judge decides to award a quantum of support outside the suggested range, appellate review will be assisted by the inclusion of reasons explaining why the Guidelines do not provide an appropriate result. This is no different than a trial court distinguishing a significant authority relied upon by a party.

The Fisher case involved a fairly lengthy marriage without children in which both parties worked and it raised many significant spousal support issues that were intertwined with the use of the Advisory Guidelines:

- the differences between compensatory and non-compensatory support claims
- the use of time limits
- the proper role of review orders
- the impact of second families
- the treatment of post-separation income increases
- retroactive spousal support
- the standard of appellate review.

Fisher was a 19 year marriage without children. The husband completed his B.A. and B.Ed. during the early years of the marriage, with the wife’s financial assistance. For much of the marriage the husband was employed as a teacher, with his earnings peaking at $65,000. A few years before the separation in 2004, he obtained new employment with the teacher’s federation and his income started to increase, with the increases continuing post-separation. His 2003 income was $81,800; in 2004 (the year of separation), it was
$125,000 and by the date of trial in 2006 it was $140,000. The husband had re-partnered with a woman who had two young children; his new partner was trained as a physiotherapist but stayed home to care for the children. She received child support of $700 per month from the children’s biological father.

The wife had worked during marriage, sometimes on a full-time basis and sometimes on a part-time basis, and had also taken university courses. Her average annual income during the marriage was approximately $30,000, but in the 2 years before separation she had earned $41,000 a year. The wife became severely depressed after the separation; she was unable to work and claimed disability benefits. In 2004 she was awarded interim spousal support of $2,000 per month. The wife eventually went back to full-time employment and was earning $30,000 per year at the time of the trial.

The trial judge placed significant weight on the husband’s second family obligations and on the wife’s prospects for increased income and a new relationship, and ordered step-down spousal support with a terminating review order: $2,600 per month for the remainder of 2006, stepping down to $1,800 per month for 2007, and $1,050 per month for 2008, with either party able to request review after January 1, 2009. The trial judge refused to make the final order retroactive to the date when interim support had commenced. Although both parties raised the Advisory Guidelines, there was no reference to them in the trial judgement.

The Court of Appeal allowed the wife’s appeal, finding that the trial judge’s factual errors relating to the wife’s employment and potential new relationship constituted grounds for appellate intervention. The Court of Appeal then went on to determine support anew, replacing the trial judge’s order with a step-down time-limited order: $3,000 per month beginning October 2004, stepping-down on April 1 2008 to $1,500 and terminating in September 2011, for a total of seven years of support after separation.

While the Court of Appeal, like the trial judge, found that indefinite support was not appropriate, the actual amount of support they awarded was significantly higher.

Justice Lang’s reasons, in which she engaged in a “traditional” spousal support analysis to reach a determination of the appropriate outcome before turning to the Guidelines to test the reasonableness of that outcome, include several significant rulings that we can do no more than flag, while noting that these rulings have important implications for the application of the Guidelines:

- The reasons draw an important distinction between compensatory and non-compensatory support claims. In Fisher, the wife’s support claim was found to be primarily non-compensatory in nature, justifying a transitional award, even in the context of a relatively lengthy marriage. This would allow the wife to gradually adjust her standard of living from the marital standard to one based upon her own income.
- Consistent with both the Advisory Guidelines and spousal support practice in other parts of the country, the Court of Appeal recognized an expanded role for time-limited orders, particularly in a non-compensatory case like this.
• In finding the trial judge to have been in error in ordering a review rather than simply terminating the spousal support, the Court of Appeal reinforced the message the Supreme Court of Canada delivered in *Leskun*—i.e. that review orders should be the exception rather than the norm and that they are appropriate when “a specified uncertainty about a party’s circumstances at the time of the trial will become certain within an identifiable time period” [para 70].

• On the second family issue, the Court endorsed a contextual, fact-specific approach, finding on the facts that the trial judge had erred in relying upon the husband’s obligations to his second family to reduce support, given that these obligations were obligations to step-children voluntarily undertaken, that his new partner was capable of working and contributing to the support of the second family unit; and that there was no evidence that his obligations to his first family would impoverish his second family.

• In determining the incomes of the parties in the context of the husband’s increased income after separation, the Court averaged the incomes earned in the three years prior to separation and in the year of separation, resulting in an income of $89,825 for the husband and $35,500 for the wife. By implication, the wife was found to have only a limited entitlement to share in the husband’s post-separation increase, consistent with the finding that her support claim was primarily non-compensatory in nature.

• With respect to the commencement date for its order, the Court ruled that its order was to be retroactive to October, 2004, the date interim support had commenced, noting that this was consistent with the Advisory Guidelines which include interim support in calculating duration of awards.

In the final portion of her decision Justice Lang applied the Advisory Guidelines to test both her award and that of the trial judge, with a particular focus on the use of restructuring, a part of the Guidelines that is frequently ignored in practice. On the incomes as found, the *without child support* formula suggested a range of $1,290 to $1,720 per month for a duration of 9.5 to 19 years. Justice Lang noted that the Court’s award was outside the range for both amount (being higher) and duration (being lower). However she then went on to consider restructuring. Here the global range generated by the formula, when both amount and duration are taken into account, was $147,088 to $392,236. The Court of Appeal’s award, with a global value of $189,000, was found to fall squarely within that range (at the lower end), while the trial judge’s order, with a global value of $94,200 was found to be significantly below the Guideline range. Here we see the Advisory Guidelines being used to inform appellate review.

An analysis of the post-*Fisher* developments in Ontario spousal support decisions can be found in our paper, “*Fisher* and After: The Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines in Ontario”, May 28, 2008.5

---

5 Paper prepared for the Law Society of Upper Canada, 2nd Annual Family Law Summit, Toronto and available online at: [http://www.law.utoronto.ca/faculty/rogerson/ssag.html](http://www.law.utoronto.ca/faculty/rogerson/ssag.html)
(b) *Pagnotta v. Malozewski*: Ontario Divisional Court Applies the Guidelines

Shortly after *Fisher*, a second appellate court, the Ontario Divisional Court, applied the Guidelines in *Pagnotta v. Malozewski*, [2008] O.J. No. 1318, 2008 CarswellOnt 1896, reversing in part 2007 CarswellOnt 9117. The motions judge had ordered interim spousal support of $2,000 per month from August 2006 to August 2007, at which time support would cease. The parties had been married for 20 years. The husband earned $127,453 per year and paid monthly child support of $1,731 for the two children, plus his share of the children’s dance expenses of $7,000 per year. The wife had worked as a part-time French teacher since 1995, but had suffered from depression and anxiety after separation. The motions judge expected the wife to return to her part-time work by September 2007 and to obtain full-time employment by September 2008. These employment findings were upheld. Error was found in the complete termination of support in August 2007, as opposed to a reduction, in light of “the length of the marriage, the traditional role played by the wife during the marriage and the relative economic positions of the parties” [para. 14].

The Divisional Court continued the interim support, but looked to the with child support formula to determine amount. The Guidelines range was $1,179 to $1,940 per month and the Court used the mid-point of $1,563, but maintained a termination date of September 1, 2008, “subject to any further court order, either on motion or at trial”. The Guidelines had been argued in motions court and, following *Fisher*, “there appears to be no articulated basis for departing from the Spousal Support Guidelines”, stated the Divisional Court [para. 13].

*Pagnotta* illustrates many of post-*Fisher* trends (some of them problematic) that we have identified in Ontario: the open application of the Advisory Guidelines, their application to interim support, the use of time limits, and little reference to the underlying rationale for spousal support. Pariticularly troubling in *Pagnotta* is the imposition of a time limit on the support.. The Divisional Court extended the time limit imposed by the motions judge, but only to two years, when the wife was expected to be able to work full-time, “subject to further court order, either on motion or at trial”. Even if the wife did become employed full-time as a teacher, her income was still just more than one-quarter of the husband’s and it is difficult to see how on such facts, with such a strong compensatory claim, a time limit could be imposed upon an initial order at trial, much less at the interim stage.

2. The B.C. Court of Appeal

(a) *Beninger v. Beninger*: the Application of the Guidelines in Variation Applications

In *Fisher* the Ontario Court of Appeal emphasized the need to use the Guidelines carefully and with attention to their specific limitations and qualifications. In this respect the British Columbia Court of Appeal decision in *Beninger v. Beninger* provides a nice
counterpart. A common misunderstanding, and one repeated in *Fisher*, albeit in a passing reference, is that the Advisory Guidelines have no application on variation.

In *Beninger*, where the issue was directly raised on the facts, the British Columbia Court of Appeal provided a careful analysis of the application of the Guidelines on a variation application. Dispelling the common misunderstanding that the Advisory Guidelines have no application on variation, *Beninger* offers a more accurate reading of the Advisory Guidelines. The decision recognizes that the Advisory Guidelines *may* be applicable on variation, but not in all cases, and that their use in the variation context must be approached with some degree of caution and an awareness of their possible limitations.

The case involved a long (25 year) traditional marriage with four children in which the husband had been a successful tax lawyer, ran into financial difficulties and ended up declaring bankruptcy shortly after the separation in 2000. He was unemployed for a period of time after the separation, then eventually began to work as a consultant.

A 2003 order had anticipated the husband returning to an income of $312,000 per year and set spousal support at $6,500 per month, in addition to child support for the one child who remained with the wife. A subsequent 2004 order, based upon an income of $120,000, ordered the husband to pay $2,000 per month spousal support.

In 2006, the husband returned to work as a tax lawyer on a contract basis with a gross annual income of $364,500. He applied for a variation of child and spousal support. The wife had tried to retrain and find employment but suffered from health problems and was essentially unemployed. After deducting business expenses, the trial judge set the husband’s income at $318,900 and ordered spousal support of $4000 per month.

In a decision written by Justice Prowse with Chief Justice Finch and Justice Huddart concurring, the Court of Appeal allowed the wife’s appeal and, guided by the Advisory Guidelines, increased spousal support to $9,000 per month. One of the main issues addressed by the Court of Appeal, apart from the determination of the parties’ incomes, was the application of the Guidelines in the context of a variation application under s. 17 of the *Divorce Act*.

Drawing from the Draft Proposal, Justice Prowse noted [at para 52] that the Guidelines are to be used with caution on variation applications because they were not designed to address some of the more complex issues that can arise on variation, including the impact of remarriage, second families and retirement. She noted that entitlement issues may also have arisen since the initial order. However, in an important ruling, Justice Prowse recognized that these complications do not preclude the use of the Guidelines as a tool in a variation application to assist in the determination of amount and duration; but they do require that any such use be undertaken with care and with sensitivity to the specific factual context:

> The decision whether to use the SSAG as a guide on variation applications will have to be made cautiously and on a fact specific basis. [para 55]
On the particular facts of the case, Justice Prowse found that it was appropriate to use the Advisory Guidelines as a guide to determining the appropriate amount and duration of support. No issues of entitlement arose. Given the parties’ long traditional marriage and the adverse economic circumstances Mrs. Beninger continued to experience as a result of the marriage breakdown, she was found to have a strong continuing entitlement to substantial support on both compensatory and non-compensatory grounds. As for Mr. Beninger’s increased income post-separation, which was the basis for the variation application, there was no issue of Mrs. Beninger’s entitlement to share in it. Mr. Beninger’s increased income was found to be directly related first to the career he had embarked on as a result of the education he had obtained, in part, during the marriage and second to the skills developed in his years of working during the marriage which were facilitated by Mrs. Beninger’s efforts as a full-time homemaker. While Justice Prowse does not explicitly state this, it was also clearly relevant that at the time of the 2003 order the husband had gone bankrupt and was on disability but was now employed as a working lawyer again. The case could be seen as involving not so much a post-separation increase as a re-stabilization of the husband’s pre-separation income.

The Guidelines range under the with child support formula, based upon a finding that the husband’s income was $330,000 and a refusal to impute income to the wife, was found to be $8,500 to $10,000 for an indefinite duration. The $9,000 a month awarded by the Court of Appeal comes close to equalizing the net disposable incomes of the parties after taking into account child support.

(b)  

**Shellito v. Bensimhon: the Disability Exception**

Disability cases, particularly those involving shorter marriages, raise difficult issues of spousal support on which the law is uncertain and unresolved. These issues inevitably spill over into the Advisory Guidelines. The Draft Proposal recognizes a possible exception to the formula outcomes for cases of disability. *Shellito v. Bensimhon*, 2008 CarswellBC 469, 2008 BCCA 68, which is the first appellate decision on the Guidelines to deal explicitly with the issue and to recognize that disability may justify departure from the Guideline ranges.

The case involved a short relationship with no children, a relationship between 5 and 6 years. Both parties were in their late twenties when their relationship began and both had full-time employment. However the wife had suffered from serious migraines since childhood which resulted in her having to cease employment during the marriage. The wife, who was qualified as a teacher, was unemployed at the time of separation in April 2006 and had received interim spousal support of $750 for 12 months. The husband’s annual income as a corporal in the R.C.M.P. was taken to be $88,000, with overtime.

At trial in 2007 the trial judge ordered equal sharing of four properties owned by the husband, two of which he brought into the relationship, properties that had increased significantly in value during the course of the marriage because of rising real estate values. The husband’s claim for reapportionment was rejected, with the court balancing the wife’s ongoing need because of her disability against the short marriage and the
premarital property. The wife thus received over $350,000 as a result of the equal property division.

With respect to spousal support, the trial judge found that the wife would be able to take on increasing levels of part-time employment beginning in September of 2007 and would likely be able to return to full-time employment by 2010, i.e. within a further three years. While recognizing that her part-time earnings would vary over this period, he imputed an average income to her of $18,000. In determining the amount of spousal support, the trial judge found that the maximum amount under the Guidelines without child support formula, $700 per month for 3 to 6 years was “too low” under the circumstances. Instead, support was set at $1,800 per month for 4 months until September 2007, dropping to $1,500 for the next 8 months, followed by $1,200 per month for the final 18 months. As a result spousal support was to be paid for a total duration of 4 years and 4 months.

The Court of Appeal upheld the trial judge’s decision on both property division and spousal support. Most of the reasons were devoted to the property issue. With respect to spousal support, the Court simply stated that the Guidelines were advisory and not “definitive: and that “the trial judge made no error in principle in departing from the SSAG to reflect the factor of Ms. Shellito’s disability.” [para 24]. The trial judge was found to have explicitly taken into account the asset division in reaching this result, thus there was no “double-counting” of the disability factor.

*Shellito* thus offers appellate level recognition that disability may be a factor justifying a departure from the formula ranges under the Guidelines. However, given the importance of the issue and the frequency with which it comes before the courts, one might have wished for a more extensive discussion of the issue. Neither the trial judge nor the Court of Appeal referred to the explicit recognition of disability as a possible exception in the Guidelines or to the suggestions in the Guidelines with respect to the structuring of such an exception. Neither compared the outcome under the Guidelines with that reached by the trial judge. That analysis would have shown that the trial judge’s order had a total value of $64,800 as compared to the maximum global award under the without child support formula ($700 per month for 6 years) of $50,400—a departure but not an extreme departure. The award did fall within the time limits suggested by the formula, and in fact it fell short of the maximum duration, suggesting an element of “restructuring”. It was only the amount that was increased beyond the formula ranges (even after taking restructuring into account). To what extent this result was driven by the somewhat unusual nature of the facts in this disability case—i.e. that the wife was expected to make a gradual recovery from her occupational disability or the significant property award—remains unclear.

Looking at the Guidelines caselaw as whole, three approaches to disability cases can be identified. A first group of courts will opt to resolve disability cases within the formula ranges, for both amount and duration, especially in short-to-medium marriages where the recipient spouse is relatively young. In effect, these courts do not recognize any disability exception. The B.C. Court of Appeal decision in *Shellito*, while recognizing disability as an exception, came fairly close to the upper end of the formula ranges and imposed a
time limit on support. A second group of courts will apply an exception, but only on
duration, opting for an amount of support in the lower end of the range, on an indefinite
basis. Yet a third group of courts will make disability an exception on both fronts by
ordering an amount higher than the range and for an duration that is indefinite, as was the
case in Smith v. Smith, 2008 CarswellOnt 1921 (10-year marriage, range $390-$520/mo.
for 5 to 10 years, support of $1,200/mo. ordered, indefinite).

These divergent approaches explain why the final version of the Advisory Guidelines will
continue to reflect a possible exception for illness or disability, until the courts can settle
upon one particular approach.

(c) Loesch v. Walji and Smith v. Smith: Incomes Above the Ceiling

The very recent decision (May 2008) of the B.C.C.A in Loesch v. Walji, [2008] B.C.J.
No. 897, 2008 BCCA 214 deals with the application of the Guidelines in a very high
income case where the payor’s annual income—estimated at $1.6 million although
certainly higher—was well over the $350,000 ceiling. While the decision provides a nice
review of the different approaches laid out in the Draft Proposal for dealing with cases
involving incomes over the $350,000 ceiling, the case is an unusual one on the facts and
the result—the Court of Appeal upheld an award even higher than the Guidelines formula
would generate without regard to the ceiling—appears to have been driven primarily by a
high degree of deference to the chambers judge on what was an interim order, made
without the benefit of full financial disclosure, intended to maintain the status quo and
bridge a very short period (five months) before trial.

Loesch involved a 21 year relationship (17 year marriage plus prior cohabitation) with
four children aged 18, 17, 15 and 10. The three younger children were in private school
and the eldest was in university. The husband was a very successful businessman, whose
income had been moved off-shore, and the parties had enjoyed an extremely extravagant
lifestyle. After the separation in 2004 the husband paid generous support, of
approximately $50,000 a month, on a voluntary basis for about 3 years. Claiming
significant problems with debt, he cut back on those payments, expecting the wife to
support herself and the children out of significant assets at her disposable through a
family trust. The wife brought a motion seeking an order for interim child and spousal
support. At the point the motion was heard, the trial date was only five months away.
There had not been full disclosure; the husband admitted to an annual income of
$900,000, and this was the figure that was used, grossed up to $1.6 million, although it
was clear that his actual income was higher.

Using that figure of $1.6 million, the chambers judge first ordered interim child support
of $30,000 per month—the table amount for 4 children. With respect to spousal support,
the wife’s lawyer had provided a figure in the range of $30,000 to $35,000 based upon
the Advisory Guidelines. After briefly noting that the Guidelines have a ceiling of
$350,000 and that the court has discretion above that amount, the chambers judge ordered
interim spousal support of $50,000 per month with the intention of preserving the
approximate status quo until trial. After tax, the amount ordered produced approximately the same amount as the husband had been paying voluntarily.

The Court of Appeal upheld the interim orders. With respect to the spousal support order, they refer extensively to the Advisory Guidelines and their decision provides a nice review of the alternatives set out in the Draft Proposal for dealing with incomes above the $350,000 ceiling. The first approach, the “minimum plus” approach uses the formula to determine a minimum range at a payor income of the $350,000 ceiling, with discretion to go above that. In cases under the with child support formula this notional calculation at the $350,000 ceiling would be based upon the child support payable at the ceiling. In exercising discretion to go above this minimum, the actual amount of child support being paid would be taken into account. The Draft Proposal suggested that this first approach might make sense where incomes were close to the ceiling. On the facts of Loesch this first approach would have provided a minimum range of $5,835 to $7,123. The Court of Appeal suggests that if the Guidelines were of any assistance to the chambers judge in “the unusual circumstances of the[] parties”, it might have been preferable if she had explained the discrepancy between this amount and the amount ultimately ordered. The second approach set out in the Draft Proposal for incomes above the ceiling is one of “pure discretion”. This, noted the Court of Appeal, was evidently the approach taken by the chambers judge.

On the particular and “unusual” facts of the case, and an income “far beyond” the ceiling, the Court of Appeal found [at para 49] that the Advisory Guidelines were “really of no assistance” and in the simply deferred to the chambers’ judge’s exercise of discretion.


3. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Alberta Appeal Decisions

The New Brunswick Court of Appeal has directly endorsed the use of the Advisory Guidelines in its earlier decisions. D.L.M. v. J.A.M., [2008] N.B.J. No. 9, 2008 NBCA 2 (Larlee J.A.) involved a brief reference to the Guidelines. After imputing a higher income to the husband, the Court of Appeal remitted the remaining support issues (including entitlement) to the trial judge, directing that the Advisory Guidelines be used to determine any amount and duration of spousal support if entitlement was found.

In Snyder v. Pictou, [2008] N.S.J. No. 77, 2008 NSCA 19 (Fichaud J.A.), the Advisory Guidelines were used to overturn the trial judge’s time-limited order under the provincial Maintenance and Custody Act. The common-law couple had lived together for ten years, with two children aged 10 and 11. The husband was a long-distance truck driver whose income was difficult to determine, but estimated at $40,000, for child support of $579 per month. The wife was home, due to stress problems, with no income. The trial judge had ordered two lump sum payments of spousal support totalling $4,700, to reflect 22 months of support that the husband should have paid, but no ongoing support. The Court of
Appeal substituted an indefinite order, consistent with *Moge* and the Advisory Guidelines (para. 25), with the amount fixed at $214 per month (based upon the trial award).

The Alberta Court of Appeal has referred to the Advisory Guidelines in two recent decisions. In *Lapp v. Lapp*, [2008] A.J. No. 208, 2008 ABCA 15, the Court considered the Guidelines ranges in assessing the reasonableness of the retroactive spousal support award for the period 1998 to 2005 and the continuing support for 2006 and after ( paras. 22-23, 33). *Chalifoux v. Chalifoux*, [2008] A.J. No. 174, 2008 ABCA 70, was a complex custodial payor case, where the payor had made $70-$80,000 during the marriage as an electrician, but after separation earned more than $170,000 working in Yemen. On appeal, spousal support was increased to $2,827 per month from the trial award of $2,000 per month indefinite. The wife had framed her claim using the Advisory Guidelines and the husband’s full post-separation income.
Appendix I

SPOUSAL SUPPORT ADVISORY GUIDELINES
APPEAL CASES
[September 12, 2007 – July 10, 2008]

For a list of the appeal cases decided prior to Sept. 12, 2007 see our paper “The Advisory Guidelines 31 Months Later” at http://www.law.utoronto.ca/faculty/rogerson/ssag.html

Married 10 years, husband 62, wife 51, separated 1999
One child 16 with wife, some chronic psychiatric difficulties
Husband orthodontist, earns $477,206/yr., likely retire when 70, work less after 65
Wife part-time flight attendant, retired 2005, not worked since, interior design training
Couple spent lavishly, husband supported wife until 2005, in hope of reconciliation
Trial decision 2006: family assets divided, 30% of husband’s corporate interests in specie
Reversed on appeal, compensation order made instead, $237,990 to wife
Also 10% interest in husband’s property company ordered on appeal
Child support order at trial upheld: husband’s table amount $3,854/mo., but $3,528/mo. ordered
Reduced by $326/mo., table amount for wife at $35,000/yr. imputed income
Also husband to pay all special expenses of $3,000/mo.
Spousal support at trial: 7 years of support until June 2013 when wife 65, husband 70
Step-down order: $13,750/mo. for 3 yrs., $11,000/mo. for 2 yrs., $8,000/mo. for 2 yrs.
Trial judge not required as matter of law to state conceptual basis for spousal support
Above ceiling case under SSAG, husband supported wife for 7 years, trial judge restructured
Reduced on appeal to encourage self-sufficiency, wife no efforts and still spending
Order for $8,000/mo. for 4 years, then $6,500/mo. to reflect husband’s reduced earning capacity
No time limit, but order may be varied when husband retires completely
[With child support range if husband $477,206, wife $35,000, no s. 7 expenses: $11,368-$13,802/mo.]
[If $3,000/mo. s. 7 expenses: $9,237-$11,351/mo.; if husband $350,000, no s. 7: $7,601-$9,470/mo.]
[Without child support range if incomes $477,206/$35,000: $5,528-$7,370, mid $6,449/mo., 5-10 years]

Together 21 years, married 17, husband 46, wife 44, 4 children 18, 17, 15 and 10
Interim decision, husband provided generous support voluntarily for 3 years, 5 mos. to trial
Issues of income, debt, disclosure, family trust
Wife home, primary caregiver to children
Husband businesses, income goes offshore, not tax, says $900,000/yr., grossed-up to $1.6 million
Child support $30,000/mo., 1 in university and 3 in private school
Spousal support, above ceiling, range $30-$35,000/mo., order for $50,000/mo., ability to pay
Demanding standard of review on interim support appeal: “inordinately high or low”
Husband admitted income, other sources of income available to him in Canada, Dubai, Switzerland
Unusually extravagant lifestyle during marriage, husband little questioning of wife’s budget
Above ceiling case, possible approached considered
Range at $350,000 under with child support formula $5,835-$7,123/mo., preferable if discrepancy from Guidelines explained
Payor’s income “far beyond” the ceiling, Guidelines “really of no assistance”, pure discretion
After tax, support produces same amount as was paid voluntarily
Husband’s income in fact greater than that admitted, amount can be adjusted after trial
Whether trust for children a “special provision” for child support purposes also matter for trial

Interim support appeal allowed in part
Married 20 years, 2 children, with wife
Husband earns $127,453, child support $1,731/mo., plus $7,000/yr. s. 7 expense for dance
Wife no income at hearing, depression at separation, worked part-time since birth of second child
$34,000 imputed in Sept. 2007 as part-time French teacher, full-time by Sept. 2008
Interim spousal support of $2,000/mo. ordered, from August 2006 to August 2007, then terminated
Factors and objectives of Act not discussed, nor SSAG raised in argument
Interim support to continue until Sept. 2008, subject to further order
Guidelines range $1,179 to $1,940, mid-point of $1,563/mo. ordered from Sept. 2007 until then
“No articulated basis for departing from the Guidelines”

Together 10 years, 2 children 10 and 11, with wife
Husband long-distance trucker, income issues, estimated at $40,000, child support $579/mo.
Wife home, stress problems, no income
Trial judge ordered 2 lump sum payments, totalling $4,700, as 22 mos. retroactive spousal support,
but no ongoing support
Following Advisory Guidelines, indefinite order substituted, $214/mo. based on trial amount

Married 23 years, 2 adult children, traditional marriage
Wife now full-time in Sears catalogue dept., earns $25,300
Husband earns $40,000, reduced income after post-separation motorcycle accident, but large settlement
Guidelines ranges used to assess reasonableness of retroactive spousal support award 1998-2005
Ongoing support of $1,000/mo. from 2006 on, in range

Married 22 years, 3 children, now 1 with husband
Wife sought spousal support under SSAG, $4,200-$6,300/mo. based on husband’s post-separation income
Husband now earning $171,432 as electrician in Yemen, earned $70-$80,000 during marriage
Wife receives income of $24,828 from disability policies and rent
Trial judge ordered child support by wife of $213/mo., spousal support by husband of $2,000/mo.,
Trial judge did not err in determining husband’s income, or in not basing support on actual income
Husband adopted “burdensome life” after separation, insufficient connection to marriage
But erred in including retroactive support in wife’s income, and in estimating monthly cash flows
Spousal support increased on appeal from $2,000/mo. to $2, 827/mo.
Dissent on property issues
[Custodial payor range, at $80,000 for husband: $1,256-$1675; at $100,000: $1,715-$2,287/mo.]

Together 5-6 years (married 4), husband 35, wife 33, no children
Wife serious migraines, worsened by stress, unable to work full-time, teacher’s certificate
Husband RCMP corporal, earns $88,000 with overtime
Property divided 50/50, despite short marriage, wife’s need vs. premarital property, upheld on appeal
Wife not work now, can work part-time in 4 mos., full-time in 3 years, $18,000 imputed during period of
part-time employment
Support non-compensatory, Guidelines maximum $700/mo. for 3 to 6 years, “too low”, said trial judge
Wife sought $1500-$2000, interim support $750/mo. for 12 mos.
Support $1800 for 4 mos., $1500 for 18 mos., $1200 for 18 mos., then end (52 mos. total)
Upheld on appeal, no error to depart from SSAG amount to reflect wife’s disability, no “double counting”
of disability factor in property and support
**Appendix I: Appeal Cases, Sept. 12, 2007 – July 10, 2008**

Married 6 years, 2 children 9 and 5, with wife
Husband working as superintendent for parents’ rental property company, salary $42,684
Wife primary caregiver, also worked in company, now 2 jobs, call centre/retail, $19,000/yr.
Trial judge ordered child support, no further spousal support
Issues: gift vs. loan re home from husband’s parents, imputing income to husband
Gift, not loan, wife entitled to half of net proceeds from home
Couple income split during marriage, total close to $70,000, amount imputed in interim
No explanation by husband for drop in income after separation
Income imputed at $70,000, support issues remitted to trial judge
Trial judge to consider entitlement and, if entitlement, application of Guidelines
[Child support, $983/mo., Guidelines range (no s. 7 expenses): $149-$668/mo.]

19 year marriage, separation 2004, no children
Husband completes B.A. and B. Ed. during marriage; then teacher earning $65,000; 1999 new job with
teacher’s federation; income increases in last 3 years of marriage and continues to increase after
separation: 2003, $81,800; 2004, $120,000; 2005, $132,000; 2006, $140,000
Husband new partner with two young children, staying home, receiving $700 per month child support
Wife worked during marriage, sometimes full-time, sometimes part-time; also took university courses;
average earnings $30,000; income $41,000 for 2 years before separation unusually high
Wife depressed after separation; unemployed and on disability benefits; back to full-time employment,
earning $30,000
October 2004, interim support $2000/mo
either party able to request review in 2009; no retroactive support; no reference to SSAG even though
parties argued
Wife’s appeal allowed
Trial judge made errors in finding of fact relating to wife’s employment and potential new relationship
Wife’s claim for support primarily non-compensatory
Husband’s obligations to second family not to be relied upon to reduce support; new partner capable of
working;
No basis for review order; no specified uncertainty
Support to be made retroactive to Oct. 2004; consistent with SSAG which include interim support in
calculating duration of awards
Time-limited order appropriate; seven years of transitional support
Incomes determined by averaging incomes earned in 3 years prior to separation and in the year of
separation; result: husband $89,825 and wife $35,500
Trial judge’s order replaced by order of spousal support for $3000 per month (for 3.5 years) beginning
October 2004; step-down April 1 2008 to $1,500 (for 3.5 years); terminating Sept 1, 2011 (7 years
total)
SSAG a “useful tool” or “litmus test” in determining reasonableness of award; when counsel address
SSAG; trial judges should provide reasons if award amount outside range
Range: $1,290 to $1,720 ($15,483 to $20,644 annually), 9.5 to 19 years
Court’s award outside range for both amount (higher) and duration (lower), but allowed by restructuring
because with global range [global range: $147,088 to $392,236; trial judge’s global award $94,200, outside
range; Court of Appeal’s global award $189,000, within global range, at low end]

25 year marriage, 4 children, separation 2000; two dependent children, one with each parent
Wife obtains M.Sc. in economics in early years of marriage and but homemaker after birth of first child
Husband lawyer; obtains master of laws in early years of marriage; unsuccessful business ventures at end
of marriage; bankruptcy 2001; unemployed due to depression; then consulting business
2003 order: assuming income of $312,000, child support for 1 child $2,111/mo; spousal support $6,500
2004 order: based on income of $120,000, child support for one child of $888/mo; spousal support $2,000; subsequent variation requiring contribution to university expenses

Husband returns to work as tax lawyer on contract basis in 2006; income $364,500; remarried; new spouse earning $75,000; seeks variation of child and spousal support

Wife health issues, no income

Chambers judge finds husband’s income to be $318,900 (after deduction of business expenses of $45,000); orders spousal support of $4000 per month

Wife appeals, arguing husband’s income much higher

Court of Appeal sets husband’s income at $330,650; not appropriate to impute income to wife

Child support raised to $2,711.07

Use of SSAG on variation: appropriate on these facts, wife has on-going entitlement to substantial support both on compensatory and non-compensatory basis; appropriate to base spousal support on husband’s increased income because career linked to education acquired during marriage and years of work during marriage while wife cared for children

Range under with child support formula if husbands’ income $330,000: $8,500 - $10,000, leaving wife with 48.9% of NDI

Spousal support ordered: $9000/mo, indefinite
Appendix II

SPOUSAL SUPPORT ADVISORY GUIDELINES
TRIAL DECISIONS
[September 12, 2007 – July 10, 2008]
For cases decided prior to Sept. 12, 2007 see our previous update papers at
http://www.law.utoronto.ca/faculty/rogerson/ssag.html

A. The Without Child Support Formula

Married 20 years, no children, wife 3 teenage children when married, husband 65, wife 70
Matrimonial assets divided equally, wife gets house, cottage, etc., wife to pay husband $299,205
Husband keeps business assets, wife shareholder and employee of publishing business
Wife paid $35,000/yr., continuing after 2002 separation until 2006
Wife awarded 35% of value of companies, plus Toronto property, husband to pay wife $507,900
Final net payment, husband to wife, of $208,694
Wife entitled to non-compensatory spousal support, not a traditional marriage
Wife receives pension income of $25,400 from CPP, RRIF, OAS, plus $12,000 imputed interest on
equalization payment, total income $37,400
Husband earns $70,000 from businesses, cohabiting, assets could produce greater income
SSAG range $815-$1,087/mo., $800/mo. ordered, indefinite
Husband’s net disposable income stated to be “only marginally higher” at $815/mo.
[At $815/mo., wife left with 46% of NDI, $500/mo. less than husband]

_Freeman v. Freeman_, 2008 CarswellBC 1366, 2008 BCSC 857 (Martinson J.)
Together 5 years (married 4), husband 36, wife 30
Problems of non-disclosure by both parties
Family assets reapportioned, real property 70/30 to wife, rest divided equally
Husband earns $90,000 in construction, wife earns $49,991/yr.
SSAG range $250-$333/mo. for 2.5 to 5 years
Order for $275/mo. for 3.5 years, converted to lump sum of $11,550, reduced to $10,000 paid now

_Ames v. Ames_, 2008 CarswellBC 1329, 2008 BCSC 632 (Shabbits J.)
Together 16 years (married 15), husband 47, wife 46, 1 child 18
Child troubled adolescence, now living on own, working part-time minimum wage employment
Child might return to school, become “child of marriage” again, $1,500 retro child support to wife
Wife trained as dentist in Mexico, never practised there, comfortable family circumstances there
Moved to Port Alberni, never practised, never sought requalification, no training, home
Family assets divided equally, except house reapportioned 60/40 to wife, to be sold ($224,000)
Wife made secret transfers of money, one-half amounts to husband
Compensatory spousal support, but modest disadvantage
Wife living common law, income $16,000 in 2007, may not retrain
Husband was mill worker, lower income now as jail guard, $53,000/yr.
SSAG range $700-$975/mo. for 8 to 16 years
Order for $800/mo., for 6 years, no retroactive as wife less than candid re living arrangements

Together 10 years, husband 59, wife 53, no children
Wife waitress/bartender, earns $14,000/yr.
Husband mould maker at glass co., earns $68,225/yr.
Both worked throughout, both children of previous relationships
Dispute re commencement of cohabitation, 1994 vs. 1996, found to be mid-1995
SSAG calculations by both, range $678-$904/mo., 5 to 10 years
Order for mid-point, $791/mo. for 8 years from separation
Interim order for $700/mo. from May 2006, separation August 2005

Married 35 years, 3 adult children, husband 65, wife 61, separated 2003
Wife unemployable, due to age and medical condition, no income
Husband chartered accountant, earned $110,000/yr., retired 2005, monthly payments from accounting firm
Husband’s income $63,588/yr., from part-time accounting, CPP, OAS, monthly payments from firm
2004 interim order $3,000/mo., but not paid
Dec. 2007 without prejudice interim agreement for $1,200/mo.
Husband claims large debt load, wife seeks $3,000/mo
Order for $2,000/mo., “consistent with guidelines”, some credit for debt payments
[Estimated range $1,987-$2,540/mo.]

Together 8 ½ years, no children, separated June 2004, husband 61, wife 49
Husband and wife in lobster buying business together, unincorporated business, no assets
Assets divided, house sold
Husband’s income $63,000/yr. from lobster sales, rental income
Wife split income before separation, paid $30,509 in 2005, worked in retail jobs since, not working at trial
Interim spousal support order Jan. 2007 $2,666/mo., voluntary payments in 2006 $18,625 ($1,552 net/mo.)
SSAG range $669-$892/mo., 4 ¼ to 8 ½ years
Order for $892/mo., for one more year ending May 2009, 5 years total

Together 23 years (married 20), 2 children 19 and 16, husband 59, wife 51
No child support, as older is Olympic athlete, younger at boarding school, expenses out of family trust
Wife at home, earned $6,000 in 2007, retail sales, boarder, at Sun Peaks
Husband retired Air Canada pilot, some contract flying, living on boat and in Vancouver
Vancouver house ordered sold, worth about $1.2 million
Wife entitled to interim support
Husband’s income in issue, claim of stress-related disability rejected, total $90,000/yr.
(pension $24,000 plus employment $66,000/yr.)
Guidelines range $2,415-$3,220/mo., wife seeks $2,500/mo., that amount ordered from April 2008-06-18
Also interim lump sum support of $4,600 for wife’s commercial property management course

Married 30 years, separated 1999, husband and wife 60, traditional marriage
3 children 28, 25 and 22, 2 older with husband, younger with wife after separation
Child support to wife ended 2007
Since 2000, spousal support of $925/mo.
Support increased to $1,070/mo. in 2007 plus $150/mo. for medical insurance
Husband federal government employee, earned $96,000 til retirement in 2008
Husband’s pension $46,747/yr. ($19,000 less after division), remarried, new wife earns $5,000/yr.
Wife nurse, worked 4 days/week in doctor’s office, around child care obligations, earned $40,000/yr.
Wife retired at 60 in 2007, pension $21,897/yr.
Husband applies to terminate/reduce support, wife seeks to continue $1,070/mo.
SSAG “not help in achieving a just result”, $600/mo. ordered, indefinite, plus $150/mo. insurance
[Estimated range: $777-$1,035/mo.]

Together 18 years (married 15), husband 55, wife 49, no children
Wife moved twice during marriage for husband, medical lab technologist
Only full-time since June 2007, earns $76,208/yr.

Husband not appear at trial, no financial statement, no NFP statement
Husband millwright at Chrysler, earns $123,193/yr.
Guidelines range $1,057-$1,410, mid-point of $1,235/mo. ordered
Duration 9 to 18 years, not indefinite, 9 years ordered
Property equalization, $100,000-plus to wife

Together 5 years (married 2 ½)
Jan. 2005 unrepresented agreement for $500/mo. spousal support to Jan. 2007
Separated July to Dec. 2004, husband paid half rent of $500/mo., voluntarily
Reconciled spring 2005 to Oct. 2005, voided agreement
Husband earns $38,596/yr., $42,000 previously, pays $400/mo. for previous child
Wife gets full-time permanent job in Feb. 2006, rehabilitation assistant, $37,880/yr.
Compensatory support: wife moved to Edmonton and back for husband, cared for his child
Transition to self-sufficiency needed
Guidelines range $89-$118/mo., 2 ½ to 5 years, not accepted
Spousal support from July 2004 to Jan. 2006 of $500/mo. for 18 months

Wong v. Wong, 2007 NSSC 266 (Stewart J.)
Together 25 years (married 15), husband 60, wife 63, no children
Husband papermaker, now retired, pension and municipal councillor, new partner (employed)
Husband’s pension $35,232/yr., all accumulated during relationship, divided at source, half each
Wife hairdresser, various jobs, caring for husband’s parents and her own mother
Assets divided equally, matrimonial home sold
Wife seeks upper end of SSAG range, claiming $1,406-$1,875/mo., husband says $1,155/mo.
Interim support $1,000/mo. for 10 months, wife unlikely to earn more income
Husband’s councillor income $13,846/yr ($4,615 not taxable) [grossed up $16,131/yr.]
Spousal support of $300/mo., inclusive of $155/mo. health insurance
[Guidelines range estimated as $504-$682/mo.]

Married 16 years (plus one year cohabitation), separated 2003, husband 58, wife 54
Wife’s children 4 and 6 when together, now 26 and 28
Husband paid interim spousal support, by agreement: $4,879/mo. 2005, $4,600/mo. 2006 and 2007
Husband pilot at Air Canada, remarried, earns $267,845/yr., must retire at 60
Wife no income, home-based business selling Japanese health products
Range $5,654-$7,539/mo., husband’s offer at mid-point vs. wife’s claim for top end
Order for $6,597/mo., indefinite, review in 20 mos. when husband retires

Married 32 years, 2 adult children, husband 57, wife 58
Husband millwright, earns $70,100/yr., mine closing, to be laid off
Nov. 2006 interim spousal support $1,600/mo. plus mortgage and utilities
House proceeds reapportioned 75% to wife ($105,750), his non-payment of support
Wife part-time bank work, $19,747/yr., entitlement conceded
Range $1,574-$2,098; given reapportionment, low end of range, $1,600/mo.
Review when husband laid off and 7 mos. severance pay gone or Sept. 2009

Married 18 years, separated 1996, 3 adult children, wife 58
2000 consent order: husband lost Alcan job, $1 nominal order for spousal support, review in 2001
2006 review application, heard in 2008: husband didn’t disclose that re-employed
Range $1,919-$2,558; high end as non-disclosure and hardship of wife
Retroactive spousal support back 38 mos., total $97,321
Wife now earning $29,250/yr.

Husband retired at age 54, okay as new partner ill, 30 years in work camps, to obtain lump sum pension. Can find alternate employment, income of $50,000 imputed. Range $467-$622, so spousal support of $625/mo., for 6 more years (18 total).

Together 15 years (married 14), husband 71, wife 56
Wife aesthetician, not employed
Husband doctor, retired after separation, health problems accepted
Income now $15,618/yr., from OAS, CPP, investments
Equal division of family assets
Husband’s income below Guidelines floor, wife able to earn more, estimated $20,000/yr.
Spousal support adjourned, no support, wife to disclose income

Married 34 years, 5 adult children, husband 58, wife 60
Husband teacher and principal, on reserve, earns $59,000 non-taxable
Wife no income, worked in various clerical jobs, ran convenience store on reserve, now closed
Husband lives with family and girlfriend
Wife lives in matrimonial home on reserve, son, daughter, son-in-law, their 2 children
Wife seeks one-half of his net income as spousal support, estimated at $2,478/mo.
Guidelines range calculated on net income, as $1,844-$2,458/mo., tax issues raised
Support of $1,731/mo. ordered, less than minimum
Husband’s employment expenses, wife’s children should contribute, wife can work part-time
Non-deductibility a factor, duration to be indefinite
[Non-taxable exception would apply, also 50% net income cap at $2,345/mo.]

Married 25 years, separation 1999, 2 children now independent
Wife full-time homemaker after second child
Divorce 2000; husband earning $43,680 and wife $14,560; 1 child still dependent
Court order for $374/mo child support, plus s. 7 and $400/mo spousal
Husband additional training and works extensive overtime to increase earnings
2007, child support ended, wife applies for upward variation
Husband’s income $71,641 and cohabiting with new partner earning $17,323
Wife’s income $28,000
Wife presents SSAG range [calculated as $1364-$1783] and seeks increase to $1,600/mo [midpoint]
Court orders $1000 per month; husband cannot be expected to continue to work extra overtime because of age and health

Married 21 years, no children, wife 44
Husband owns 2 construction companies, worth $1.1 million
2006 interim spousal support order $2,500/mo.
Equal division of family assets, hobby farm to be sold
Husband’s income $96,000/yr. (he said $60,000), but income splitting in past, also retained earnings
Husband new family, wife, 1-year-old and step-daughter 10
Wife unemployed, wanted to run equestrian centre, worked in construction, $20,000/yr. imputed
Wife assisted in husband’s company, could train as equipment operator
Range $2,185-$2,913 indefinite, low end of $2,250/mo. ordered, COLA clause, review provision

Married 26 years, husband 49, wife 44, adult children, traditional marriage
Wife health problems, unable to work, social assistance not included as income
Husband paid equivalent of $1,500/mo. re matrimonial home, wife in home
Spousal support April-September only issue

Husband’s 2005 income $89,715, range $2,783-$3,711/mo.
Spousal support fixed at $3,000/mo., or $15,000, less $3,500 benefits paid to wife
Total $11,500, to be paid $400/mo.

Together 18 years (married 8), no dependent children, interim support
Husband earns $120,000, wife $64,300
Wife experienced reduction in standard of living, frugal budget
Interim support of $1,250/mo. ordered, lower end of range sufficient for reasonable living standard
[Guidelines range $1,253-$1,671/mo.]

Married 13 ½ years, separated Jan. 1993, husband 51, wife 50, 2 adult children
1997 order: custody to husband, spousal support $2,500/mo. indefinite
Husband remarried in 1997, 2 more children 16 and 10 now
Husband chartered accountant, earned $221,197 in 2006
Wife unable to work, no income, bipolar disorder since 1983 and borderline personality disorder
Wife seeks increase in support, as children no longer with husband and 23.5% inflation
No to first ground, as no priority to child support under s. 15.3, support generous and indefinite
Yes to second, SSAG not used, as variation and also disability exception
Spousal support increased by cost of living, to $3,000/mo., indefinite, review when husband retires

Married 35 years, husband 60, wife 56, 3 adult children 32, 28 and 19, traditional marriage
Wife various jobs since 2002, $16,000 in 2007, but now $29,000/yr.
Husband trucker, company, income issues, investments, $90,000 in 2007, $70,000 2008 and after
Matrimonial home reapportioned 75/25 to wife, i.e. $378,750/$126,500
Wife entitled to spousal support for 5 years, until husband turns 65
Support for 2007 $3,000/mo., reduced to $2,000/mo. for use of family home
Support for 2008 and after $1,750/mo.
Both within SSAG ranges [range for 2007: $2,312-$3,083; for 2008: $1,281-$1,708]

Married 5 years, refugees from Zimbabwe, to Toronto then Yellowknife in 2003
Interim spousal support, triable issue re entitlement
Compensatory support claim, wife supported husband while his accounting education
Wife seeks $1,000/mo., she in 1st year of 4 year nursing program
Husband cohabiting, partner working full-time, no income stated for husband
Interim support of $700/mo., more than “very modest amount” under SSAG proposed by husband

**Smith v. Smith**, 2008 CarswellOnt 1921 (Conway J.)
Married 10 years, husband 41, wife 50, no children
Entitlement based on need, “lengthy marriage’
Wife disabled at marriage, obsessive-compulsive disorder, physical problems
Ears $6,300/yr. as personal care worker, ODSP social assistance $10,872/yr.
Wife seeks support of $1,556/mo., interim support of $1,200/mo. from June 2007
Husband earned $45,866 in 2006 as diver, etc., only $32,927 in 2007
Guidelines range $390-$520, 5 to 10 years, but dollar-for-dollar deduction from ODSP
Guidelines rejected, $1,200/mo. ordered, no time limit, no review
[No mention of disability exception]

**Dor v. Traynor**, [2008] O.J. No. 1212 (Graham J.)
Married 14 years (cohabited 20?), 2 children 13 and 11, husband 48, wife 52
Interim dual nesting order, but husband failed to pay support, home sold
Children in temporary care of family & children’s services since Sept. 2007
Wife no income, disabled, degenerative disc disease, employability for trial

Husband earns $85,000
Interim spousal support based on need, $2,400/mo. ordered, considers medical expenses of wife
Guidelines range if 14 years, $1,488-$1,983/mo.; if 20 years, $2,125-$2,833/mo.
Plus $400/mo. on arrears, also advance on equalization ordered

Together 18 years (married 16), 2 children 25 and 24, separated 1997
Consent 1998 interim order: child support $775/mo., spousal support $1,000/mo. husband $56,200/yr., wife $11,628/yr.
Application to vary “interim” order til trial
Changes: wife’s income up, husband’s down, children independent
Child support arrears fixed
Spousal support duration 9 to 18 years, mid-point 13 ½ years, 36 more months
Husband now $49,915/yr., wife $21,457/yr.
Guidelines mid-range $789/mo., so $750/mo. for 36 months, or further order
With child support formula used to reduce spousal support arrears, mid-point $347/mo. vs. $1,000 paid
Husband also to pay $250/mo. on child support arrears, increased to $1,000/mo. after 36 mos.

12 year marriage, separation 1999,1 child; equal time shared custody, now adult
Wife now 60 and husband 57 (51 and 46 at separation)
Wife part-time teaching assistant during marriage and after, income $16,040
Husband paper worker, income $95,000
No child support sought until 2003, then consent order for half table amount;
Son (then 20) ceases to reside with mother in 2007; living with father
No spousal support sought until 2005; then interim order for $800/mo
Court orders $1000/mo spousal support as requested by wife; low end of SSAG range but appropriate
because order of indefinite duration; retroactive only to Jan. 2008 not date of application
[Range calculated as $1185-$1586]

Ferguson v. Ferguson, [2008] O.J. No. 1140, 2008 CarswellOnt 1676 (Hambly J.)
Married 22 years, husband 54, wife 49, 2 children 22 and 19, younger with wife, working
2004 orders: child support $600, spousal support $1,304/mo., spousal continued in 2006
Husband analyst in government, earns $80,833/yr., new partner since 2004
Wife arthritis, unable to work, modest income at best, $3,429/yr.
Cessation of child support a change in circumstances, even if spousal support not previously reduced
Range $2,129-$2,838/mo., 37.8 to 46.8% NDI to wife, order for $2,700/mo., indefinite

Married 4 years, husband 39, wife 38, separated May 2006
Wife in fashion marketing course in Toronto, now real estate agent in Vancouver, $32,947/yr.
Husband engineer, own company, income $193,462/yr.
Family assets reapportioned, short marriage, husband’s assets, 80-90% in husband’s favour
Wife did not give up much by move to Vancouver, no compensatory support
Husband paid off her student loans, real estate course and assisted her with new apartment
Wife has need, no interim application, wife seeks mid-point of $936/mo. for 3 years
[Guidelines range estimated at $790-$1,053 for 2-4 years]
Spousal support $750/mo. for one year

Married 28 years, husband 42, wife 41, 2 children 26 and 19, 19 on own, money from husband
2005 order: child support $595/mo., spousal support $1,500/mo., husband’s income $74,376, wife $10,698
Review in 2007, SSAG range in 2005 $1,168-$1,674/mo. under with child support formula
Husband’s income now $76,254/yr., social worker in government
Wife $24,000/yr., 2 jobs, teacher’s assistant and home care, underemployed
Range $1,633-$2,177, no change, $1,500/mo. continued, another review in 1 year

Married 28 years, 3 adult children, husband 53, wife 51, traditional marriage
Husband truck driver, income $105,480/yr.
2006 interim support $4,300/mo. plus retro lump sum of $12,900
Wife said annual income of $650 then, no disclosure of inheritance from father or $10,000 advance
Equal division of family assets, no further retro support
Entitlement not an issue, but income issues for wife
Income from employment imputed $25,000 plus $16,000 interest income, total $41,000
Guidelines range $2,015-$2,686, order for $2,500/mo., review in 2 years

Married 24 years, husband 60, wife 59, no children
1998 order: $470/mo. spousal support, indefinite, husband then earning $12-$16,000/yr.
Arrears not reduced
Husband disabled by 2003 accident, now receives workers’ comp and CPP, $14,415 ($5,460 non-taxable)
Husband cohabiting, new wife retired, her income reduced
Wife on social assistance, medical expenses
Change of circumstances, support reduced to $300/mo., indefinite, SSAG considered
[Range estimated as $432-$576, but payor’s income below floor income]

Married 18 years, 3 adult children, separated 1996
Various support orders since 1996: 1999 varied to child support $260/mo. (2), spousal support $190/mo.
Husband applied to terminate spousal support, 2003 injured arm, says no income, depends on partner
Wife bartender, work injury to back, cohabited 10 mos., now ended, just a factor, college studies, finishing June 2008
Guidelines quoted re uncertain duration in medium marriages
Support to continue until Dec. 2008 at $190/mo.

Together 18 years (married 17), husband 46, wife 55, 1 child 20
2005 interim order: child support $441/mo., spousal support $1,000/mo.
Wife depression and arthritis, school bus driver 20 hrs/wk, earns $20,877/yr.
Husband works as groundskeeper, receives workers comp ($230/mo.), income $49,756/yr.
Wife secondary wage earner, entitled, range $650-$866
Order for $650/mo., indefinite, permanent support
Arrears reduced, as interim support above Guidelines range

Married 25 years, husband 52, wife 48, 2 adult children, traditional marriage
Interim support $1,300/mo.
Husband firefighter, but heart attack, kidney disease and diabetes, blind
Wife on workers’ comp and CPP Disability, $15,116 ($6,371 non-taxable), cohabiting, partner $30,000
Guidelines range stated as $1,500-$2,000/mo., 44.9 to 51.5% NDI
Order for $1,500/mo., within customary range (36.6 to 47.5% NDI)
Support to terminate on his retirement in Sept. 2012, then OMERS pension split
[Range with gross-up for wife’s income, $1,432-$1,909/mo.]

Together 11 years (8 married), no children, husband 44, wife 43
Wife fibromyalgia since 1996, separated 1998, interim spousal support $500/mo. since 2000
Home proceeds reapportioned 80% to wife, i.e. $64,000 in 2002
2002 order: $500/mo. spousal support, indefinite, review after Feb. 2007 added on appeal
Husband remarried, 2 children, wife at home, earns $60,000/yr. vs. $45,000/yr in 2002

Wife still receives $16,000 on disability, living in house
Range $577-$769 for 5.5 to 11 years
Illness/disability exception not warranted here, another 16 months support (11 years total)
Amount on low end, but reapporportionment

Married 21 years, 1 child 19, on own, wife 43
Family assets divided equally
Husband runs noodle business company, income issues, cash/expenses, at least $100,000/yr.
Wife worked in photo lab, then home in 2001 to care for child when child had problems, not worked since
Interim spousal support $2,500/mo. (including child support)
Wife rental income $7,200/yr., 2 years to train and upgrade
Mid-range Guidelines amount $2,840/mo., as of Feb. 2010 income of $30,000 imputed
Spousal support reduced to low end of range, $1,650/mo., wife can sell house
Husband’s obligation to support his mother considered
[Estimated range now $2,436-$3,248; if wife $30,000 $1,649-$2,198]

Together 27 years (26 married), husband 57, wife 48, 4 children
Youngest child, 21, college student, with husband, no child support sought by husband
Wife earns $29,400/yr., hospital cleaner and housekeeper, 30-35 hrs/wk.
Husband earns $79,000 as lumber grader, but no overtime now, so income $58,968/yr.
Range $927-$1,236, order for interim spousal support of $950/mo.
Wife’s need and husband’s contribution to child’s education

Together 15 years (married 7), no children, husband 58, wife 44, separated 2004
2005 separation agreement: $130,000 to wife, equalization and lump sum support, waiver of support
Application to set aside 6 months later, lump sum support $25,000 to $29,000
Not in compliance at stage 1 of Miglin
Husband skilled tradesman at Ford Motor
His income: 2005 $129,093; 2006 $109,837; 2007 $90,000
Wife rural mail carrier, income 2005 $23,949; 2006 $25,956, 2007 $25,956, then lost job
Spousal support: 2005 $2,500/mo.; 2006 $2,000/mo.; 2007 $1,500/mo., Guidelines considered
[Range 2005 $1,971-$2,629/mo.; 2006 $1,573-$2,097; 2007 $1,201-$1,601]
Husband retired at end of 2007, support to be reconsidered

Married 25 years, husband 60, wife 55, 2 children 26 and 25, both home, 26-year-old head injury
Husband heavy duty mechanic, earns $60,000/yr.
2003 order for spousal support $1,500/mo., review after 2006
Wife not making reasonable efforts for employment, 7 ½ years since separation
Income imputed as 20 hours, minimum wage, $800/mo., plus $700/mo. draw from RRSP, $18,000/yr.
Husband retiring, job requires heavy physical labour, pension plus half-time, $45,000
Equality of living standards, Guidelines upper end calculated and ordered
Order for $1,250/mo., review when husband 65
[Range estimated $938-$1,250]

Langdon v. Langdon, 2008 CarswellOnt 545 (Kane J.)
Married 29 years, 1 adult child, husband 50, wife 49, traditional marriage
Husband paying $1,733/mo. since June 2007
Husband says income $100,000, nickel industry, offers $3,125/mo., using SSAG range ($3,125-$4,167)
Wife says he earns more, $122,000-$194,000, nickel bonuses
Interim spousal support $3,800/mo., Guidelines more important where limited information

Married 38 years, husband 68, wife 60, 3 adult children
Wife mostly home, worked on and off, now on long-term disability and CPP, $20,000/yr.
Husband carpenter, injuries, income of $57,000 from WCB and pensions
Both need some home care and assistance
Property division included Carpenters pension
Guidelines range, after pension division: $1,053-$1,404, $1,229/mo. mid-point
Spousal support of $1,250/mo., indefinite

20 year marriage; 2 children now adults; separation 2001
Husband carpenter at paper mill; 2006 income $77,049 (incl. overtime)
Wife worked, mainly part-time, during marriage; became legally blind after separation; now CPP disability, $10,600
Wife in U.S. after separation until 2003, husband left with children; since return living in matrimonial home with children; no child or spousal support but husband making mortgage payments
Husband significant debt pre and post-separation: $49,900 consolidated loan (payments of approx. $1000/mo) and $18,400 credit card debt; husband argues post-separation debt due to expenses incurred for support of family after wife left for U.S. and continued mortgage payments
Husband new partner with three children, income $10,000; plus $500/mo child support
Husband’s income set at $72,000 (no overtime) and further $5000 reduction to reflect costs of transportation to work (so $67,000)
Range: $1412-$1833
Re debt: evidence of debt source unsatisfactory; $36,000 found to be matrimonial debt at time of separation; $12,000 wife’s share; taken into account in property division; wife gets no reapportionment and no share of husband’s RRSP or company shares.
Re post-separation debt: some due to husband living beyond his means
Support payment of $1500 per month difficult given husband’s current budget; needs to use share of house proceeds to pay down debt

26 year marriage; 3 children now adult; separation 2006
Wife homemaker, disability (MS in 1989)
Separation agreement dividing property; unequal division of property, wife gets parties RRSP’s worth approx. $100,000 from which to draw income and providing for spousal support of $150 bi-weekly until husband’s retirement, then re-negotiate
Husband’s income unclear; had been earning between $90,000 - $100,000 but had been suspended by union; now studying and earning $18/hr
Wife unhappy with spousal support; argues would have gotten more under Advisory Guidelines; applies to set aside agreement on various grounds
Agreement fair; no basis for setting aside agreement or spousal support provision

Married 5 years, plus 2.5 cohab (7.5 total) separate 2004
Move from Alberta to B.C. during relationship for husband’s job
Wife works during relationship
Interim spousal support, 2004: $1000/mo
Husband’s income $95,000; wife’s income $27,000
Range: $637-$850, 3.75 to 7.5 years
Spousal support of $650 per month for further 6 months (3 years, 9 months total)

Not married, 26 year cohabitation, no children, both 67
Husband longshoreman, wife secretary;
Wife has stroke in 1991, disabled and unemployed; separate in 2006 when wife moves to care facility
Husband retired 2002, income $70,520; wife’s income (disability pension) $28,787
Range: $1304-$1739
Wife seeks more than high end of range to enable her to pay for private bed while on wait list for subsidized bed
Spousal support of $1739 ordered, high end of range, plus $315,000 for share of property by way of resulting trust

24 year traditional marriage, 2 children, separate 2002
Husband fisherman in own business; income at least $50,000 (could be $60,000);
Wife health issues, very limited ability to earn income, income either zero or $4,500
Spousal support $2,000/mo
SSAG used as litmus test for reasonableness of award:
- if h $50,000 and w 0, range $1,500 - $2,000
- if h $50,000 and w $4500, range $1365 - $1820
- if h $60,000 and w 0, range $1800-2400
- if h $60,000 and w $4500, range $1665-$2220

Very long marriage (32 or 35 years depending on date of separation chosen)
Husband’s income $17,800, wife zero
Range: $550-$750, court orders $600 per month

4 year cohabitation, both parties 32
Both working at beginning of relationship but then wife starts university and now half way through degree
Husband’s income $120,000; wife’s income $21,892 (student loans and part-time earnings)
Interim support under Family Law Act: $500 per month from Nov. 2007 until earlier of May 2009 or trial (19 months)
Court uses husband’s ssag calculations [not specified] and chooses low end of range
[Estimated range: $491-$654,duration 2 to 4 years]

4 year cohabitation, both parties 32
Both working at beginning of relationship but then wife starts university and now half way through degree
Husband’s income $120,000; wife’s income $21,892 (student loans and part-time earnings)
Interim support under Family Law Act: $500 per month from Nov. 2007 until earlier of May 2009 or trial (19 months)
Court uses husband’s SSAG calculations [not specified] and chooses low end of range
[Estimated range: $491-$654,duration 2 to 4 years]

Unmarried cohabitation 6.5 years; both prior relationships; no children
Wife lived and worked abroad for extended periods during relationship
Husband retired, income $50,000 (pension and investments); wife income imputed at $18,000
Spousal support $300/mo for 4 years; low end of range for duration appropriate because parties were establishing themselves in separate lives before separation
[Range if 6 years: $240-$320, 3 to 6 years; if 7 years, $280-$373, 3.5 to 7 years]

Parties married in 1971, first separated in 1992, frequent contact 1997-2000, final separation 2000 (total 29 years); 3 children
Wife homemaker; husband’s earning capacity and wealth increased dramatically over course of marriage; assets of over $12 million; recent earnings of over $1 million
Husband paid wife $2,000/mo beginning 1992; $3,000/mo in 2000 and $6,000/mo in 2005
Equal division of property ordered; wife receives equalization payment of $6 million
Wife agrees no claim for retroactive or on-going spousal support if equal division of property
Court applies SSAG hypothetically (ceiling ignored) to determine amount of spousal support that should have been paid 1999-2005 if wife entitled to 40% of husband’s gross income; amounts ranged from $28,000 to $86,800 per month; amounts found to be excessive but used to show that $6000 per month spousal support being paid as of 2005 inordinately low


29 year marriage; 3 children now adults; separation 2006

Husband 59; worked in steel industry; income $95,000 in 2005; falls into serious depression after separation and unemployed

Wife 54, homemaker; worked in day-care; 2006 income $18,526; alleges health problems and unable to keep working

Wife claims spousal support of between $2,600 and $3,500 per month in accordance with guidelines, based on income of $85,000 imputed to husband because of under-employment and zero income for her; seeking lump sum equivalent to husband’s interest in matrimonial home

Property division: each left with $205,000 in assets; wife owes husband equalization payment of $207,000 if she retains home

Lump sum spousal support of $120,000 ordered; plus $17,500 for retroactive support, based on assumption husband able to earn $65,000 and wife earning $18,000; wife needs $10,000 more per year for 12 years.

[Estimated range if h $65,000 and w $18,500: $1453-$1938; low end of range for 12 years, no discounting, lump sum $209,232]


9 year traditional marriage plus 5 yrs. prior cohab (24 years), separate 2005

Wife one child prior relationship; one child of marriage; both adults

Husband’s income $62,000

Wife’s income $37,500 (interest on inheritance and equalization payment plus imputed employment income)

Spousal support of $800/mo; consistent with SSAG range

[Estimated range: $735-$980]


Long traditional marriage [length not specified], 2 children

Divorce 2003: husband’s income $71,749, wife’s income $32,175; child support $945 per month plus education expenses under s. 7, plus $400 per month spousal support

Child support ends December 2006; wife seeks increased spousal support

Husband’s income now $79,363; wife’s income $49,230

Spousal support of $1000/per month ordered; strong compensatory claim

SSAG ranges presented and referred to as helpful guide but not specified

[Estimated range if marriage 20 years, $753-$1004; if 25 years range $942-$1256]


3 year marriage, no children

Husband Canadian citizen, wife Ethiopian; marry in Ethiopia in 2003; wife arrives in Canada in 2005; separation 2006;

Under immigration sponsorship agreement husband obligated to support wife for 3 years, until Dec. 2008

Husband’s income $52,329; 4 children from prior marriage; paying child support, amount not specified

Wife on social assistance and studying English; part-time employment income of $480/mo ($5760/yr) imputed

Interim spousal support under *Family Law Act*; wife seeks $1500/mo

Court orders $900/mo, payable until Dec. 2008 [giving wife $1,200 per month with part-time work]; above high end of SSAG range; justified by husband’s sponsorship agreement

[Range if no deduction for prior child support obligation: $175-$233, duration 1.5 -3 years]


42 year traditional marriage with 6 children, separation 2004

Husband retired
Agree to split husband’s pension [each $416 per month]; not included in equalization
Husband’s income after pension division $26,220; wife’s income after pension division $13,512
Range $397-$530, wife asks for $1000 per month [including pension] to equalize incomes under SSAG
Court orders $400 per month; equalization not appropriate; husband had assumed debt; wife had additional income from inheritance, husband’s employment pension and RIF already divided in equalization(?);
wife will have income from equalization payment

B. The With Child Support Formula

Billingsley v. Billingsley, 2008 CarswellOnt 3836 (R.J. Smith J.)
Married 7 years, 2 children 6 and 5 and step-daughter 15
Husband convicted of sexual assault on step-daughter, under appeal
Husband, income issues, various companies and contracts, imputed $125,000
Wife earns $32,700/yr.
Interim child support of $1,977/mo.: $2,209 (3), less $232 paid by biological father
Interim spousal support: range $811-$1,654/mo., order for $800/mo.
Order for arrears of child and spousal support of $30,029

Married 13 years, 2 children with wife, separated June 2006
March 2007 separation agreement: child support $1,794/mo., husband earning $128,000/yr.
Spousal support of $1,700/mo. for 5 years, then review and possible extension for 7 more years
Assets divided $45,000 to wife, $15,000 to husband, debts $37,250 to husband, $11,250 to wife
Feb. 2008 consent order, increasing child support to $1,940/mo., as husband’s income $140,000/yr.
If husband’s income $125,000, low end of SSAG range $2,289/mo.; if $140,000, then $2,667/mo.
Wife alleges non-disclosure, seeks more interim spousal support
Unusual interim situation: husband paying $1,700/mo., husband concedes entitlement
Wife just started part-time job, $33,000/yr., no information, issues left to trial
Interim application for more support dismissed

Together 14 years (married 6), 2 children 12 and 6, with wife, husband 43, wife 34
Matrimonial home to be sold, matrimonial assets divided equally
Husband sales rep. for pharmaceutical company, paid by salary, commissions and benefits
Fluctuating income, $156,074/yr.
Child support $1,981/mo.
Wife worked part-time as assistant manager at restaurant, earned $15,100 in 2006
Quit job, child care problems, pay problems, proposes home-based catering business, no income
Wife seeks $3,683/mo. based on SSAG mid-point if wife no income
Order for $2,000/mo., indefinite, but self-sufficiency possible in 4 years, left to variation
[If wife no income, range $2,992-$3,825/mo.; if $15,100, range $2,578-$3,394/mo.]
[If wife full-time income $25,000, range $2,236-$3,095/mo.]

Married 17 years, 2 children 16 and 9, with wife, husband 51, wife 40
From Iran, immigrated to Canada in 1999
Large house ruled held in trust for husband’s father
Family assets (including proceeds from sale of previous house) split 65/35 to wife, $255,000 for wife
Husband’s income in issue, pest control company, $60,000 imputed
Wife earns $30,000 in retail
Child support $907/mo., retroactive to Jan. 2008
SSAG considered for spousal support, $250/mo. ordered, lump sum of $10,000 as security
Review after 4 years or oldest finishes high school
[Estimated range 0-$234/mo.]
Married 19 years, 3 children 17, 15 and 11
Oldes with husband, other 2 with wife, youngest special needs
Wife works part-time at bank, earns $21,840
Husband had serious motor vehicle accident, structured settlement
Determination re loss of income portion, $18,337/yr. non-taxable, grossed up to $25,000/yr.
Plus $20,000 from investments plus $16,000 imputed income on investments, total $61,000/yr.
Interim child support, split custody, $961-$186 = $775/mo., trust funds pay s. 7 expenses
Wife used higher husband’s income of $128,440 for SSAG range of $967-$1,483/mo.
Interim spousal support ordered at $900/mo.
[Estimated range 0-$396/mo.; $900/mo. leaves wife with 55.9% NDI]

Married 6 years, plus 7 prior cohabitation; 2 children 12 and 10; separation 2007
Wife worked full-time in homecare during marriage; husband’s parents cared for children
Since 2006 father working in Alberta two weeks out of three
After separation wife took stress leave from work; children residing with grandparents; wife moves back to
Ontario with her mother
Custody to husband; husband to pay all wife’s access costs from Ontario
Wife’s income $7200; no child support payable
Husband’s income $96,000
Spousal support ordered under provincial legislation: lump sum of $5000 to wife to buy car so she can
work in homecare; periodic support of $500 per month for 18 months.
SSAG not applicable because of a “number of variables” including husband’s payment of wife’s access
costs
[SSAG range under custodial payor formula $978-$1307; even if wife earning $30,000, range would be
$730-$973]

4 ½ yr. marriage; wife only 18 when married; separation 2004; 1 child now 5; joint custody; primary
residence with wife
Wife living with parents; working part-time in father’s landscaping business
Interim order 2006; child support $297/mo., (husband’s income approx. $40,000); no spousal; husband
paying off debts and mortgage on matrimonial home
Husband’s self-employed cabinet maker; issues re income; found to be $52,000
Wife depression and stress from alleged abuse during marriage plus whiplash injury from automobile
accident; income $17,303 (including $100/mo UCCB); claims unable to earn more at present time
due to health
Child support: $443/mo, table amount, no s. 7, no retroactive
Advisory Guidelines referred to re duration under with child support formula; support to be indefinite
rather than time-limited
Spousal support: $500 per month for next 11 months then review; review to include medical evidence of
wife’s state of health; hope that wife to will be able to overcome her anxiety/depression and low
self-esteem once proceedings over and increase her income; if health problems chronic husband
not to be responsible
[SSAG range not referred to: calculated as $157-$486 based on wife’s income $16,103 plus claim for
UCCB; range $173 $507 if wife’s income $17,303]

Married 15 years, 2 children 14 and 12, husband 50, wife 42, equal shared custody
Wife orthodontic dental assistant, 4 days/week, $35,000/yr., plus $17,000 rent, total $52,000/yr.
Husband farmer, potatoes and cabbage, father’s business, income issues, $98,000/yr.
Family assets reapportioned 55/45 to wife, $1,158,000 for wife, $947,000 for husband
Child support: s. 9, $1,418-$788=$630/mo.
Spousal support range $104-$778, indefinite, mid-point of $440/mo. ordered, as reapportionment
Lewis v. Lewis, [2008] O.J. No. 2227 (Gray J.)
Married 15 years, 2 children 16 and 12, equal shared custody, separated 2006
Husband commercial real estate agent, salary and commissions, fluctuating
Husband earned $977,930 in 2007, average income $850,000/yr.
Wife part-time teacher, for a while, $43,120/yr.
Interim child support $10,225/mo., also s. 7 expenses of $59,964/yr. ($4,947/mo.)
Previously husband paid $15,500/mo. plus s. 7 expenses
Wife seeks interim spousal support $14,828/mo., husband offers $7,500/mo.
Lifestyle considerations, much left to trial judge, SSAG “little, if any, application”, high income
Interim spousal support of $9,000/mo. ordered

Married 12 years, separated 2000, 1 child 17 with wife
Husband works at Husky Oil in management, income rose from $50,000 (2000) to $123,566 (2008)
Child support $989/mo., retro child support back to Nov. 2001, underpaid by $11,000
Spousal support both compensatory and non-compensatory
Wife home, support husband in school, moved for his employment, in retail sales
2005 incomes used for spousal support: husband $70,778; wife 14,850
Range $800-$1,283/mo., $800/mo. ordered, for another 3 years (total 10-11 years)
Retro spousal support ordered back to 2001, using low end of SSAG range, $65,796, reduced to $40,000
To be paid in 2 lump sums, plus $1,000/mo. for 14 months
[Range using 2008 incomes $2,113-$2,857/mo.]

Married 14 years, plus 3-5 years prior cohabitation, separation 2004
2 children, with wife after separation, now 20 (2nd yr. university) and 15
Husband now 70 and wife 47
Husband wealthy ($4 million in assets at time of marriage); Canadian ambassador; now retired
Family assets divided equally, $6 million each; including equal division of income-generating business
interests (cranberry farms)
2006 consent order, spousal support $10,000 per month, review when husband turns 70
Husband’s income decreased since consent order, now $638,00 (including pension dealt with in property
settlement ($98,000) and non-redeemable shares as remuneration for corporate directorships
(approx. value for income tax $300,000)
No entitlement to spousal support given substantial share of family assets; wife sufficient capital and
income to meet needs and has been adequately compensated for any disadvantage; support
terminated April 2008
SSAG considered but not useful in circumstances of case.

Married 16 years, separation 2004; 3 children, 16,14 and 11 with wife
Wife not employed after first child; after separation special ed asst., income $24,000; night courses to
become teacher in 5 years
Husband truck driver; income $65,500
Child support $1290[?], plus s. 7 [May 2006 table amount for 3 children $1536 not $1290]
Husband no ability to pay periodic spousal support, confirmed by SSAG [range under based on c.s. of
$1290: $0 to $29]
Wife’s economic disadvantage to be compensated through reapportionment; 64% of proceeds of
matrimonial home to wife (additional $80,000 approx.)

Married 37 years, 3 children, 22-year-old disabled son, with wife
Family jewellery company, both worked in company
Husband breached understanding, selling off company inventory
Income of $125,000/yr. imputed to husband
Child support: table amount $1,068/mo., less $746 disability pension, $322/mo. ordered
Wife obtained new job after separation, earns $37,827/yr.

Interim spousal support: long-term marriage, wife in matrimonial home
Husband operating business, wife took steps to obtain employment
Mid-point SSAG range, $3,000/mo. ordered
[Adult child with child support formula range: $2,496-$3,328]

P.G. v. N.L., [2008] O.J. No. 2045 (Kane J.)
Together 3 years, child 2 with wife, also 3 children of wife’s first marriage
Allegation of sexual abuse of 13-year-old, supervised access of 2-year-old
Husband works in mining, average income $67,900
Child support $638/mo. (1)
Wife medical receptionist, 13 hrs/wk, $8,400/yr.
Husband pays $400/mo. for another child, wife receives $1,400/mo. child support
Interim spousal support, judge recalculates range as $695-$1,007/mo.
Mid-point of $848/mo. ordered
[if UCCB included in wife’s income, range $627-$944]

Married 10 years; separation 2006; husband 42, wife 38
2 children 11 and 7, custody contested, sole custody to wife
Equalization of property contested; marriage contract set aside on basis of non-disclosure; $360,000 to wife
Husband in family business, income $60,000/yr
Wife limited part-time work during marriage; new part-time job after sep; income $24,400/yr
Child support: $902/mo plus sharing of s. 7 expenses
Spousal support: $125 per month, SSAG range of $0 - $129 considered; indefinite; pre-determined time-limit not appropriate; Fisher distinguished as non-compensatory case [para 515]

Gagnon v. Petke, 2008 CarswellBC 964, 2008 BCSC 610 (Bruce J.)
Together 12 years (married 10), 2 children 10 and 8, with wife, husband 43, wife 49
8-year-old severely autistic, constant care and supervision, wife left job as nurse, no income
Husband chartered accountant, cohabiting, not seen children since Dec. 2007
Interim orders 2006: child support $3,000/mo., spousal support $2,500/mo., s. 7 expenses $1,500/mo.
Government funds for child $526/mo., plus $6,000/yr. for expenses
Husband’s income based on 2004-06 average, $215,400/yr.
Child support $2,859/mo. plus $1,493/mo. to s. 7 expenses
Wife seeks $2,500-$3,500/mo. spousal support, husband offers $2,500/mo.
Guidelines range stated at $1,923-$2,124, excluding husband’s non-taxable sources of income (?)
Spousal support fixed at $2,500/mo., considering reapportionment and lesser deductibility
[Estimated range $3,629-$4,445/mo.]

Married 12 years, 2 children 13 and 11, with wife, husband 48, wife 39
2006 order: child support $1,757/mo., spousal support $1,800/mo., review Oct. 2007
Wife licensed practical nurse, wanted to become registered nurse, changed plan
Wife earned $20,663 part-time, imputed income of $45,000/yr. full-time LPN
Husband’s income $125,000 in 2006, reduced to $100,000 from trucking/logging business
Spousal support reduced to $900/mo., duration for another 6 years (9 years total)
Range $426-$1,079, SSAG less application where change from previous order
Income finding for spousal support not to affect child support, continued at $1,757/mo.

Married 18 years, 3 children
One child adult; next 18, finished high school, but likely university after year; last in high school
Husband taxi driver, income issues, stated income of $17,918/yr. accepted after analysis
Wife earns $16,800, worked throughout marriage
Child support $169/mo. (1), revived to $294/mo. for 2 if middle child goes back to school
Wife entitled to spousal support, as long-term traditional marriage
But husband no ability to pay, Guidelines range zero to zero, even if husband earned more

Married 3 years, plus 2-3 cohabitation; separation 2005
1 child now 4; joint custody primary residence with wife
Wife grocery clerk before marriage; limited part-time after child; husband miner in North; gambling issues
No property; husband bankrupt and wife debts
Interim order Jan. 2006, based on husband’s income of $67,035 and wife’s income of $10,600; child support $522/mo (table amount 1 child) plus s. 7 child care and spousal support of $750/mo
Husband laid off from mining job; no intention to return to mining; now earning half of previous income; intentionally unemployed; income imputed as $67,000
Wife training as medical office assistant completed by trial, but no employment yet
Child support not specified, by consent order [2006 table amount, $579]
Low end of SSAG range (stated as $880/mo) based on husband’s imputed income of $67,000 found “too high” because of “contingencies or risks associated with imputing income” plus likelihood of wife’s income increasing in immediate future
Court orders $750/mo based on interim award
[Range based on 2006 child support tables and incomes of $67,000 and $10,600: $783-$1187; based on 1997 child support tables, $862-$1277]

Married 16 years, husband 44, wife 43, child 15, with wife, in private school, learning disability
Husband lawyer, income issues, personal law corp., earns $122,950/yr.
Wife not working, taking MBA in communications until Nov. 2008, income imputed $4,500/yr.
Child support $1,083/mo., special expenses for school, $21,868/yr., 96% by husband
Range stated as $2,734-$3,416/mo. [but if s. 7 expenses considered, $2,281-$3,011]
Reapportionment, child’s special needs, 16-year marriage
Spousal support $3,100/mo., review in April 2009 after wife’s graduation

Married 17 years, 4 children under 16, with wife
Husband earns $1156,255/yr., corporate retained earnings matter for trial judge
Interim child support $2,421/mo.
SSAG “not much help” for interim spousal support, wife’s income not stated
Husband paying family home expenses (amount not stated), also $1,700/mo. voluntary spousal support, total more than $475 above upper end of SSAG range according to husband’s counsel
Interim spousal support $2,500/mo. [if wife’s income zero, range $1,027-$1,502/mo.]

Married 6 years (together 7), children 6 and 5 with wife, wife 28, at home
Husband major income issues, real estate developer, Germany and Canada
Income imputed for interim support $1,382,700/yr.
Child support, s. 4, table $17,100/mo., housing provided by husband’s corp., mortgage-free, expense budget analyzed, $8,500/mo. ordered ($10,500/mo. if move out of home)
Spousal support: 2001 German marriage agreement provided $3,700/mo., but court orders more
Range if $350,000 ceiling $8,050-$9,630/mo. under with child support formula
Her “need” $8,500/mo., interim spousal support $8,500/mo. ($11,000 if move), plus $2,000/mo. if wife takes retail management course

Married 7 years, husband 37, wife 43, children 9 and 7
2001 separation agreement: child support $2,500/mo., spousal support $2,500/mo.
2005 reduced by agreement to $3,500/mo. total; 2007 child support $1,303/mo., spousal $1,000/mo.
Wife working part-time at community centre, 2 days/wk., $15,600/yr.
Husband stuntman, income issues, union/WCB payments to corp., owned with new wife, $104,000/yr.
Child support $1,495/mo., s. 7 expenses $780/yr., husband pays $45/mo.
Spousal support indefinite, range $1,382-$2,067/mo., $1,800/mo. ordered, near mid-point


Married 10 years, 4 children 13, 15, 17 and 19, all with wife, husband 55, wife 50

Separated 1997, wife not worked since, by agreement between spouses, husband didn’t pay support

Family assets reapportioned 65/35 to wife, so $734,426 to wife, $395,500 to husband

Husband working half-time as vocational instructor, earning $27,000/yr.

Husband voluntarily reduced income from 2001 on, $70,000/yr. imputed, $63,000 from 2008

Child support arrears $51,362, s. 7 arrears $56,364, spousal arrears $36,000, set off vs. his assets

Lump sum child and spousal support as non-payment, husband leaving jurisdiction

Future table amounts $111,192, university and orthodontic s. 7 contribution $60,000

Spousal support: wife receives $7,000/yr. rental income, $20,000 imputed as admin assistant 2008 on

Guidelines ranges considered: $500/mo., 2002-07, $500/mo. for 12 more months, $6,000 lump sum

After deduction of future support lump sums, husband left with $74,582 from assets

[Range for $70,000 husband, $7,000 wife: $207-$502]


Married 6 years, child 4, move to Toronto with wife allowed

Husband earns $62,888, child support $580/mo.

Income imputed to wife of $32,496 in Toronto, consistent with her income history

Guidelines middle range $262/mo. [range estimated at $0-$469/mo.]


Married 26 years, 2 children 19 and 16

2006 order: reapportioned assets 65/35, child support $1,027/mo., spousal $1,500/mo., review in 3

Husband realtor, income then $80,000, wife’s $20,000 doing accounting for real estate companies

Husband applied to vary in 2004, 6 mos. later, for lower income, but dismissed

Unilateral reduction to child support only in 2005, $433/mo. for 1 child

Husband self-employed, income issues, expenses, failure to earn to capacity

Income 2004 $29,147; 2005 $21,597; 2006 $40,455; new partner too

Income imputed as $65,000/yr., child support varied as of July 2005

Child support down to 1 child in Feb. 2008, as $608/mo.

Wife now earning $40,000, formula range 0-$329 vs. $722-1,349/mo. for 2006 incomes

Non-compensatory support, reduced to $500/mo., terminating as of Jan. 2006 (3 years total)


Length of marriage not stated, 3 children: 21 not “child” and 19, with husband, 15 shared equally

Separated 1999, 2003 agreement: child support for 2, $5,000/mo., spousal support $6,000

Husband now paying child support for 1, $2,500/mo., applies to terminate spousal support

Husband lawyer, earns $672,000/yr

Wife home, returned part-time as home economics teacher, accepts full-time imputed income of $60,000

Wife remarried, new husband’s income $300,000 (but paying child and spousal support)

Range $7,736-$19,500/mo., wife seeks low end

Child support arrears ordered, ongoing $3,500/mo.

Spousal support of $6,000/mo. continued until wife’s new husband not paying spousal support (July 2009)

Then stepped down: $4,000/mo. to July 2010, $2,000/mo. to July 2011, then end (8-plus years total)

Above ceiling income, financial situation of both spouses improved


Married 13 years, 4 children 21, 19, 16 and 12

Husband claims spousal support of $1013/mo., mid-range, based on his income figures

Wife earns $93,300/yr., income imputed to husband of $97,300/yr.

Child support $1,410/mo.

Husband self-sufficient, both good incomes, no entitlement to spousal support


Married 12 years, 2 children 7 and 5, with wife, husband 37, wife 33

Both from India, wife flight attendant with Cathay Pacific, typical income $53,521/yr.

Husband home theatre technician, earns $36,000, seeks spousal support

Equal division of family assets, retroactive child support by husband
Child support $555/mo. plus s. 7 expense re nanny, $506/mo.
Income disparity, but no disadvantage, both self-sufficient, wife’s obligations to children, no entitlement
[Custodial payor range estimated $159-$212/mo., if entitlement]

Separation 2003, 2 children 17 and 13, with mother
Husband fails to disclose, answer struck, fails to appear at hearing
Income imputed at $100,000/yr., wife’s income approx. $20,000/yr.
Interim child support $1,404/mo., insufficient evidence on interim to establish s. 7 expenses
Interim spousal support $1,000/mo., Guidelines range $925-$1,684
Low end of range because of uncertainty re wife’s income
Support orders retroactive to August 2006

Married 12 years, 4 children 12, 10, 8 and 7
Husband’s income $275,000/yr., wife no income
Child support $5,477/mo. plus $3,074/mo. s. 7 expenses
Guidelines range $2,461-$3,990, spousal support of $2,500/mo. for 12 years

Married 8 years, 2 children 11 and 8, husband 50, wife 46, separated 2002
2003 consent order: child support $1,200/mo., spousal $3,100/mo., review August 2007
Husband then earning $98,000/yr., now $125,865/yr., income issues, winemaking business
Wife home before, now employed, earning $48,000 since Jan. 2006
Child support $1,767/mo.
Husband says spousal support was restructured, paid more than Guidelines range
Spousal support to end March 2008 (total 5 yrs, 8 mos.)
[Range in 2003 estimated as $1,740-$2,354/mo., now range $917-$1,687/mo.]

Married 16 years, 1 child 14 with husband
2005 interim order: no child support by wife, spousal support $600/mo.
Wife health issues, post-partem depression, then schizoaffective disorder
LTD benefits plus CPP Disability, $5,544 plus $9,840, total $15,393/yr.
Spousal support non-compensatory, duration not indefinite, 13 more years (16 years total)
Husband works at car dealership, earns $48,000 (including bonus), new partner and her 2 children
Custodial payor range $233-$420/mo., but spousal support to continue at $600/mo.
Higher as her need and inability to manage, severe disability, parenting time and access expenses
Child support $128/mo., no undue hardship as adjusted already in spousal support
[Exceptions applicable: disability, non-primary parent to fulfil parenting role]

Married 11 years, separated 2000, 3 children 16, 14 and 11, equal shared custody
3 prior interim agreements: 2000: child support $1,270, spousal support $933; 2001: child support $1,339, spousal support $933; 2005: child support $900, spousal support declining to $700 and then $300
Husband medical equipment salesman, $168,117/yr.; wife earns $38,000
Interim child support: oldest now with husband, others equal shared: $2,282-$667=$1,515/mo.
Guidelines range $1,827-$2,567, mid-range of $2,195/mo. ordered as interim spousal support

Married 15 years, husband 42 and wife 39 at separation, separated 2001, 3 children 21, 18 and 12
Husband management at Iron Ore Co., earns $138,463/yr.
Wife own music business, earns $7,680/yr.
2002 separation agreement: no spousal support, child support $350/mo. per child, husband $500/mo. for wife’s house expenses, 70% property to husband, wife no independent legal advice
Agreement set aside: non-disclosure, fundamental breach as husband didn’t comply, unconscionable
Child support of $700-$800/mo. below table amount of $1,400/mo.
Spousal support: $1,202/mo. would be low end of SSAG range, so $500/mo. well below
Agreement also set aside for no substantial compliance

Together 16 years (married 13), 1 child 12, equal shared custody, husband and wife 39, separated 2004
Husband earns $38,500/yr., licensed practical nurse, wife $35,000 as medical clerk at hospital
No child support, as husband pays 100% of s. 7 expenses, okay under s. 9 ($336-$308=$28 if set-off)
Wife worked throughout, husband new partner (also LPN)
Entitlement based on interdependency, from 2006 petition, 3 years spousal support
$200/mo. for 2006 (range $160-$214); $175/mo. for 2007 (range $183-$245); $150/mo. for 2008-05-20

Married 17 years, wife 50, children 19 and 15
Older child with husband, engineering student, younger with wife
Wife underemployed as lecturer, not sufficient effort, earns $31,741/yr.
Wife says SSAG range $1,566-$2,288 using $136,000/yr. as husband’s income
Husband engineering professor, income determined as $125,000/yr.
Child support, split custody:  $1,025 - $280 = $$745/mo. interim
Spousal support $600/mo. interim, indefinite, review fall 2008
[Estimated range if wife earned $50,000:  $643-$1,376/mo.]

*Miles v. Swick*, 2008 CarswellOnt 1658 (Pazaratz J.)
Married 20 years, separated 1998, husband 60, wife 57, children 23 and 20, traditional marriage
1999 separation agreement:  $3,000/mo. spousal support, no child support
Now 1 child home with wife, in college
Oldest child in Alta., not dependent, but husband pays $7/800 voluntarily, not considered
Spousal support to be indefinite, following Guidelines
Wife educational assistant, earns $30,000
Husband real estate agent, variable income, issues re expenses, also pension $991/mo. from previous job
Husband’s income $90,000/yr., child support agreed at $1,100/mo., table plus expenses
Spousal support $1,100/mo. [Guidelines range $916-$1,480/mo.]

*D’Vaz v. D’ Vaz*, 2008 CarswellOnt 1492 (Backhouse J.)
Married 24 years, husband 59, wife 50, 4 children 24, 21, 18 and 13
Oldest with husband, no child support, other 3 with wife
Husband air conditioning business, income issues, cash income, estimated $185,000
Interim child support for 3, $3,103/mo.
Guidelines range $3,103-$4,201/mo.
Mid-point of $3,809/mo. ordered for interim spousal support, leaving wife 59.3% NDI
Long-term traditional marriage, good lifestyle, husband in matrimonial home, wife in apt., debts

Together 16 ½ years (married 15 ½), children 14 and 23, adopted by husband, husband 47, wife 52
Husband investment dealer, $1.09 million in 2007, wife no income
Child support $8,647/mo. table amount
Guidelines used for interim spousal support unless exceptional circumstances
Trial in 2 months, above ceiling income, range $29,493-$34,324/mo.
Wife can get by on $25,000/mo.

Together 11 years, 2 children 10 and 5 with wife
Wife homemaker, no income exception social assistance
Husband fisherman, owns motel, income issues, expenses, $60,000 imputed
Child support $848/mo.
SSAG calculations for different incomes, to be recalculated and top end of range awarded, as addendum

[Estimated range $848-$1,108/mo.]

Emery v. Emery, 2008 CarswellOnt 1165 (Gordon J.)
Married 16 years, separated Jan. 2004, husband 43, wife 38, children 18 and 15
May 2004 separation agreement: wife net proceeds from home sale, release support claims
Reconciliation for 18 months, re-separated in Dec. 2005, pension release survives, not spousal release
Wife working in retail store, catering part-time, income $24,000-plus
Husband machinist, earns $63,000
Oldest child in community college till 2009, employed part-time, support only for education expenses
One child amount of $584/mo. to wife, net difference to 2-child amount of $360/mo. direct to older child
Both debts, totalling $42,000-plus, Guidelines range $121-$490/mo.
Spousal support of $300/mo., indefinite, starting Jan. 2010
Lump sum support of $8,000 and husband to pay debts in meantime

Together 18 years (married 14), 4 children 18, 11, 8 and 5, with husband since 2004 separation
Wife’s income $60,500, child support $1,104/mo., plus $400/yr. for oldest child, plus 33% of net day care
Husband earns $113,383/yr.
Primary care continue with husband, wife’s time to increase to between 33 and 38% of time
Spousal support on non-compensatory basis, wife’s poor financial decision-making in past
Budget “need” of wife $360/mo. after tax, or $570/mo. gross
Spousal support of $570/mo., reducing to $470/mo. in Sept. 2009, when her income increases, no day care
Custodial payor range stated as $543-$739/mo., 9 to 18 years, at low end as non-compensatory
Duration, total of 7 years, ending Dec. 2011
[Custodial payor range actually lower, estimated at $448-$597/mo.]

B.C.J. No. 1695, 2007 BCSC 1138
Married 11 years plus 1 yr. cohabitation; separation 2006; husband 42, wife 43
3 children 10, 8, 4, shared custody, equal time
Husband lawyer, income set at $160,000/yr
Wife in marketing before marriage ($45-$55,000/yr) but home after 2nd child; plan to return to work when
youngest child in school
Wife receives inheritance near end of marriage, approx. $1 million, not family asset; entire amount
reapportioned to wife
Husband intentionally increases debts after separation; buys house for $1.24 million and purchases new car
(payments $607/mo.)
Equal division of family assets; $865,000 each
Wife not intentionally under-employed; income from investments $50,000/yr plus interest on equalization
payment $23,800/yr, total $73,800/yr
Child support: set-off of table amounts incorrectly calculated as $1,621 ($3045-$1424) [but should be
$2824-$1438=$1386]; husband ordered to pay lower amount: $1000/mo (husband paying private
school costs)
Original reasons 2007: no order for spousal support; wife has need; budgetary shortfall of $8,000/yr; but
can rent out basement suite for $6,000, therefore no need; issue of spousal support to be re-examined if valuation of husband’s law practice or rate of return on wife’s investments not
accurate; Guidelines not referred to [range under shared custody formula, benefits rotated,
calculated as $575-$1603]
2008: case re-opened; miscalculation of equalization payment; wife receives $82,000 less, investment
income $6,560/yr or $546/mo. lower; wife now in need; spousal support to be re-examined;
husband has additional $6,560 of investment income; spousal support of $546/mo
Wife argues Advisory Guidelines; court declines to apply; both parties, especially husband, have high debt
load and Guidelines not appropriate
[Range under shared custody formula, benefits rotated, using adjusted incomes calculated as $926-$1954]

Husband earns $107,579/yr., Sask. Energy, substantial overtime

Interim child support for one $906/mo.
No income stated for wife, working same job, interim spousal support $800/mo. based on “need”
Guidelines “should not be applied”, no explanation

Married 27 years, husband and wife 55, 2 children 23 and 17, younger with wife, Grade 12
Separated 2005, 2005 interim order: child support $563/mo., spousal support $1,750/mo.
Husband earns $77,211 as industrial relations officer with government
Child support $722/mo.
Wife field auditor, Nielsen, 56 hrs/4 wks, earns $26,000
Range $747-$1,297, spousal support of $1,000/mo. ordered, as husband contributing $175/mo. to education expenses of 23-year-old, also pays $450/mo. mandatory pension contribution
No time limit, but husband likely to retire in 2010, variation then

Married 11 years, 3 children 9, 8 and 6, with wife
Husband’s past cocaine abuse, children with him alternate weeks if his mother present
Husband stockbroker, but home from Jan. 2004 to Oct. 2006, now earns $11,000 part-time, car dealership
Wife earns $780,000/yr. as financial advisor
Husband states range as $16,220-$19,126 if $780,000; $6,738-$8135 if $350,000 [wrong formula]
Interim spousal support, exceptional circumstances, his drug abuse and capacity to earn
Income of $60,000/yr. imputed to husband, interim spousal support $1,500/mo.
[Custodial payor range at $350,000/$11,000: $2,988-$3,984; at $350,000/$60,000: $2,552-$3,403]

Married 10 years, husband and wife 39, 2 children 13 and 9
2004 order: child support $600/mo., spousal support $650
2007 change to shared custody, husband applies to vary
Husband machinist earning $45,640 in 2004, terminated employment in 2005, for more time with children
Husband’s income now $29,300/yr., no income imputed for underemployment
Wife’s income $6,045 in 2006, $20,800 in 2007, each has new common-law partner
Child support under s. 9: husband pays $89/mo. extracurricular expenses, wife $22/mo.
Table amount $413, set-off in 2006 $331, 2007 $128, child support fixed at $350/mo. 2006, $150/mo. 2007
Husband paid $377/mo. spousal support
Guidelines range: 2006, $303-$540; 2007, 0 to 0
Spousal support continued at $377/mo. for 2006, none for 2007 and after

Married 9 years, 2 children 13 and 9 with wife, separated May 2002
Husband earns $81,475 at Ultramar, child support $1,177/mo.
Income of $15,000 imputed to wife in clothing business
Husband paid spousal support of $750/mo. for 3 years, to end of 2005, none since
Guidelines range $673-$1,201/mo., husband seeks review when youngest child 12
No review after _Leskun_, expect wife to be self-sufficient within 5 years; if not, basis for variation
Spousal support of $800/mo., from Sept. 2005

_Tremblay v. Tremblay_ [2008] O.J. No. 420 (Kane J.)
Together 7 years (married 4), separation 2005, husband 29, wife 27
3 children 7, 4 and 3 with mother; 1 child has learning disability
Husband post-separation income increase; from $56,000 to $100,000 (2008 estimated)
Wife attending school since separation; no work or school 2007/08; return to school Sept. 2008; no income attributed
Interim child support, Dec. 2007, $1983/mo., based on husband income of $100,000
Interim spousal support ordered $1,400/mo., mid-point of Guidelines range
Court notes that indefinite support not likely to be ordered at trial given short term of marriage, wife’s age and the educational qualifications she is obtaining
[Guidelines range: $1202-$1604 with no UCCB; with UCCB, $1,058-$1,469]

Two children 8 and 6 with wife, husband’s pleadings struck for non-disclosure and he didn’t attend
Unequal division of property
Husband electrician, own company, income “guesswork” at $75,000
Child support $1,098/mo., plus $117/mo. for summer camps under s. 7
Wife not employed, home, older child autism, younger learning difficulties
No interim order since Aug. 2006 separation
Spousal support of $1,250/mo. from Dec. 2006, SSAG considered
[Guidelines range estimated $1,097-$1,400]

Humphreys v. Humphreys, 2008 CarswellBC 186, 2008 BCSC 24 (Crawford J.)
Married 34 years, 5 children, wife 59
Adult 25 with Down’s syndrome with wife, also 4th child, paying low room and board
Wife home, only available part-time, income of $6,400/yr. imputed
Husband school board administrator, earns $107,865, new wife “substantial income”
Child support $970 less $325 provincial disability, for $645/mo.
Interim 2003 order: child support for 2, spousal support $2,078/mo.
Range $2,035-$2,634, indefinite, order for spousal support of $2,400/mo.

Pegler v. Avio, 2008 CarswellBC 169, 2008 BCSC 128 (Dickson J.)
Together 14 years, not married, child 10, with wife, husband 65, wife 51
Wife has multiple sclerosis, receives CPP disability $6,000/yr.
Wife economics degree, worked previously, unlike to work now
Husband economics professor, earned $124,467 in 2006
Husband went half-time in 2007, own health issues, investment income too
Husband will retire within one year, income $77,244 in 2007
Interim order Feb. 2007: child support $716, spousal support $2,087/mo. (maximum level)
Unjust enrichment: husband to pay $840,000 to wife, for house and pension
Child and spousal support amounts to continue until retirement
Duration: disability exception, no time limit (max. 13 more years otherwise), binding on estate
[Estimated range if wife $6,000: $1,287-$1,797, but $2,087 maximum if wife no income]

Wu v. Dipopolo, 2008 CarswellBC 164, 2008 BCSC 112 (Gray J.)
Together 12 years, married 5, 2 children 5 and 2, husband 35, wife 39
Family assets divided, debts allocated, 55 % of net assets to wife
Husband operates rental, clothing, other businesses, income issues, cash transactions
Wife says $150,000, husband says $83,000, court finds $100,000
Wife student, travel and airline industry diploma, no income
Child support $1,444/mo., plus husband pays all child care, $850/mo.
No lump sum spousal support
Guidelines range stated as $1,672-$2,241/mo. [appears no s. 7 expenses considered]
Some reapportionment, but zero income, need, intends roughly equivalent standards of living
Spousal support of $2,000/mo., review in Sept. 2010 or full-time employment of wife
[Estimated range if s. 7 payments all by husband: $1,270-$1,610/mo., if shared $1,444-$1,899]

Married 22 years, plus another year of cohabitation (?), husband 46, wife 45
2 children: 26 on own; 19 in college, lived with wife until Apr. 2007, now with husband
Wife home, now works 3 days/wk. with Hearing Society, earns $22,000/yr.,
Husband operates grocery business, big issues of income, disclosure and lifestyle
His income found to be $108,000, cohabiting with partner (earns $30,000)
Retro child support to wife at $938/mo., but wife now to pay $188/mo.
Interim spousal order Apr. 2006 for $3,500/mo., $1,000/mo. paid in 2007 ($1,700/mo. in 2005)
Income of $45,000/yr. imputed to wife, as of Jan. 2009
Spousal support at $3,500/mo., retro to Feb. 2005, then $2,500/mo. until Jan. 2009
Fisher applied, to find duration of 7 years total, another 4 years to go, so $1,000/mo. for last 3 years

[Estimated custodial payor range, 23 years: $1,984-$2,645/mo at $22,000; $1,440-$1,921 at $45,000]
[Estimated without child support range, 23 years: $2,473-$3,297/mo.]

Lalonde v. Lalonde, 2008 CarswellOnt 308 (S.C.J.) (Hennessy J.)
Married 17 years, 1 child 9, husband 43, wife 44
Husband earns $50,612, heavy equipment mechanic, cohabiting, her 3 children
Custody shared 2 ½ years, not principal residence to wife, child support $467/mo.
Wife cohabiting since July 2007, home 2 years in marriage, worked evenings, now in college
No spousal support paid to date, need/disadvantage, but no SSAG calculations by counsel
Spousal support $500/mo., indefinite, variable, wife should make self-sufficiency goal over 5 years
[Estimated range: $1,002-$1,244/mo., but recipient cohabiting]

M. (K.A.) v. M. (P.K.), 2008 CarswellBC 135, 2008 BCSC 93 (Barrow J.)
Married 21 years, 2 children 17 and 14, with wife, wife 42
2005 separation agreement: child support $1,173/mo., $1,000/yr. s. 7 expenses
no spousal support, husband’s income $95,000
Husband in pharmaceutical sales, 2006 income $109,050, cohabiting
Wife home during marriage, cohabiting since separation, now earns $41,900/yr. (2007)
Child support $1,559/mo.
Miglin analysis: negotiated okay, but no substantial compliance on stage 1
Wife argues range $1,650-$2,221/mo., but repartnering
Wife still entitled, compensatory, income of $38,000 imputed to wife starting Jan. 2005
Husband’s income $100,000, range then $671-$1,300/mo.
Amount chosen at low end, as not needs-based, ending in 10 years
But repartnering, merger over time with new partner, reduce spousal support by 10% per year
Spousal support $750/mo. (2005), $600 (2006), $525 (2007), $450 (2008), etc.,

Together 24 years, married 20, 3 children 21, 18 and 17
Oldest in university, each parent pays $600/mo, 18 on own, 217 home with wife
Interim spousal support, Sept. 2005: $12,500/mo., husband’s income $300,000
Dec. 2005 consent order: $6,500/mo., review in 3 years
Wife works part-time for Weight Watchers, earns $3,000/yr., seeks support under SSAG
Interim spousal support at $6,500/mo., until trial of issues of entitlement, etc.
[Estimated range at $300,000 if child support for one, plus $600/mo. each: $7,606-$8,941/mo.]
[Estimated range if child support for two, plus $600/mo. each: $6,650-$7,854/mo.]

Together 16 years (married 13), husband and wife 44, 3 children 16, 14 and 12, with wife
16-year-old daughter serious physical and mental impairments, constant care required, wife granted respite
care services by government
Husband aircraft technician with Air Canada, earns $74,000/yr., little involvement with children
Wife works part-time in retail craft store, earns $8,200/yr., not “underemployed”
Child support $1,322/mo.
Spousal support $500/mo., both compensatory and non-compensatory, near mid-point of SSAG range
S. 7 expenses for football, basketball and band for 2 boys $1,370/yr., not daughter’s school lunch, transport
[Estimated range $294-$629 if s. 7 expenses considered; $329-$666 if not]

Married 18 years, 2 older children gone, 3 younger in shared custody, husband 58, wife 43
Husband earns $260,000/yr. in bakery business
2005 trial decision: spousal support $3,500/mo. plus child support
Spousal support increased to $5,000/mo. on 2006 appeal, application of SSAG
Application to vary by husband, based on wife’s cohabitation and marriage
Income imputed to wife: $50,000 from invested assets, plus $36,000 employment
Child support: set-off, $4,384 - $1,643 = $2,741/mo.
Wife found to have commenced cohabitation May 2006, new husband earns $658,000/yr.
Spousal support terminated retroactive to May 2006

Together 2 years, married 1, 1 child 21 mos., husband 31, wife 27, separated Oct. 2006
Husband adopted wife’s 8 year old child, but no relationship and no support now by agreement
Husband teacher earns $60,410, student wife’s income $17,880 (student loans)
Child support $564, plus 77% of day care costs
Consent order March 2007 for $435/mo. spousal support, after sale of home
Wife received 61% of home proceeds, paid off debts
Wife seeks support for 2-3 years to finish studies, husband says no more
Range $341-$819, spousal support of $435/mo. ordered to Dec. 2008 (18 mos. total)

Married 17 years, 2 children 15 and 13, equal shared custody
Wife employed NRC $34,230, husband electrician, own co., income issues, $82,560
Interim child support: $1,191 - $508 = $683, plus $250, for $933/mo.
Interim spousal support: range if simple set-off $141-$829/mo., $600/mo. ordered

and 2008 CarswellOnt 1894
Married 22 years, 2 children 21 and 19 in university, UVic and Carleton
Wife teacher, earns $50,400, no imputing for full-time or summer months
Husband broker RBC Dominion, will earn $153,140 in 2007 (earned more in 2005 and 2006)
Big s. 7 university expenses paid by husband: $42,201/yr.
First determine NDI split at first stage, then sort out spousal support, s. 7 cost-sharing at second stage
NDI 58% to husband, 42% to wife
2nd decision: no change in NDI split because of *Fisher*
Older child no longer child of marriage
Wife to contribute $228/mo. in 2008 for 2007 s. 7 expenses of younger child
Husband to pay spousal support of $2,633/mo., starting Jan. 2008

Together just over 1 year, married 1 year, 1 child 11 mos., husband 32, wife 37
Wife’s interim move from Kelowna to Vancouver allowed, with child
Wife on maternity leave, marketing job in Vancouver, earning $29,500 half-time
Husband earns $89,000, Interior Health Unit, child support $815/ mo.
Interim spousal support, at half-time income, range $900 - $1,500/mo.
Short marriage, prospect of full-time employment, $800/mo., wife to notify of income changes

Married 20 years, 2 children 14 and 16, with wife in Edmonton
Husband in Parry Sound, doctor, 3-yr. average income $389,700
Wife home with children, now in law school, no income
No binding interim agreement, husband paid $12,000/mo. April 206 to June 2007
Child support $4,772/mo., plus $500/mo. for s. 7 summer camps
Wife seeks $10,126/mo. spousal, husband offers $8,000/mo.
Interim spousal support $8,800/mo., due to costs of access, recent income increase
[Estimated range $8,196-$9,838/mo.; if $350,000, $7,205-$8,794/mo.]

Together 18 years, 16 married, husband 48, wife 43 (38 at separation)
2 children 18 and 12, younger with father, older away at school in Winnipeg
Interim 2004 order, split custody: child support $661, spousal $1,750/mo., husband earned $83,000
Wife home during marriage, thyroid problems and fibromyalgia, no income
Husband hardrock miner, back problems, now shuttle bus driver at mine, earns $73,215
Wife entitled, husband paid support for 5 years, wife seeks $2,100/mo, indefinite

Mid to upper range, custodial payor: $1,562-$1,785/mo.
Spousal support of $1,750/mo. ordered, review in 2 years, concerns re health, employment effort
Husband much more debt, also borrowed for older daughter’s hairdressing education

Together 2½ years, 1 child 2, shared custody, wife 37
Wife earns $25,000, 28 hours/wk. in human resources
Husband computer systems analyst, earns $80,000
Child support $506/mo., plus 50% of gross day care costs, i.e. $188/mo.
Spousal support limited duration, not impute income now, $700/mo. for 2 years, similar living standards
[Estimated range $676-$1,268, $1,225/mo. for 50/50 split of NDI]

Together 2 years, husband 34, wife 35, child 1, and wife’s 6-year-old child of previous marriage
Wife brain tumour and seizures since April 2006, earned $100,000, now unable to work
Wife on long-term disability, $34,416/yr. non-taxable, $13,824 CPP
Husband human relations manager, earns $79,900, cohabiting (partner earns $50,000)
Child support $707/mo., at $78,400
Interim spousal support, $750/mo. for 7 months, husband argues SSAG
Order for $500/mo., 2 more years
[Estimated range 0- $162/mo. if wife’s disability grossed-up; 0-$438/mo. if not]

Married 16 years, 1 child 15, with wife, husband 47, wife 56
Child support $701/mo., husband to pay $2,500/yr. for private school, activities
Husband earns $74,432, wife earns $36,167
Spousal support indefinite, husband paid $450/mo. voluntarily since 2005
Wife earns $32,000, new job in Aug. 2007, earning $42,000
Mid to upper end of SSAG range, $750/mo. for 2007, $600/mo. for 2008
[Estimated range at $32,000: $403-$925; at $42,000: $39-$584]

_Meliambro v Meliambro_, 2007 CarswellOnt 7699 (S.C.J.) (J. Mackinnon J.)
Married 14 years, 2 children, wife 45
2007 consent interim order, husband says income $96,000, spousal support $400/mo.
Husband’s actual 2007 income $175,000, as broker, changed employers in 2006
Husband’s incomes: 2004 $67,000; 2005 $53,000; 2006 $162,700
At $175,000, child support $2,282/mo. plus $159/mo. net day care
2008 income estimated as $157,500, child support $2,079 plus $153/mo.
Spousal support: wife claims $2,000/mo., earns $49,230/yr.
Range stated at $175,000: $1,833-$2,900/mo. [seems to assume no s. 7 expenses]
Spousal support $1,500/mo. in 2007 and 2008
[Range, considering s. 7 expenses, at $175,000: $1,765-$2,811; at $157,500: $1,389-$2,327]

Married 23 years, separated 2000, 7 children, traditional marriage, wife 52
2 children with wife, 25 mentally-challenged, 12 physical disabilities
2002 order: child support $1,800, spousal $700/mo., husband earned $81,000
2006 order: child support $988 plus s. 7, spousal $1,750/mo, husband $110,000
Review in June 2007, Guidelines applied on review
Wife part-time teaching assistant, earns $20,000/yr., could earn $30-$35,000
25-year-old receives $800/mo. disability and $500/mo. employment
Husband police officer, income with overtime $102,000, remarried, new wife has child 15
Matrimonial home reapportioned 2/3 to wife, $54,000 extra
Child support $922/mo. for one
Ranges for wife’s income $20,000: $1,627-$2,258; $30,000: $1,254-$1,913; $35,000: $1,057-$1,735/mo.
Order for $1,300/mo., until review in Feb. 2008, time for wife to seek further employment
[If range calculated as 2 children, ranges about $200/mo. lower]
Together 5 years, married 4, separated 2001, wife 37
3 children of previous relationships: 17 on own, 15 group home, 13 with new partner’s parents
1 child 12, with husband since 2005
Wife seeks child support for 3 and spousal support
Husband not in place of parent, 6 year delay, wife living with another man since 2004
Spousal support both compensatory and non-compensatory, wife home during relationship
Wife on social assistance (not income), also some waitressing $4,991 (2005)
Husband earned $29,991 (2005)
Lump sum for past, without child support formula used, no child support by wife
Range $1,875 - $2,500/yr., mid-point $2,187/yr. for 3.75 years, $8,203 lump sum
[Custodial payor range: $127-$169/mo. for 2.5-5 years, global $3,810-$10,140 ($8,213 net)]

Together 12 years, married 10, separated 1995, 2 children 19 and 17, older with husband since 2005
Child support $343/mo. since 2005, equalization payment by wife to husband $77,590
Wife lawyer, not worked since 1997, outstanding wrongful dismissal action, claims disability,
no medical evidence, no support sought until 2005, interim dismissed then
Wife seeks $1,500/mo. support retro to 2001
Husband aeronautical engineer, earns $105,723
No compensatory basis, non-compensatory only, wife former primary earner in marriage
Wife says income $56,000, but non-disclosure and no credibility, income imputed $72,203 (low)
Child support: $921 - $662 = $259, plus wife to pay share of university expenses
No entitlement, wife no need, could earn more, Guidelines show zero range
Spousal claim dismissed, subject to review [variation?] if change

Married 22 years, 2 children 19 and 17, wife 50
Child 19 at university, husband paying $23,000/yr, no child support order
Husband earns $345,597, mining executive, child support $2,701/mo. for 1 child
Interim spousal support: wife seeks $8,125/mo., husband offers $3,000/mo.
Wife home with children, artist, husband’s income for spousal $281,480 (stock options excluded)
No income imputed to wife, out of work force 20 years, but high-risk career
Interim order $5,000/mo., mid-point of low-to-medium SSAG range

Married 8 years, 2 children
2003 order: child support $1,031 and spousal $1,500/mo., indexed, review in 3 years, husband $80,000
2007 review: child and spousal support now $2,818/mo.
Wife working at call centre in 2003 ($15,000/yr.), now started as court reporter, $30,000
Husband paid spousal support for 7 years, not much longer, review in 1 year (Nov. 2008)
Original amount on high side vs. SSAG, Guidelines used $750/mo, mid-range
[Estimated range, at $30,000 for wife: $163-$846/mo.]

Nykiforuk v. Richmond, 2007 CarswellSask 675, 2007 SKQB 453 (Ryan-Froslie J.)
Together 17 years, married 12, 2 children 17 and 7 with wife
Wife home, U.S. art and design certificate, $2,400/yr. rent only income
Husband musician, corporation, income issues, $65,000
Interim child support $910/mo., s. 7 expenses not proved, left to trial
Interim spousal support: no income imputed to wife, range $801-$1,090/mo.
Husband voluntarily paid (including $1,061/mo. mortgage) $4,000/mo. 2005,
$3,000/mo. 2006-07, $2,000/mo. since Aug. 2007
Interim order for spousal support of $1,100/mo.

Interim decision, 2 children 14 and 11, husband 43, wife 44
Husband earns $74,000 as environmental officer, wife day care worker $42,000
Exclusive possession of home to wife until sale
Children primarily with wife, week-about shared custody to commence March 2008
Child support $1,085/mo. to March, then $1,476/mo. ($79,000 for husband)
Wife seeks spousal support $1,000/mo., parties provided SSAG calculations
Order for $400/mo. until wife moves
[Estimated range: sole custody 0-$372, shared custody 0-$517 (if $79,000)]

Together 12 years, 2 children 13 and 10, with wife
Judicial dispute resolution, parties agree to binding decision on rest
Home sold, proceeds divided, $212,000 each
Wife actress, earning $12,000, imputed income of $24,000
Husband $90,000, child support not stated, table $1,290/mo.
Guidelines considered
Spousal support $700/mo., retro to April 2005, continue 2 more years (4 ½ years total)
[Estimated range: $526-$1,276]

Married 16 years, 4 children, now just one aged 17
Husband earns $56,719, wife earns $19,875
Child support $526/mo., spousal support $623/mo.
Guidelines range: $192-$623, upper end to recognize s. 15.3 Divorce Act

Together 20 years, married 18, 2 children 21 and 17, husband 44, wife 55
Wife not working, stay-at-home mother, cares for granddaughter
Husband millwright, earns $56,195, but previously earned $71,000
Oct. 2005 interim consent order: child support $711, spousal $1,900/mo.
Mar. 2006 consent order: child support $575 (1), spousal $1,500/mo., review in 3 years, husband $71,000
Application to vary by husband, after change in jobs, new job no overtime, dismissed
Husband knew of change in jobs at time of order, chose to work less, now cohabiting
Amount ordered in 2006 still within Guidelines range, even with lower income

Married 9 years, husband 35, wife 32, 2 children 13 and 9, with wife
2002 separation agreement: child support $750/mo. plus $1,000/yr. clothing, spousal $750/mo., 3 years
Husband’s income all dividends from corporation, $81,475
Child support $1,177/mo. plus $333/yr. section 7 expenses
Wife owns retail clothing stores, negligible income, $15,000 imputed
Wife unemployed in 2002, agreement assumed community college, her change of plans
Mediated agreement, no independent legal advice to wife
Agreement set aside, parties to submit Guidelines calculations
[Estimated range: $1,349-$2,065/mo.]

Together 12 years, married 7, husband 35, wife 38, 2 children 9 and 2, week-about shared custody
Wife works in family business, bankrupt, earns $23,800 (including car, cellphone)
Child support: set-off agreed, $1,020 - $353 = $667, plus $274/mo. by husband for child care
Dec. 2005 interim order: child support $793/mo., spousal $250/mo.
1995 cohabitation agreement/marriage contract: wife waived spousal support
Miglin analysis: fairly negotiated, compliance then, but 1st child not planned, financial problems of wife
Range based on rotated child benefits: $364-$901, standard of living analysis, mid-range
Spousal support of $620/mo., review 6 months after youngest starts Grade 1

Married 5 years, 2 children 6 and 3, husband no answer, uncontested trial
Husband earns $48,945, child support $737/mo.
Wife unemployed in 2006, now at Scotiabank earning $17,900
Guidelines range $100-$336/mo.
Order for $200/mo., 7 mos. from Aug. 2006 to Feb. 2007 when unemployed
Child and spousal arrears, mortgage payments by wife all paid out of husband’s share of house proceeds

Married 15 years, 2 children 18 and 16, split custody, husband 58, wife 46
Husband lawyer on disability since 35, cease at 65
Wife not work outside home, now cohabiting, income of $24,000 imputed
Husband’s income $81,120 tax-free, $100,632 taxable, grossed-up $243,742
Child support: $2,033 - $220 = $1,813/mo.
Husband’s debt problems reflect poor money management
Wife entitled, more non-compensatory, range $3,800-$4,800
Exceptional circumstances: husband older, young children, wife cohabiting, her actual expenses low
Spousal support $2,000/mo. (from which husband can deduct certain debt payments), no time limit

Married 21 years, husband 52, wife 50, 3 children 20, 17 and 15, with husband
Property divided equally, including husband’s professional corporation
Husband doctor, income issues, earns $502,984 including net income from corp.
Wife trained as nurse, home, now personal support worker, $15,000/yr. plus $25,000/yr. investments
Husband says $2,700/mo. for 2 years, interim support $4,000/mo. since Oct. 2005
Range $7,952-$10,603/mo., order for $6,500/mo., indefinite
[Estimated range at $350,000: $5,037-$6,717/mo.]

Together 5 ½ years, married 5, 1 child 5, husband custody of 2 children of previous marriage
Wife’s allegations of sexual abuse against husband, not verified
Custody to wife, unsupervised access to husband
Husband earns $59,566
Wife graphic designer, 2001 earned $53,013, web business, losses, on social assistance
Child support $554/mo., plus $240/mo. for counselling fees
Spousal support: husband should have paid for 6 mos. after July 2006 separation
Husband to pay $1,200/mo., from Dec. 2007 to May 2008
Amount higher than SSAG, low end of “customary range”, due to his 2 children
[Estimated range $1,010-$1,264; if notional deduction for husband’s 2 children, $591-$775]

Interim support, 2 children 18 and 14 with wife
Husband amusement park operator, corporation, income issues, $120,000 imputed
Wife earns $29,280 at Home Depot, rounded to $30,000
Child support $1,696/mo. for 2, another older child living with wife, working part-time
Guidelines range $1,611-$2,260, but exception
Abnormally high costs of maintaining home, plus $2,200/mo. mortgage
Interim spousal support $3,000/mo., plus husband continues to pay mortgage until sale or trial

Married 16 years, 2003 separation, wife 40
4 children: 14 and 16 with wife, 2 older children with husband
Husband manager and sales, income $150,000, lost his job, gambling addiction and debts
Wife home, now living with partner and child
Child support $1,136/mo.
2003 separation agreement: spousal support postponed, while husband paying debts
Duration for spousal support of 3 years, no marketable skills, training required
Amount $1,500/mo.
Range if husband $124,815: $1,626-$2,015; if $109,248, $1,383-$1,733

Together 23 years, married 10, 2 children 22 and 17, younger with wife, husband 56, wife 58
Interim: child support $2,080/mo. and spousal $4,000/mo.
No reapportionment, equal division, payment by wife of $321,984, she keeps house
Wife copy editor, home 5 years, full-time work, 3 days/week since 2003
Wife earns $56,000, health issues, 4 days imputed, $75,000/yr.
Husband lawyer, income issues, $275,000 determined
Child support $2,277, spousal support $5,000/mo., reviewable after Nov. 2008, husband’s income
[Estimated range: $3,980-$5,679]

Together 15 years, married 14, husband 45, wife 43, 2 children 15 and 12, with wife
Separated 2000, 2002 order: child support $1,192/mo., spousal $808/mo., husband earned $97,000
2004 split custody, varied: child support $488/mo., husband earning $100,00, wife $31,000
Husband remarried, salary and retained earnings $130-$140,000
Wife earns $30,251 full-time with London Life
Child support $944/mo.
Husband seeks to terminate/reduce spousal support, wife to continue
Spousal support requested less than Guidelines range, duration 7.5 to 15 years
Order for $808/mo. for 2 years, $400/mo. for 2 years, end Sept. 2011, i.e. 11.5 years total
[Estimated range for $140,000: $1,819-$2,511]

Married 21 years, husband 50, wife 46
3 children, 17 (special needs) with husband, 15 and 14 with wife
Interim order 2007: child support $4,964/mo., spousal $8,036/mo., access of wife to accounts until then
Property divided: $1.6 million each
Husband senior vice-president, Wood Gundy, earns $670,965/yr.
Wife imputed income $20,000 part-time employment and $48,000 investment income, $68,000/yr.
Child support: $8,972 - $595 = $8,377/mo., no s. 7 expenses
Spousal support: wife not worked outside home, real estate licence, seeks $10,000/mo.
Guidelines not applicable, above ceiling
Wife overspending, increasing debt, $5,000/mo., time limit premature, review in 2 ½ years
[Estimated range at $670,965: $10,512-$12,808; at $350,000: $4,290-$5,673]

Married 11 years, 3 children 13, 11 and 9, with wife
Wife at home in Fort McMurray, moved to Edmonton, interim support
Husband earns $175,000 as power engineer and rent from home
Child support $3,161/mo., $300/mo. to s. 7 expenses, husband large access expenses
Wife home 8 years, employed full-time at $60,000 since 2003
Range stated as $1,485-$2,411/mo. [estimated as $1,073-$1,994 after s. 7 expenses]
No interim spousal support, “may” be disadvantage, left to trial
Married 21 years, both spouses 50 (45 at separation), 1 child 22 with wife
Daughter student, finishes university 2008, works part-time, $3,500/yr.
Nov. 2002 to May 2005: husband paid $3,000/mo. combined support, net
June 2005 divorce: child support $500/mo., spousal $3,500/mo.
Husband then on disability, $113,645/yr., wife $10,146 income, review in 15 months
Husband applies to reduce and time limit support, wife applies to maintain
Traditional marriage, wife some efforts to work part-time, retail sales, $14,000/yr.
Wife sufficient effort towards self-sufficiency, still entitled
Husband pilot, again on disability, $131,241/yr.
Child support of $500 continued
Guidelines range $3,145-$3,911, parties used mid-point in 2005 settlement
Spousal support of $3,500/mo. to continue, indefinite for now
Judge remains seized, as child finishing school and husband returning to work

Together 11 years, married 9, 1 child 5, with wife
Wife administrative clerk, earns $35,628/yr., home 3 years
Husband police officer, earns $83,680/yr., cohabiting with another officer
Also $18,000/yr. tax-free DVA disability payment, grossed up to $22,500, total income $106,180
Child support $956/mo.
Guidelines apply to interim support, range $1,114-$1,800
Low end of range will cover budget shortfall of wife, $1,100/mo.

Together 3 ½ years, married 2, 1 child 3, with wife, substantial time with husband
Husband earns $79,561 as plumber, child support $716/mo.
Wife home full-time 1 year, part-time after, owned florist business since 2000
Never made any money, wife could earn $18,400 as employee, limited options in small town
Interim consent order Mar. 2007: $700/mo. spousal support
Guidelines range $812-$1,115, $900/mo. ordered
4 factors for lower end: short cohabitation, wife living with parents, budget balanced,
full child support paid despite substantial time by husband

Interim, children 10 and 5, shared custody, home sold Oct. 2007
Husband’s SSAG range $1,888-$2,992, if his income $165,000, hers $45,000
Wife says his income $222,000, range $4,500-$5,500/mo.
Husband’s income determined as $204,000, no precise ChequeMate calculations
Table amount for husband $2,618/mo.
Wife in college, no income, “rough equality” intended
Interim child support $2,000/mo., spousal support $4,000/mo.

Married 20 years, 3 children 20 (university), 17 and 15 with wife
Wife bus driver for OCTranspo, $40,000, home 1987-95
Husband did not appear or disclose, income imputed as $96,000 based on bank statements
Child support $1,762/mo.
Spousal support $270/mo., at low end of Guidelines range, wife and children with 57.9% NDI
Unequal division of property, husband reckless, all equity in home to wife

Together 21 years, married 17, husband 46, wife 44, 4 children 18, 17, 15 and 10
Interim decision, husband provided generous support voluntarily for 3 years, 5 mos. to trial
Issues of income, debt, disclosure, family trust
Wife home, primary caregiver to children

Husband businesses, income goes offshore, not tax, says $900,000/yr., grossed-up to $1.6 million
Child support $30,000/mo.
Spousal support, above ceiling, range $30-$35,000/mo., order for $50,000/mo., ability to pay
[Decision upheld on appeal at [2008] B.C.J. No. 897, 2008 BCCA 214; see case summary in Appendix I, Appeal Cases]

Together 15 years, married 12, children 8 and 17
Wife on disability, back and fibromyalgia, since before marriage, $14,862/yr.
2005 interim order: child support $1,075, spousal $1,750/mo., husband earned $88,722
Custody varied from principal residence to wife, to shared custody
Husband earns $93,209
Child support $1,062/mo. by set-off
Guidelines range for spousal support $771-$1,275
Order for $850/mo., for roughly equal monthly cash flow, review in 2 years

Married 10 years, 2 children 9 and 7, equal shared custody
Husband broker, income issues, non-disclosure, 3-year average $180,367
Wife flight attendant, part-time, earns $30,394
Interim child support $2,344 - $448 = $1,896
Wife submits SSAG calculations based on husband’s 2006 income of $253,988
Calculations “not helpful” as different income finding
Interim spousal support $1,200/mo.
[Estimated range, at $180,367: $2,610-$3,570]
Appendix III

SPOUSAL SUPPORT ADVISORY GUIDELINES
CASE SUMMARIES BY PROVINCE
[September 12, 2007 – July 10, 2008]
For cases decided prior to Sept. 12, 2007 see our previous update papers at http://www.law.utoronto.ca/faculty/rogerson/ssag.html

ALBERTA

(a) Appeal Cases

Married 23 years, 2 adult children, traditional marriage
Wife now full-time in Sears catalogue dept., earns $25,300
Husband earns $40,000, reduced income after post-separation motorcycle accident, but large settlement
Guidelines ranges used to assess reasonableness of retroactive spousal support award 1998-2005
Ongoing support of $1,000/mo. from 2006 on, in range

Married 22 years, 3 children, now 1 with husband
Wife sought spousal support under SSAG, $4,200-$6,300/mo. based on husband’s post-separation income
Husband now earning $171,432 as electrician in Yemen, earned $70-$80,000 during marriage
Wife receives income of $24,828 from disability policies and rent
Trial judge ordered child support by wife of $213/mo., spousal support by husband of $2,000/mo.,
Trial judge did not err in determining husband’s income, or in not basing support on actual income
Husband adopted “burdensome life” after separation, insufficient connection to marriage
But erred in including retroactive support in wife’s income, and in estimating monthly cash flows
Spousal support increased on appeal from $2,000/mo. to $2,827/mo.
Dissent on property issues
[Custodial payor range, at $80,000 for husband: $1,256-$1675; at $100,000: $1,715-$2,287/mo.]

(b) Without Child Support Formula

Parties married in 1971, first separated in 1992, frequent contact 1997-2000, final separation 2000 (total 29 years); 3 children
Wife homemaker; husband’s earning capacity and wealth increased dramatically over course of marriage;
assets of over $12 million; recent earnings of over $1 million
Husband paid wife $2000/mo beginning 1992; $3000/mo in 2000 and $6000/mo in 2005
Equal division of property ordered: wife receives equalization payment of $6 million
Wife agrees no claim for retroactive or on-going spousal support if equal division of property
Court applies SSAG hypothetically (ceiling ignored) to determine amount of spousal support that should
have been paid 1999-2005 if wife entitled to 40% of husband’s gross income; amounts ranged from
$28,000 to $86,800 per month; amounts found to be excessive but used to show that $6000 per month
spousal support being paid as of 2005 inordinately low

29 year marriage; 3 children now adults; separation 2006
Husband 59; worked in steel industry; income $95,000 in 2005; falls into serious depression after
separation and unemployed

wife 54, homemaker; worked in day-care; 2006 income $18,526; alleges health problems and unable to keep working
wife claims spousal support of between $2,600 and $3,500 per month in accordance with guidelines, based on income of $85,000 imputed to husband because of under-employment and zero income for her; seeking lump sum equivalent to husband’s interest in matrimonial home
property division: each left with $205,000 in assets; wife owes husband equalization payment of $207,000 if she retains home
lump sum spousal support of $120,000 ordered; plus $17,500 for retroactive support, based on assumption husband able to earn $65,000 and wife earning $18,000; wife needs $10,000 more per year for 12 years.
[Estimated range if h $65,000 and w $18,500: $1453-$1938; low end of range for 12 years, no discounting, lump sum $209,232]

(c) with child support formula

bains v. bains, 2008 CarswellAlta 628, 2008 ABQB 271 (veit j.)
married 18 years, 3 children
one child adult; next 18, finished high school, but likely university after year; last in high school
husband taxi driver, income issues, stated income of $17,918/yr. accepted after analysis
wife earns $16,800, worked throughout marriage
child support $169/mo. (1), revived to $294/mo. for 2 if middle child goes back to school
wife entitled to spousal support, as long-term traditional marriage
but husband no ability to pay, guidelines range zero to zero, even if husband earned more

together 12 years, 2 children 13 and 10, with wife
judicial dispute resolution, parties agree to binding decision on rest
home sold, proceeds divided, $212,000 each
wife actress, earning $12,000, imputed income of $24,000
husband $90,000, child support not stated, table $1,290/mo.
guidelines considered
spousal support $700/mo., retro to April 2005, continue 2 more years (4 ½ years total)
[Estimated range: $526-$1,276]

married 16 years, 2003 separation, wife 40
4 children: 14 and 16 with wife, 2 older children with husband
husband manager and sales, income $150,000, lost his job, gambling addiction and debts
wife home, now living with partner and child
child support $1,136/mo.
2003 separation agreement: spousal support postponed, while husband paying debts
duration for spousal support of 3 years, no marketable skills, training required
amount $1,500/mo.
range if husband $124,815: $1,626-$2,015; if $109,248, $1,383-$1,733

married 21 years, husband 50, wife 46
3 children, 17 (special needs) with husband, 15 and 14 with wife
interim order 2007: child support $4,964/mo., spousal $8,036/mo., access of wife to accounts until then
property divided: $1.6 million each
husband senior vice-president, Wood Gundy, earns $670,965/yr.
wife imputed income $20,000 part-time employment and $48,000 investment income, $68,000/yr.
child support: $8,972 - $595 = $8,377/mo., no s. 7 expenses
spousal support: wife not worked outside home, real estate licence, seeks $10,000/mo.
guidelines not applicable, above ceiling
Wife overspending, increasing debt, $5,000/mo., time limit premature, review in 2 ½ years
[Estimated range at $670,965: $10,512-$12,808; at $350,000: $4,290-$5,673]

Married 11 years, 3 children 13, 11 and 9, with wife
Wife at home in Fort McMurray, moved to Edmonton, interim support
Husband earns $175,000 as power engineer and rent from home
Child support $3,161/mo., $300/mo. to s. 7 expenses, husband large access expenses
Wife home 8 years, employed full-time at $60,000 since 2003
Range stated as $1,485-$2,411/mo. [estimated as $1,073-$1,994 after s. 7 expenses]
No interim spousal support, “may” be disadvantage, left to trial


**BRITISH COLUMBIA**

(a) Appeal Cases


Married 10 years, husband 62, wife 51, separated 1999

One child 16 with wife, some chronic psychiatric difficulties

Husband orthodontist, earns $477,206/yr., likely retire when 70, work less after 65

Wife part-time flight attendant, retired 2005, not worked since, interior design training

Couple spent lavishly, husband supported wife until 2005, in hope of reconciliation

Trial decision 2006: family assets divided, 30% of husband’s corporate interests *in specie*

Reversed on appeal, compensation order made instead, $237,990 to wife

Also 10% interest in husband’s property company ordered on appeal

Child support order at trial upheld: husband’s table amount $3,854/mo., but $3,528/mo. ordered

Reduced by $326/mo., table amount for wife at $35,000/yr. imputed income

Also husband to pay all special expenses of $3,000/mo.

Spousal support at trial: 7 years of support until June 2013 when wife 65, husband 70

Step-down order: $13,750/mo. for 3 yrs., $11,000/mo. for 2 yrs., $8,000/mo. for 2 yrs.

Trial judge not required as matter of law to state conceptual basis for spousal support

Above ceiling case under SSAG, husband supported wife for 7 years, trial judge restructured

Reduced on appeal to encourage self-sufficiency, wife no efforts and still spending

Order for $8,000/mo. for 4 years, then $6,500/mo. to reflect husband’s reduced earning capacity

No time limit, but order may be varied when husband retires completely

*With child support* range if husband $477,206, wife $35,000, no s. 7 expenses: $11,368-$13,802/mo.]

*Without child support* range at $350,000 under formula $5,835-$7,123/mo., preferable if discrepancy from Guidelines explained

Payor’s income “far beyond” the ceiling, Guidelines “really of no assistance”, pure discretion

After tax, support produces same amount as was paid voluntarily

Husband’s income in fact greater than that admitted, amount can be adjusted after trial

Whether trust for children a “special provision” for child support purposes also matter for trial


Together 21 years, married 17, husband 46, wife 44, 4 children 18, 17, 15 and 10

Interim decision, husband provided generous support voluntarily for 3 years, 5 mos. to trial

Issues of income, debt, disclosure, family trust

Wife home, primary caregiver to children

Husband businesses, income goes offshore, not tax, says $900,000/yr., grossed-up to $1.6 million

Child support $30,000/mo., 1 in university and 3 in private school

Spousal support, above ceiling, range $30-$35,000/mo., order for $50,000/mo., ability to pay

Demanding standard of review on interim support appeal: “inordinately high or low”

Husband admitted income, other sources of income available to him in Canada, Dubai, Switzerland

Unusually extravagant lifestyle during marriage, husband little questioning of wife’s budget

Above ceiling case, possible approached considered

Range at $350,000 under *with child support* formula $5,835-$7,123/mo., preferable if discrepancy from Guidelines explained

Payor’s income “far beyond” the ceiling, Guidelines “really of no assistance”, pure discretion

After tax, support produces same amount as was paid voluntarily

Husband’s income in fact greater than that admitted, amount can be adjusted after trial

Whether trust for children a “special provision” for child support purposes also matter for trial


Together 5-6 years (married 4), husband 35, wife 33, no children

Wife serious migraines, worsened by stress, unable to work full-time, teacher’s certificate

Husband RCMP corporal, earns $88,000 with overtime

Property divided 50/50, despite short marriage, wife’s need vs. premarital property, upheld on appeal

Wife not work now, can work part-time in 4 mos., full-time in 3 years, $18,000 imputed during period of part-time employment

Support non-compensatory, Guidelines maximum $700/mo. for 3 to 6 years, “too low”, said trial judge

Wife sought $1500-$2000, interim support $750/mo. for 12 mos.
Support $1800 for 4 mos., $1500 for 18 mos., $1200 for 18 mos., then end (52 mos. total)
Upheld on appeal, no error to depart from SSAG amount to reflect wife’s disability, no “double counting” of disability factor in property and support

25 year marriage, 4 children, separation 2000; two dependent children, one with each parent
Wife obtains M.Sc. in economics in early years of marriage and but homemaker after birth of first child
Husband lawyer; obtains master of laws in early years of marriage; unsuccessful business ventures at end of marriage; bankruptcy 2001; unemployed due to depression; then consulting business
2003 order: assuming income of $312,000, child support for 1 child $2,111/mo; spousal support $6,500
2004 order: based on income of $120,000, child support for one child of $888/mo; spousal support $2,000;
subsequent variation requiring contribution to university expenses
Husband returns to work as tax lawyer on contract basis in 2006; income $364,500; remarried; new spouse earning $75,000; seeks variation of child and spousal support
Wife health issues, no income
Chambers judge finds husband’s income to be $318,900 (after deduction of business expenses of $45,000);
orders spousal support of $4000 per month
Wife appeals, arguing husband’s income much higher
Court of Appeal sets husband’s income at $330,650; not appropriate to impute income to wife
Child support raised to $2,711.07
Use of SSAG on variation: appropriate on these facts, wife has on-going entitlement to substantial support both on compensatory and non-compensatory basis; appropriate to base spousal support on husband’s increased income because career linked to education acquired during marriage and years of work during marriage while wife cared for children
Range under with child support formula if husbands’ income $330,000: $8,500 - $10,000, leaving wife with 48.9% of NDI
Spousal support ordered: $9000/mo, indefinite

**(b) Without Child Support Formula**

**Freeman v. Freeman**, 2008 CarswellBC 1366, 2008 BCSC 857 (Martinson J.)
Together 5 years (married 4), husband 36, wife 30
Problems of non-disclosure by both parties
Family assets reapportioned, real property 70/30 to wife, rest divided equally
Husband earns $90,000 in construction, wife earns $49,991/yr.
SSAG range $250-$333/mo. for 2.5 to 5 years
Order for $275/mo. for 3.5 years, converted to lump sum of $11,550, reduced to $10,000 paid now

Together 16 years (married 15), husband 47, wife 46, 1 child 18
Child troubled adolescence, now living on own, working part-time minimum wage employment
Child might return to school, become “child of marriage” again, $1,500 retro child support to wife
Wife trained as dentist in Mexico, never practised there, comfortable family circumstances there
Moved to Port Alberni, never practised, never sought requalification, no training, home
Family assets divided equally, except house reapportioned 60/40 to wife, to be sold ($224,000)
Wife made secret transfers of money, one-half amounts to husband
Compensatory spousal support, but modest disadvantage
Wife living common law, income $16,000 in 2007, may not retrain
Husband was mill worker, lower income now as jail guard, $53,000/yr.
SSAG range $700-$975/mo. for 8 to 16 years
Order for $800/mo., for 6 years, no retroactive as wife less than candid re living arrangements

Together 23 years (married 20), 2 children 19 and 16, husband 59, wife 51
No child support, as older is Olympic athlete, younger at boarding school, expenses out of family trust
Wife at home, earned $6,000 in 2007, retail sales, boarder, at Sun Peaks
Husband retired Air Canada pilot, some contract flying, living on boat and in Vancouver
Vancouver house ordered sold, worth about $1.2 million
Wife entitled to interim support
Husband’s income in issue, claim of stress-related disability rejected, total $90,000/yr.
(plus pension $24,000 employment $66,000/yr.)
Guidelines range $2,415-$3,220/mo., wife seeks $2,500/mo., that amount ordered from April 2008-06-18
Also interim lump sum support of $4,600 for wife’s commercial property management course

Married 16 years (plus one year cohabitation), separated 2003, husband 58, wife 54
Wife’s children 4 and 6 when together, now 26 and 28
Husband paid interim spousal support, by agreement: $4,879/mo. 2005, $4,600/mo. 2006 and 2007
Husband pilot at Air Canada, remarried, earns $267,845/yr., must retire at 60
Wife no income, home-based business selling Japanese health products
Range $5,654-$7,539/mo., husband’s offer at mid-point vs. wife’s claim for top end
Order for $6,597/mo., indefinite, review in 20 mos. when husband retires

Married 32 years, 2 adult children, husband 57, wife 58
Husband millwright, earns $70,100/yr., mine closing, to be laid off
Nov. 2006 interim spousal support $1,600/mo. plus mortgage and utilities
House proceeds reapportioned 75% to wife ($105,750), his non-payment of support
Wife part-time bank work, $19,747/yr., entitlement conceded
Range $1,574-$2,098; given reapportionment, low end of range, $1,600/mo.
Review when husband laid off and 7 mos. severance pay gone or Sept. 2009

Married 18 years, separated 1996, 3 adult children, wife 58
2000 consent order: husband lost Alcan job, $1 nominal order for spousal support, review in 2001
2006 review application, heard in 2008: husband didn’t disclose that re-employed
Range $1,919-$2,558; high end as non-disclosure and hardship of wife
Retroactive spousal support back 38 mos., total $97,321
Wife now earning $29,250/yr.
Husband retired at age 54, okay as new partner ill, 30 years in work camps, to obtain lump sum pension
Can find alternate employment, income of $50,000 imputed
Range $467-$622, so spousal support of $625/mo., for 6 more years (18 total)

Together 15 years (married 14), husband 71, wife 56
Wife aesthetician, not employed
Husband doctor, retired after separation, health problems accepted
Income now  $15,618/yr., from OAS, CPP, investments
Equal division of family assets
Husband’s income below Guidelines floor, wife able to earn more, estimated $20,000/yr.
Spousal support adjourned, no support, wife to disclose income

Married 21 years, no children, wife 44
Husband owns 2 construction companies, worth $1.1 million
2006 interim spousal support order $2,500/mo.
Equal division of family assets, hobby farm to be sold
Husband’s income $96,000/yr. (he said $60,000), but income splitting in past, also retained earnings
Husband new family, wife, 1-year-old and step-daughter 10
Wife unemployed, wanted to run equestrian centre, worked in construction, $20,000/yr. imputed
Wife assisted in husband’s company, could train as equipment operator
Range $2,185-$2,913 indefinite, low end of $2,250/mo. ordered, COLA clause, review provision

Married 13 ½ years, separated Jan. 1993, husband 51, wife 50, 2 adult children
1997 order: custody to husband, spousal support $2,500/mo. indefinite
Husband remarried in 1997, 2 more children 16 and 10 now
Husband chartered accountant, earned $221,197 in 2006
Wife unable to work, no income, bipolar disorder since 1983 and borderline personality disorder
Wife seeks increase in support, as children no longer with husband and 23.5% inflation
No to first ground, as no priority to child support under s. 15.3, support generous and indefinite
Yes to second, SSAG not used, as variation and also disability exception
Spousal support increased by cost of living, to $3,000/mo., indefinite, review when husband retires

Married 35 years, husband 60, wife 56, 3 adult children 32, 28 and 19, traditional marriage
Wife various jobs since 2002, $16,000 in 2007, but now $29,000/yr.
Husband trucker, company, income issues, investments, $90,000 in 2007, $70,000 2008 and after
Matrimonial home reapportioned 75/25 to wife, i.e. $378,750/$126,500
Wife entitled to spousal support for 5 years, until husband turns 65
Support for 2007 $3,000/mo., reduced to $2,000/mo. for use of family home
Support for 2008 and after $1,750/mo.
Both within SSAG ranges [range for 2007: $2,312-$3,083; for 2008: $1,281-$1,708]

Together 18 years (married 16), 2 children 25 and 24, separated 1997
Consent 1998 interim order: child support $775/mo., spousal support $1,000/mo. husband $56,200/yr.,
wife $11,628/yr.
Application to vary “interim” order til trial
Changes: wife’s income up, husband’s down, children independent
Child support arrears fixed
Spousal support duration 9 to 18 years, mid-point 13 ½ years, 36 more months
Husband now $49,915/yr., wife $21,457/yr.
Guidelines mid-range $789/mo., so $750/mo. for 36 months, or further order
With child support formula used to reduce spousal support arrears, mid-point $347/mo. vs. $1,000 paid
Husband also to pay $250/mo. on child support arrears, increased to $1,000/mo. after 36 mos.

12 year marriage, separation 1999, 1 child; equal time shared custody, now adult
Wife now 60 and husband 57 (51 and 46 at separation)
Wife part-time teaching assistant during marriage and after, income $16,040
Husband paper worker, income $95,000
No child support sought until 2003, then consent order for half table amount;
Son (then 20) ceases to reside with mother in 2007; living with father
No spousal support sought until 2005; then interim order for $800/mo
Court orders $1000/mo spousal support as requested by wife; low end of SSAG range but appropriate
because order of indefinite duration; retroactive only to Jan. 2008 not date of application
[Range calculated as $1185-$1586]

Married 4 years, husband 39, wife 38, separated May 2006
Wife in fashion marketing course in Toronto, now real estate agent in Vancouver, $32,947/yr.
Husband engineer, own company, income $193,462/yr.
Family assets reapportioned, short marriage, husband’s assets, 80-90% in husband’s favour
Wife did not give up much by move to Vancouver, no compensatory support
Husband paid off her student loans, real estate course and assisted her with new apartment

Wife has need, no interim application, wife seeks mid-point of $936/mo. for 3 years
[Guidelines range estimated at $790-$1,053 for 2-4 years]
Spousal support $750/mo. for one year

Married 28 years, husband 42, wife 41, 2 children 26 and 19, 19 on own, money from husband
2005 order: child support $595/mo., spousal support $1,500/mo., husband’s income $74,376, wife $10,698
Review in 2007, SSAG range in 2005 $1,168-$1,674/mo. under with child support formula
Husband’s income now $76,254/yr., social worker in government
Wife $24,000/yr., 2 jobs, teacher’s assistant and home care, underemployed
Range $1,633-$2,177, no change, $1,500/mo. continued, another review in 1 year

Married 28 years, 3 adult children, husband 53, wife 51, traditional marriage
Husband truck driver, income $105,480/yr.
2006 interim support $4,300/mo. plus retro lump sum of $12,900
Wife said annual income of $650 then, no disclosure of inheritance from father or $10,000 advance
Equal division of family assets, no further retro support
Entitlement not an issue, but income issues for wife
Income from employment imputed $25,000 plus $16,000 interest income, total $41,000
Guidelines range $2,015-$2,686, order for $2,500/mo., review in 2 years

Together 18 years (married 17), husband 46, wife 55, 1 child 20
2005 interim order: child support $441/mo., spousal support $1,000/mo.
Wife depression and arthritis, school bus driver 20 hrs/wk, earns $20,877/yr.
Husband works as groundskeeper, receives workers comp ($230/mo.), income $49,756/yr.
Wife secondary wage earner, entitled, range $650-$866
Order for $650/mo., indefinite, permanent support
Arrears reduced, as interim support above Guidelines range

Together 11 years (married), no children, husband 44, wife 43
Wife fibromyalgia since 1996, separated 1998, interim spousal support $500/mo. since 2000
Home proceeds reapportioned 80% to wife, i.e. $64,000 in 2002
2002 order: $500/mo. spousal support, indefinite, review after Feb. 2007 added on appeal
Husband remarried, 2 children, wife at home, earns $60,000/yr. vs. $45,000/yr in 2002
Wife still receives $16,000 on disability, living in house
Range $577-$769 for 5.5 to 11 years
Illness/disability exception not warranted here, another 16 months support (11 years total)
Amount on low end, but reapportionment

Married 21 years, 1 child 19, on own, wife 43
Family assets divided equally
Husband runs noodle business company, income issues, cash/expenses, at least $100,000/yr.
Wife worked in photo lab, then home in 2001 to care for child when child had problems, not worked since
Interim spousal support $2,500/mo. (including child support)
Wife rental income $7,200/yr., 2 years to train and upgrade
Mid-range Guidelines amount $2,840/mo., as of Feb. 2010 income of $30,000 imputed
Spousal support reduced to low end of range, $1,650/mo., wife can sell house
Husband’s obligation to support his mother considered
[Estimated range now $2,436-$3,248; if wife $30,000 $1,649-$2,198]

Together 27 years (26 married), husband 57, wife 48, 4 children
Youngest child, 21, college student, with husband, no child support sought by husband
Wife earns $29,400/yr., hospital cleaner and housekeeper, 30-35 hrs/wk.
Husband earns $79,000 as lumber grader, but no overtime now, so income $58,968/yr.
Range $927-$1,236, order for interim spousal support of $950/mo.
Wife’s need and husband’s contribution to child’s education

Married 25 years, husband 60, wife 55, 2 children 26 and 25, both home, 26-year-old head injury
Husband heavy duty mechanic, earns $60,000/yr.
2003 order for spousal support $1,500/mo., review after 2006
Wife not making reasonable efforts for employment, 7 ½ years since separation
Income imputed as 20 hours, minimum wage, $800/mo., plus $700/mo. draw from RRSP, $18,000/yr.
Husband retiring, job requires heavy physical labour, pension plus half-time, $45,000
Equality of living standards, Guidelines upper end calculated and ordered
Order for $1,250/mo., review when husband 65
[Range estimated $938-$1,250]

Married 38 years, husband 68, wife 60, 3 adult children
Wife mostly home, worked on and off, now on long-term disability and CPP, $20,000/yr.
Husband carpenter, injuries, income of $57,000 from WCB and pensions
Both need some home care and assistance
Property division included Carpenter’s pension
Guidelines range, after pension division: $1,053-$1,404, $1,229/mo. mid-point
Spousal support of $1,250/mo., indefinite

20 year marriage; 2 children now adults; separation 2001
Husband carpenter at paper mill; 2006 income $77,049 (incl. overtime)
Wife worked, mainly part-time, during marriage; became legally blind after separation; now CPP disability, $10,600
Wife in U.S. after separation until 2003, husband left with children; since return living in matrimonial home with children; no child or spousal support but husband making mortgage payments
Husband significant debt pre and post-separation: $49,900 consolidated loan (payments of approx. $1000/mo) and $18,400 credit card debt; husband argues post-separation debt due to expenses incurred for support of family after wife left for U.S. and continued mortgage payments
Husband new partner with three children, income $10,000; plus $500/mo child support
Husband’s income set at $72,000 (no overtime) and further $5000 reduction to reflect costs of transportation to work (so $67,000)
Range: $1412-$1833
Re debt: evidence of debt source unsatisfactory; $36,000 found to be matrimonial debt at time of separation; $12,000 wife’s share; taken into account in property division; wife gets no reapportionment and no share of husband’s RRSP or company shares.
Re post-separation debt: some due to husband living beyond his means
Support payment of $1500 per month difficult given husband’s current budget; needs to use share of house proceeds to pay down debt

Married 5 years, plus 2.5 cohab (7.5 total) separate 2004
Move from Alberta to B.C. during relationship for husband’s job
Wife works during relationship
Interim spousal support, 2004: $1000/mo
Husband’s income $95,000; wife’s income $27,000
Range; $637-$885, 3.75 to 7.5 years
Spousal support of $650 per month for further 6 months (3 years, 9 months total)
**Appendix III: Case Summaries by Province: B.C., Sept. 12, 2007 – July 10, 2008**

Not married, 26 year cohabitation, no children, both 67
Husband longshoreman, wife secretary;
Wife has stroke in 1991, disabled and unemployed; separate in 2006 when wife moves to care facility
Husband retired 2002, income $70,520; wife’s income (disability pension) $28,787
Range: $1304-$1739
Wife seeks more than high end of range to enable her to pay for private bed while on wait list for subsidized bed
Spousal support of $1739 ordered, high end of range, plus $315,000 for share of property by way of resulting trust

Very long marriage (32 or 35 years depending on date of separation chosen)
Husband’s income $17,800, wife zero
Range: $550-$750, court orders $600 per month

4 year cohabitation, both parties 32
Both working at beginning of relationship but then wife starts university and now half way through degree
Husband’s income $120,000; wife’s income $21,892 (student loans and part-time earnings)
Interim support under *Family Law Act*: $500 per month from Nov. 2007 until earlier of May 2009 or trial (19 months)
Court uses husband’s ssag calculations [not specified] and chooses low end of range
[Estimated range: $491-$654, duration 2 to 4 years]

Unmarried cohabitation 6.5 years; both prior relationships; no children
Wife lived and worked abroad for extended periods during relationship
Husband retired, income $50,000 (pension and investments); wife income imputed at $18,000
Spousal support $300/mo for 4 years; low end of range for duration appropriate because parties were establishing themselves in separate lives before separation
[Range if 6 years: $240-$320, 3 to 6 years; if 7 years, $280-$373, 3.5 to 7 years]

9 year traditional marriage plus 5 yrs. prior cohab (24 years), separate 2005
Wife one child prior relationship; one child of marriage; both adults
Husband’s income $62,000
Wife’s income $37,500 (interest on inheritance and equalization payment plus imputed employment income)
Spousal support of $800/mo; consistent with SSAG range
[Estimated range: $735-$980]

(c) *With Child Support Formula*

Married 13 years, 2 children with wife, separated June 2006
March 2007 separation agreement: child support $1,794/mo., husband earning $128,000/yr.
Spousal support of $1,700/mo. for 5 years, then review and possible extension for 7 more years
Assets divided $45,000 to wife, $15,000 to husband, debts $37,250 to husband, $11,250 to wife
Feb. 2008 consent order, increasing child support to $1,940/mo., as husband’s income $140,000/yr.
If husband’s income $125,000, low end of SSAG range $2,289/mo.; if $140,000, then $2,667/mo.
Wife alleges non-disclosure, seeks more interim spousal support
Unusual interim situation: husband paying $1,700/mo., husband concedes entitlement
Wife just started part-time job, $33,000/yr., no information, issues left to trial
Interim application for more support dismissed
Married 17 years, 2 children 16 and 9, with wife, husband 51, wife 40
From Iran, immigrated to Canada in 1999
Large house ruled held in trust for husband’s father
Family assets (including proceeds from sale of previous house) split 65/35 to wife, $255,000 for wife
Husband’s income in issue, pest control company, $60,000 imputed
Wife earns $30,000 in retail
Child support $907/mo., retroactive to Jan. 2008
SSAG considered for spousal support, $250/mo. ordered, lump sum of $10,000 as security
Review after 4 years or oldest finishes high school
[Estimated range 0-$234/mo.]

Married 15 years, 2 children 14 and 12, husband 50, wife 42, equal shared custody
Wife orthodontic dental assistant, 4 days/week, $35,000/yr., plus $17,000 rent, total $52,000/yr.
Husband farmer, potatoes and cabbage, father’s business, income issues, $98,000/yr.
Family assets reapportioned 55/45 to wife, $1,158,000 for wife, $947,000 for husband
Child support: s. 9, $1,418-$788=$630/mo.
Spousal support range $104-$778, indefinite, mid-point of $440/mo. ordered, as reapportionment

Married 14 years, plus 3-5 years prior cohabitation, separation 2004
2 children, with wife after separation, now 20 (2nd yr. university) and 15
Husband now 70 and wife 47
Husband wealthy ($4 million in assets at time of marriage); Canadian ambassador; now retired
Family assets divided equally, $6 million each; including equal division of income-generating business interests (cranberry farms)
2006 consent order, spousal support $10,000 per month, review when husband turns 70
Husband’s income decreased since consent order, now $638,00 (including pension dealt with in property settlement ($98,000) and non-redeemable shares as remuneration for corporate directorships (approx. value for income tax $300,000)
No entitlement to spousal support given substantial share of family assets; wife sufficient capital and income to meet needs and has been adequately compensated for any disadvantage; support terminated April 2008
SSAG considered but not useful in circumstances of case.

Married 16 years, separation 2004; 3 children, 16, 14 and 11 with wife
Wife not employed after first child; after separation special ed asst., income $24,000; night courses to become teacher in 5 years
Husband truck driver; income $65,500
Child support $1290[?], plus s. 7 [May 2006 table amount for 3 children $1536 not $1290]
Husband no ability to pay periodic spousal support, confirmed by SSAG [range under based on c.s. of $1290: $0 to $29]
Wife’s economic disadvantage to be compensated through reapportionment; 64% of proceeds of matrimonial home to wife (additional $80,000 approx.)

Gagnon v. Petke, 2008 CarswellBC 964, 2008 BCSC 610 (Bruce J.)
Together 12 years (married 10), 2 children 10 and 8, with wife, husband 43, wife 49
8-year-old severely autistic, constant care and supervision, wife left job as nurse, no income
Husband chartered accountant, cohabiting, not seen children since Dec. 2007
Interim orders 2006: child support $3,000/mo., spousal support $2,500/mo., s. 7 expenses $1,500/mo.
Government funds for child $526/mo., plus $6,000/yr. for expenses
Husband’s income based on 2004-06 average, $215,400/yr.
Child support $2,859/mo. plus $1,493/mo. to s. 7 expenses
Wife seeks $2,500-$3,500/mo. spousal support, husband offers $2,500/mo.

Guidelines range stated at $1,923-$2,124, excluding husband’s non-taxable sources of income (?)
Spousal support fixed at $2,500/mo., considering reapportionment and lesser deductibility
[Estimated range $3,629-$4,445/mo.]

Married 12 years, 2 children 13 and 11, with wife, husband 48, wife 39
2006 order: child support $1,757/mo., spousal support $1,800/mo., review Oct. 2007
Wife licensed practical nurse, wanted to become registered nurse, changed plan
Wife earned $20,663 part-time, imputed income of $45,000/yr. full-time LPN
Husband’s income $125,000 in 2006, reduced to $100,000 from trucking/logging business
Spousal support reduced to $900/mo., duration for another 6 years (9 years total)
Range $426-$1,079, SSAG less application where change from previous order
Income finding for spousal support not to affect child support, continued at $1,757/mo.

Married 16 years, husband 44, wife 43, child 15, with wife, in private school, learning disability
Husband lawyer, income issues, personal law corp., earns $122,950/yr.
Wife not working, taking MBA in communications until Nov. 2008, income imputed $4,500/yr.
Child support $1,083/mo., special expenses for school, $21,868/yr., 96% by husband
Range stated as $2,734-$3,416/mo. [but if s. 7 expenses considered, $2,281-$3,011]
Reapportionment, child’s special needs, 16-year marriage
Spousal support $3,100/mo., review in April 2009 after wife’s graduation

Married 6 years (together 7), children 6 and 5 with wife, wife 28, at home
Husband major income issues, real estate developer, Germany and Canada
Income imputed for interim support $1,382,700/yr.
Child support, s. 4, table $17,100/mo., housing provided by husband’s corp., mortgage-free, expense budget analyzed, $8,500/mo. ordered ($10,500/mo. if move out of home)
Spousal support: 2001 German marriage agreement provided $3,700/mo., but court orders more
Range if $350,000 ceiling $8,050-$9,630/mo. under with child support formula
Her “need” $8,500/mo., interim spousal support $8,500/mo. ($11,000 if move), plus $2,000/mo. if wife takes retail management course

Married 7 years, husband 37, wife 43, children 9 and 7
2001 separation agreement: child support $2,500/mo., spousal support $2,500/mo.
2005 reduced by agreement to $3,500/mo. total; 2007 child support $1,303/mo., spousal $1,000/mo.
Wife working part-time at community centre, 2 days/wk., $15,600/yr.
Husband stuntman, income issues, union/WCB payments to corp., owned with new wife, $104,000/yr.
Child support $1,495/mo., s. 7 expenses $780/yr., husband pays $45/mo.
Spousal support indefinite, range $1,382-$2,067/mo., $1,800/mo. ordered, near mid-point

Married 10 years, 4 children 13, 15, 17 and 19, all with wife, husband 55, wife 50
Separated 1997, wife not worked since, by agreement between spouses, husband didn’t pay support
Family assets reapportioned 65/35 to wife, so $734,426 to wife, $395,500 to husband
Husband working half-time as vocational instructor, earning $27,000/yr.
Husband voluntarily reduced income from 2001 on, $70,000/yr. imputed, $63,000 from 2008
Child support arrears $51,362, s. 7 arrears $56,364, spousal arrears $36,000, set off vs. his assets
Lump sum child and spousal support as non-payment, husband leaving jurisdiction
Future table amounts $111,192, university and orthodontic s. 7 contribution $60,000
Spousal support: wife receives $7,000/yr. rental income, $20,000 imputed as admin assistant 2008 on
Guidelines ranges considered: $500/mo., 2002-07, $500/mo. for 12 more months, $6,000 lump sum
After deduction of future support lump sums, husband left with $74,582 from assets
[Range for $70,000 husband, $7,000 wife: $207-$502]

Married 6 years, child 4, move to Toronto with wife allowed
Husband earns $62,888, child support $580/mo.
Income imputed to wife of $32,496 in Toronto, consistent with her income history
Guidelines middle range $262/mo. [range estimated at $0-$469/mo.]

Married 26 years, 2 children 19 and 16
2006 order: reapportioned assets 65/35, child support $1,027/mo., spousal $1,500/mo., review in 3
Husband realtor, income then $80,000, wife’s $20,000 doing accounting for real estate companies
Husband applied to vary in 2004, 6 mos. later, for lower income, but dismissed
Unilateral reduction to child support only in 2005, $433/mo. for 1 child
Husband self-employed, income issues, expenses, failure to earn to capacity
Income 2004 $29,147; 2005 $21,597; 2006 $40,455; new partner too
Income imputed as $65,000/yr., child support varied as of July 2005
Child support down to 1 child in Feb. 2008, as $608/mo.
Wife now earning $40,000, formula range 0-$329 vs. $722-1,349/mo. for 2006 incomes
Non-compensatory support, reduced to $500/mo., terminating as of Jan. 2006 (3 years total)

Length of marriage not stated, 3 children: 21 not “child” and 19, with husband, 15 shared equally
Separated 1999, 2003 agreement: child support for 2, $5,000/mo., spousal support $6,000
Husband now paying child support for 1, $2,500/mo., applies to terminate spousal support
Husband lawyer, earns $672,000/yr
Wife home, returned part-time as home economics teacher, accepts full-time imputed income of $60,000
Wife remarried, new husband’s income $300,000 (but paying child and spousal support)
Range $7,736-$19,500/mo., wife seeks low end
Child support arrears ordered, ongoing $3,500/mo.
Spousal support of $6,000/mo. continued until wife’s new husband not paying spousal support (July 2009)
Then stepped down: $4,000/mo. to July 2010, $2,000/mo. to July 2011, then end (8-plus years total)
Above ceiling income, financial situation of both spouses improved

Married 13 years, 4 children 21, 19, 16 and 12
Husband claims spousal support of $1013/mo., mid-range, based on his income figures
Wife earns $93,300/yr., income imputed to husband of $97,300/yr.
Child support $1,410/mo.
Husband self-sufficient, both good incomes, no entitlement to spousal support

Married 12 years, 2 children 7 and 5, with wife, husband 37, wife 33
Both from India, wife flight attendant with Cathay Pacific, typical income $53,521/yr.
Husband home theatre technician, earns $36,000, seeks spousal support
Equal division of family assets, retroactive child support by husband
Child support $555/mo. plus s. 7 expense re nanny, $506/mo.
Income disparity, but no disadvantage, both self-sufficient, wife’s obligations to children, no entitlement
[Custodial payor range estimated $159-$212/mo., if entitlement]

Married 12 years, 4 children 12, 10, 8 and 7
Husband’s income $275,000/yr., wife no income
Child support $5,477/mo. plus $3,074/mo. s. 7 expenses
Guidelines range $2,461-$3,990, spousal support of $2,500/mo. for 12 years

Married 8 years, 2 children 11 and 8, husband 50, wife 46, separated 2002
2003 consent order: child support $1,200/mo., spousal $3,100/mo., review August 2007
Husband then earning $98,000/yr., now $125,865/yr., income issues, winemaking business
Wife home before, now employed, earning $48,000 since Jan. 2006
Child support $1,767/mo.
Husband says spousal support was restructured, paid more than Guidelines range
Spousal support to end March 2008 (total 5 yrs, 8 mos.)
[Range in 2003 estimated as $1,740-$2,354/mo., now range $917-$1,687/mo.]

Married 11 years, separated 2000, 3 children 16, 14 and 11, equal shared custody
3 prior interim agreements: 2000: child support $1,270, spousal support $933; 2001: child support $1,339, spousal support $933; 2005: child support $900, spousal support declining to $700 and then $300
Husband medical equipment salesman, $168,117/yr.; wife earns $38,000
Interim child support: oldest now with husband, others equal shared: $2,282-$667=$1,515/mo.
Guidelines range $1,827-$2,567, mid-range of $2,195/mo. ordered as interim spousal support

Together 16 ½ years (married 15 ½), children 14 and 23, adopted by husband, husband 47, wife 52
Husband investment dealer, $1.09 million in 2007, wife no income
Child support $8,647/mo. table amount
Guidelines used for interim spousal support unless exceptional circumstances
Trial in 2 months, above ceiling income, range $29,493-$34,324/mo.
Wife can get by on $25,000/mo.

Married 11 years plus 1 yr. cohabitation; separation 2006; husband 42, wife 43
3 children 10, 8, 4, shared custody, equal time
Husband lawyer, income set at $160,000/yr
Wife in marketing before marriage ($45-$55,000/yr) but home after 2nd child; plan to return to work when youngest child in school
Wife receives inheritance near end of marriage, approx. $1 million, not family asset; entire amount reapportioned to wife
Husband intentionally increases debts after separation; buys house for $1.24 million and purchases new car (payments $607/mo.)
Equal division of family assets; $865,000 each
Wife not intentionally under-employed; income from investments $50,000/yr plus interest on equalization payment $23,800/yr, total $73,800/yr
Child support: set-off of table amounts incorrectly calculated as $1,621 ($3045-$1424) [but should be $2824-$1438=$1386]; husband ordered to pay lower amount: $1000/mo (husband paying private school costs)
Original reasons 2007: no order for spousal support; wife has need; budgetary shortfall of $8,000/yr; but can rent out basement suite for $6,000, therefore no need; issue of spousal support to be re-examined if valuation of husband’s law practice or rate of return on wife’s investments not accurate; Guidelines not referred to [range under shared custody formula, benefits rotated, calculated as $575-$1603]
2008: case re-opened; miscalculation of equalization payment; wife receives $82,000 less, investment income $6,560/yr or $546/mo. lower; wife now in need; spousal support to be re-examined; husband has additional $6,560 of investment income; spousal support of $546/mo
Wife argues Advisory Guidelines; court declines to apply; both parties, especially husband, have high debt load and Guidelines not appropriate
[Range under shared custody formula, benefits rotated, using adjusted incomes calculated as $926-$1954]
Married 27 years, husband and wife 55, 2 children 23 and 17, younger with wife, Grade 12
Separated 2005, 2005 interim order: child support $563/mo., spousal support $1,750/mo.
Husband earns $77,211 as industrial relations officer with government
Child support $722/mo.
Wife field auditor, Nielsen, 56 hrs/4 wks, earns $26,000
Range $747-$1,297, spousal support of $1,000/mo. ordered, as husband contributing $175/mo. to education expenses of 23-year-old, also pays $450/mo. mandatory pension contribution
No time limit, but husband likely to retire in 2010, variation then

Married 11 years, 3 children 9, 8 and 6, with wife
Husband’s past cocaine abuse, children with him alternate weeks if his mother present
Husband stockbroker, but home from Jan. 2004 to Oct. 2006, now earns $11,000 part-time, car dealership
Wife earns $780,000/yr. as financial advisor
Husband states range as $16,220-$19,126 if $780,000; $6,738-$8135 if $350,000 [wrong formula]
Interim spousal support, exceptional circumstances, his drug abuse and capacity to earn
Income of $60,000/yr. imputed to husband, interim spousal support $1,500/mo.
[Custodial payor range at $350,000/$11,000: $2,988-$3,984; at $350,000/$60,000: $2,552-$3,403]

**Humphreys v. Humphreys**, 2008 CarswellBC 186, 2008 BCSC 24 (Crawford J.)
Married 34 years, 5 children, wife 59
Adult 25 with Down’s syndrome with wife, also 4th child, paying low room and board
Wife home, only available part-time, income of $6,400/yr. imputed
Husband school board administrator, earns $107,865, new wife “substantial income”
Child support $970 less $325 provincial disability, for $645/mo.
Interim 2003 order: child support for 2, spousal support $2,078/mo.
Range $2,035-$2,634, indefinite, order for spousal support of $2,400/mo.

Together 14 years, not married, child 10, with wife, husband 65, wife 51
Wife has multiple sclerosis, receives CPP disability $6,000/yr.
Wife economics degree, worked previously, unlike to work now
Husband economics professor, earned $124,467 in 2006
Husband went half-time in 2007, own health issues, investment income too
Husband will retire within one year, income $77,244 in 2007
Interim order Feb. 2007: child support $716, spousal support $2,087/mo. (maximum level)
Unjust enrichment: husband to pay $840,000 to wife, for house and pension
Child and spousal support amounts to continue until retirement
Duration: disability exception, no time limit (max. 13 more years otherwise), binding on estate
[Estimated range if wife $6,000: $1,287-$1,797, but $2,087 maximum if wife no income]

**Wu v. Dipopolo**, 2008 CarswellBC 164, 2008 BCSC 112 (Gray J.)
Together 12 years, married 5, 2 children 5 and 2, husband 35, wife 39
Family assets divided, debts allocated, 55% of net assets to wife
Husband operates rental, clothing, other businesses, income issues, cash transactions
Wife says $150,000, husband says $83,000, court finds $100,000
Wife student, travel and airline industry diploma, no income
Child support $1,444/mo., plus husband pays all child care, $850/mo.
No lump sum spousal support
Guidelines range stated as $1,672-$2,241/mo. [appears no s. 7 expenses considered]
Some reapportionment, but zero income, need, intends roughly equivalent standards of living
Spousal support of $2,000/mo., review in Sept. 2010 or full-time employment of wife
[Estimated range if s. 7 payments all by husband: $1,270-$1,610/mo., if shared $1,444-$1,899]

M. (K.A.) v. M. (P.K.), 2008 CarswellBC 135, 2008 BCSC 93 (Barrow J.)
Married 21 years, 2 children 17 and 14, with wife, wife 42
2005 separation agreement: child support $1,173/mo., $1,000/yr. s. 7 expenses
no spousal support, husband’s income $95,000
Husband in pharmaceutical sales, 2006 income $109,050, cohabiting
Wife home during marriage, cohabiting since separation, now earns $41,900/yr. (2007)
Child support $1,559/mo.
Miglin analysis: negotiated okay, but no substantial compliance on stage 1
Wife argues range $1,650-$2,221/mo., but repartnering
Wife still entitled, compensatory, income of $38,000 imputed to wife starting Jan. 2005
Husband’s income $100,000, range then $671-$1,300/mo.
Amount chosen at low end, as not needs-based, ending in 10 years
But repartnering, merger over time with new partner, reduce spousal support by 10% per year
Spousal support $750/mo. (2005), $600 (2006), $525 (2007), $450 (2008), etc.,

Married 18 years, 2 older children gone, 3 younger in shared custody, husband 58, wife 43
Husband earns $260,000/yr. in bakery business
2005 trial decision: spousal support $3,500/mo. plus child support
Spousal support increased to $5,000/mo. on 2006 appeal, application of SSAG
Application to vary by husband, based on wife’s cohabitation and marriage
Income imputed to wife: $50,000 from invested assets, plus $36,000 employment
Child support: set-off, $4,384 - $1,643 = $2,741/mo.
Wife found to have commenced cohabitation May 2006, new husband earns $658,000/yr.
Spousal support terminated retroactive to May 2006

Together 2 years, married 1, 1 child 21 mos., husband 31, wife 27, separated Oct. 2006
Husband adopted wife’s 8 year old child, but no relationship and no support now by agreement
Husband teacher earns $60,410, student wife’s income $17,880 (student loans)
Child support $564, plus 77% of day care costs
Consent order March 2007 for $435/mo. spousal support, after sale of home
Wife received 61% of home proceeds, paid off debts
Wife seeks support for 2-3 years to finish studies, husband says no more
Range $341-$819, spousal support of $435/mo. ordered to Dec. 2008 (18 mos. total)

Together just over 1 year, married 1 year, 1 child 11 mos., husband 32, wife 37
Wife’s interim move from Kelowna to Vancouver allowed, with child
Wife on maternity leave, marketing job in Vancouver, earning $29,500 half-time
Husband earns $89,000, Interior Health Unit, child support $815/ mo.
Interim spousal support, at half-time income, range $900 - $1,500/mo.
Short marriage, prospect of full-time employment, $800/mo., wife to notify of income changes

Married 16 years, 1 child 15, with wife, husband 47, wife 56
Child support $701/mo., husband to pay $2,500/yr. for private school, activities
Husband earns $74,432, wife earns $36,167
Spousal support indefinite, husband paid $450/mo. voluntarily since 2005
Wife earns $32,000, new job in Aug. 2007, earning $42,000
Mid to upper end of SSAG range, $750/mo. for 2007, $600/mo. for 2008
[Estimated range at $32,000: $403-$925; at $42,000: $39-$584]

Married 23 years, separated 2000, 7 children, traditional marriage, wife 52
2 children with wife, 25 mentally-challenged, 12 physical disabilities
2002 order: child support $1,800, spousal $700/mo., husband earned $81,000
2006 order: child support $988 plus s. 7, spousal $1,750/mo, husband $110,000
Review in June 2007, Guidelines applied on review
Wife part-time teaching assistant, earns $20,000/yr., could earn $30-$35,000
25-year-old receives $800/mo. disability and $500/mo. employment
Husband police officer, income with overtime $102,000, remarried, new wife has child 15
Matrimonial home reapportioned 2/3 to wife, $54,000 extra
Child support $922/mo. for one
Ranges for wife’s income $20,000: $1,627-$2,258; $30,000: $1,254-$1,913; $35,000: $1,057-$1,735/mo.
Order for $1,300/mo., until review in Feb. 2008, time for wife to seek further employment
[If range calculated as 2 children, ranges about $200/mo. lower]

Together 20 years, married 18, 2 children 21 and 17, husband 44, wife 55
Wife not working, stay-at-home mother, cares for granddaughter
Husband millwright, earns $56,195, but previously earned $71,000
Oct. 2005 interim consent order: child support $711, spousal $1,900/mo.
Mar. 2006 consent order: child support $575 (1), spousal $1,500/mo., review in 3 years, husband $71,000
Application to vary by husband, after change in jobs, new job no overtime, dismissed
Husband knew of change in jobs at time of order, chose to work less, now cohabiting
Amount ordered in 2006 still within Guidelines range, even with lower income

Married 15 years, 2 children 18 and 16, split custody, husband 58, wife 46
Husband lawyer on disability since 35, cease at 65
Wife not work outside home, no cohabiting, income of $24,000 imputed
Husband’s income $81,120 tax-free, $100,632 taxable, grossed-up $243,742
Child support: $2,033 - $220 = $1,813/mo.
Husband’s debt problems reflect poor money management
Wife entitled, more non-compensatory, range $3,800-$4,800
Exceptional circumstances: husband older, young children, wife cohabiting, her actual expenses low
Spousal support $2,000/mo. (from which husband can deduct certain debt payments), no time limit

Interim support, 2 children 18 and 14 with wife
Husband amusement park operator, corporation, income issues, $120,000 imputed
Wife earns $29,280 at Home Depot, rounded to $30,000
Child support $1,696/mo. for 2, another older child living with wife, working part-time
Guidelines range $1,611-$2,260, but exception
Abnormally high costs of maintaining home, plus $2,200/mo. mortgage
Interim spousal support $3,000/mo., plus husband continues to pay mortgage until sale or trial

Together 23 years, married 10, 2 children 22 and 17, younger with wife, husband 56, wife 58
Interim: child support $2,080/mo. and spousal $4,000/mo.
No reapportionment, equal division, payment by wife of $321,984, she keeps house
Wife copy editor, home 5 years, full-time work, 3 days/week since 2003
Wife earns $56,000, health issues, 4 days imputed, $75,000/yr.
Husband lawyer, income issues, $275,000 determined
Child support $2,277, spousal support $5,000/mo., reviewable after Nov. 2008, husband’s income
[Estimated range: $3,980-$5,679]

Together 15 years, married 14, husband 45, wife 43, 2 children 15 and 12, with wife
Separated 2000, 2002 order: child support $1,192/mo., spousal $808/mo., husband earned $97,000
2004 split custody, varied: child support $488/mo., husband earning $100,00, wife $31,000
Husband remarried, salary and retained earnings $130-$140,000
Wife earns $30,251 full-time with London Life
Child support $944/mo.
Husband seeks to terminate/reduce spousal support, wife to continue
Spousal support requested less than Guidelines range, duration 7.5 to 15 years
Order for $808/mo. for 2 years, $400/mo. for 2 years, end Sept. 2011, i.e. 11.5 years total
[Estimated range for $140,000: $1,819-$2,511]

Together 11 years, married 9, 1 child 5, with wife
Wife administrative clerk, earns $35,628/yr., home 3 years
Husband police officer, earns $83,680/yr., cohabiting with another officer
Also $18,000/yr. tax-free DVA disability payment, grossed up to $22,500, total income $106,180
Child support $956/mo.
Guidelines apply to interim support, range $1,114-$1,800
Low end of range will cover budget shortfall of wife, $1,100/mo.

Together 21 years, married 17, husband 46, wife 44, 4 children 18, 17, 15 and 10
Interim decision, husband provided generous support voluntarily for 3 years, 5 mos. to trial
Issues of income, debt, disclosure, family trust
Wife home, primary caregiver to children
Husband businesses, income goes offshore, not tax, says $900,000/yr., grossed-up to $1.6 million
Child support $30,000/mo.
Spousal support, above ceiling, range $30-$35,000/mo., order for $50,000/mo., ability to pay
[Decision upheld on appeal at [2008] B.C.J. No. 897, 2008 BCCA 214; see case summary in Appendix I, Appeal Cases]
MANIToba

(a) Appeal Cases
no cases

(b) Without Child Support Formula
no cases

(c) With Child Support Formula

Together 18 years (married 14), 4 children 18, 11, 8 and 5, with husband since 2004 separation
Wife’s income $60,500, child support $1,104/mo., plus $400/yr. for oldest child, plus 33% of net day care
Husband earns $113,383/yr.
Primary care continue with husband, wife’s time to increase to between 33 and 38% of time
Spousal support on non-compensatory basis, wife’s poor financial decision-making in past
Budget “need” of wife $360/mo. after tax, or $570/mo. gross
Spousal support of $570/mo., reducing to $470/mo. in Sept. 2009, when her income increases, no day care
Custodial payor range stated as $543-$739/mo., 9 to 18 years, at low end as non-compensatory
Duration, total of 7 years, ending Dec. 2011
[Custodial payor range actually lower, estimated at $448-$597/mo.]

Married 10 years, husband and wife 39, 2 children 13 and 9
2004 order: child support $600/mo., spousal support $650
2007 change to shared custody, husband applies to vary
Husband machinist earning $45,640 in 2004, terminated employment in 2005, for more time with children
Husband’s income now $29,300/yr., no income imputed for underemployment
Wife’s income $6,045 in 2006, $20,800 in 2007, each has new common-law partner
Child support under s. 9: husband pays $89/mo. extracurricular expenses, wife $22/mo.
Table amount $413, set-off in 2006 $331, 2007 $128, child support fixed at $350/mo. 2006, $150/mo. 2007
Husband paid $377/mo. spousal support
Guidelines range: 2006, $303-$540; 2007, 0 to 0
Spousal support continued at $377/mo. for 2006, none for 2007 and after

Together 16 years (married 13), husband and wife 44, 3 children 16, 14 and 12, with wife
16-year-old daughter serious physical and mental impairments, constant care required, wife granted respite
care services by government
Husband aircraft technician with Air Canada, earns $74,000/yr., little involvement with children
Wife works part-time in retail craft store, earns $8,200/yr., not “underemployed”
Child support $1,322/mo.
Spousal support $500/mo., both compensatory and non-compensatory, near mid-point of SSAG range
S. 7 expenses for football, basketball and band for 2 boys $1,370/yr., not daughter’s school lunch, transport
[Estimated range $294-$629 if s. 7 expenses considered; $329-$666 if not]

Married 21 years, both spouses 50 (45 at separation), 1 child 22 with wife
Daughter student, finishes university 2008, works part-time, $3,500/yr.
Nov. 2002 to May 2005: husband paid $3,000/mo. combined support, net
June 2005 divorce: child support $500/mo., spousal support $3,500/mo.
Husband then on disability, $113,645/yr., wife $10,146 income, review in 15 months
Husband applies to reduce and time limit support, wife applies to maintain
Traditional marriage, wife some efforts to work part-time, retail sales, $14,000/yr.
Wife sufficient effort towards self-sufficiency, still entitled
Husband pilot, again on disability, $131,241/yr.
Child support of $500 continued
Guidelines range $3,145-$3,911, parties used mid-point in 2005 settlement
Spousal support of $3,500/mo. to continue, indefinite for now
Judge remains seized, as child finishing school and husband returning to work
NEW BRUNSWICK

(a) Appeal Cases

Married 6 years, 2 children 9 and 5, with wife
Husband working as superintendent for parents’ rental property company, salary $42,684
Wife primary caregiver, also worked in company, now 2 jobs, call centre/retail, $19,000/yr.
Trial judge ordered child support, no further spousal support
Issues: gift vs. loan re home from husband’s parents, imputing income to husband
Gift, not loan, wife entitled to half of net proceeds from home
Couple income split during marriage, total close to $70,000, amount imputed in interim
No explanation by husband for drop in income after separation
Income imputed at $70,000, support issues remitted to trial judge
Trial judge to consider entitlement and, if entitlement, application of Guidelines
[Child support, $983/mo., Guidelines range (no s. 7 expenses): $149-$668/mo.]

(b) Without Child Support Formula

Together 8 ½ years, no children, separated June 2004, husband 61, wife 49
Husband and wife in lobster buying business together, unincorporated business, no assets
Assets divided, house sold
Husband’s income $63,000/yr. from lobster sales, rental income
Wife split income before separation, paid $30,509 in 2005, worked in retail jobs since, not working at trial
Interim spousal support order Jan. 2007 $2,666/mo., voluntary payments in 2006 $18,625 ($1,552 net/mo.)
SSAG range $669-$892/mo., 4 ¼ to 8 ½ years
Order for $892/mo., for one more year ending May 2009, 5 years total

Married 24 years, husband 60, wife 59, no children
1998 order: $470/mo. spousal support, indefinite, husband then earning $12-$16,000/yr.
Arrears not reduced
Husband disabled by 2003 accident, now receives workers’ comp and CPP, $14,415 ($5,460 non-taxable)
Husband cohabiting, new wife retired, her income reduced
Wife on social assistance, medical expenses
Change of circumstances, support reduced to $300/mo., indefinite, SSAG considered
[Range estimated as $432-$576, but payor’s income below floor income]

(c) With Child Support Formula

Married 21 years, husband 52, wife 50, 3 children 20, 17 and 15, with husband
Property divided equally, including husband’s professional corporation
Husband doctor, income issues, earns $502,984 including net income from corp.
Wife trained as nurse, home, now personal support worker, $15,000/yr. plus $25,000/yr. investments
Husband says $2,700/mo. for 2 years, interim support $4,000/mo. since Oct. 2005
Range $7,952-$10,603/mo., order for $6,500/mo., indefinite
[Estimated range at $350,000: $5,037-$6,717/mo.]
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

(a) Appeal Cases

no cases

(b) Without Child Support Formula

Married 26 years, husband 49, wife 44, adult children, traditional marriage
Wife health problems, unable to work, social assistance not included as income
Husband paid equivalent of $1,500/mo. re matrimonial home, wife in home
Spousal support April-September only issue
Husband’s 2005 income $89,715, range $2,783-$3,711/mo.
Spousal support fixed at $3,000/mo., or $15,000, less $3,500 benefits paid to wife
Total $11,500, to be paid $400/mo.

Married 18 years, 3 adult children, separated 1996
Various support orders since 1996: 1999 varied to child support $260/mo. (2), spousal support $190/mo.
Husband applied to terminate spousal support, 2003 injured arm, says no income, depends on partner
Wife bartender, work injury to back, cohabited 10 mos., now ended, just a factor, college studies, finishing June 2008
Guidelines quoted re uncertain duration in medium marriages
Support to continue until Dec. 2008 at $190/mo.

26 year marriage; 3 children now adult; separation 2006
Wife homemaker, disability (MS in 1989)
Separation agreement dividing property; unequal division of property, wife gets parties RRSP’s worth approx. $100,000 from which to draw income and providing for spousal support of $150 bi-weekly until husband’s retirement, then re-negotiate
Husband’s income unclear; had been earning between $90,000 - $100,000 but had been suspended by union; now studying and earning $18/hr
Wife unhappy with spousal support; argues would have gotten more under Advisory Guidelines; applies to set aside agreement on various grounds
Agreement fair; no basis for setting aside agreement or spousal support provision

24 year traditional marriage, 2 children, separate 2002
Husband fisherman in own business; income at least $50,000 (could be $60,000); Wife health issues, very limited ability to earn income, income either zero or $4,500
Spousal support $2000/mo
SSAG used as litmus test for reasonableness of award:
- if h $50,000 and w 0, range $1,500 - $2,000
- if h $50,000 and w $4500, range $1365-$1820
- if h $60,000 and w 0, range $1800-2400
- if h $60,000 and w $4500, range $1665-$2220

(c) With Child Support Formula

Married 12 years, separated 2000, 1 child 17 with wife
Husband works at Husky Oil in management, income rose from $50,000 (2000) to $123,566 (2008)
Child support $989/mo., retro child support back to Nov. 2001, underpaid by $11,000
Spousal support both compensatory and non-compensatory
Wife home, support husband in school, moved for his employment, in retail sales
2005 incomes used for spousal support: husband $70,778; wife 14,850
Range $800-$1,283/mo., $800/mo. ordered, for another 3 years (total 10-11 years)
Retro spousal support ordered back to 2001, using low end of SSAG range, $65,796, reduced to $40,000
To be paid in 2 lump sums, plus $1,000/mo. for 14 months
[Range using 2008 incomes $2,113-$2,857/mo.]

Married 15 years, husband 42 and wife 39 at separation, separated 2001, 3 children 21, 18 and 12
Husband management at Iron Ore Co., earns $138,463/yr.
Wife own music business, earns $7,680/yr.
2002 separation agreement: no spousal support, child support $350/mo. per child, husband $500/mo. for wife’s house expenses, 70% property to husband, wife no independent legal advice
Agreement set aside: non-disclosure, fundamental breach as husband didn’t comply, unconscionable
Child support of $700-$800/mo. below table amount of $1,400/mo.
Spousal support: $1,202/mo. would be low end of SSAG range, so $500/mo. well below
Agreement also set aside for no substantial compliance

Together 5 years, married 4, separated 2001, wife 37
3 children of previous relationships: 17 on own, 15 group home, 13 with new partner’s parents
1 child 12, with husband since 2005
Wife seeks child support for 3 and spousal support
Husband not in place of parent, 6 year delay, wife living with another man since 2004
Spousal support both compensatory and non-compensatory, wife home during relationship
Wife on social assistance (not income), also some waitressing $4,991 (2005)
Husband earned $29,991 (2005)
Lump sum for past, without child support formula used, no child support by wife
Range $1,875 - $2,500/yr., mid-point $2,187/yr. for 3.75 years, $8,203 lump sum
[Custodial payor range: $127-$169/mo. for 2.5-5 years, global $3,810-$10,140 ($8,213 net)]

Together 12 years, married 7, husband 35, wife 38, 2 children 9 and 2, week-about shared custody
Wife works in family business, bankrupt, earns $23,800 (including car, cellphone)
Child support: set-off agreed, $1,020 - $353 = $667, plus $274/mo. by husband for child care
Dec. 2005 interim order: child support $793/mo., spousal $250/mo.
1995 cohabitation agreement/marriage contract: wife waived spousal support
Miglin analysis: fairly negotiated, compliance then, but 1st child not planned, financial problems of wife
Range based on rotated child benefits: $364-$901, standard of living analysis, mid-range
Spousal support of $620/mo., review 6 months after youngest starts Grade 1
NOVA SCOTIA

(a) Appeal Cases

Together 10 years, 2 children 10 and 11, with wife
Husband long-distance trucker, income issues, estimated at $40,000, child support $579/mo.
Wife home, stress problems, no income
Trial judge ordered 2 lump sum payments, totalling $4,700, as 22 mos. retroactive spousal support,
but no ongoing support
Following Advisory Guidelines, indefinite order substituted, $214/mo. based on trial amount

(b) Without Child Support Formula

Married 20 years, no children, wife 3 teenage children when married, husband 65, wife 70
Matrimonial assets divided equally, wife gets house, cottage, etc., wife to pay husband $299,205
Husband keeps business assets, wife shareholder and employee of publishing business
Wife paid $35,000/yr., continuing after 2002 separation until 2006
Wife awarded 35% of value of companies, plus Toronto property, husband to pay wife $507,900
Final net payment, husband to wife, of $208,694
Wife entitled to non-compensatory spousal support, not a traditional marriage
Wife receives pension income of $25,400 from CPP, RRIF, OAS, plus $12,000 imputed interest on
equalization payment, total income $37,400
Husband earns $70,000 from businesses, cohabiting, assets could produce greater income
SSAG range $815-$1,087/mo., $800/mo. ordered, indefinite
Husband’s net disposable income stated to be “only marginally higher” at $815/mo.
[At $815/mo., wife left with 46% of NDI, $500/mo. less than husband]

**Wong v. Wong**, 2007 NSSC 266 (Stewart J.)
Together 25 years (married 15), husband 60, wife 63, no children
Husband papermaker, now retired, pension and municipal councillor, new partner (employed)
Husband’s pension $35,232/yr., all accumulated during relationship, divided at source, half each
Wife hairdresser, various jobs, caring for husband’s parents and her own mother
Assets divided equally, matrimonial home sold
Wife seeks upper end of SSAG range, claiming $1,406-$1,875/mo., husband says $1,155/mo.
Interim support $1,000/mo. for 10 months, wife unlikely to earn more income
Husband’s councillor income $13,846/yr ($4,615 not taxable) [grossed up $16,131/yr.]
Spousal support of $300/mo., inclusive of $155/mo. health insurance
[Guidelines range estimated as $504-$682/mo.]

Married 34 years, 5 adult children, husband 58, wife 60
Husband teacher and principal, on reserve, earns $59,000 non-taxable
Wife no income, worked in various clerical jobs, ran convenience store on reserve, now closed
Husband lives with family and girlfriend
Wife lives in matrimonial home on reserve, son, daughter, son-in-law, their 2 children
Wife seeks one-half of his net income as spousal support, estimated at $2,478/mo.
Guidelines range calculated on net income, as $1,844-$2,458/mo., tax issues raised
Support of $1,731/mo. ordered, less than minimum
Husband’s employment expenses, wife’s children should contribute, wife can work part-time
Non-deductibility a factor, duration to be indefinite
[Non-taxable exception would apply, also 50% net income cap at $2,345/mo.]

Married 25 years, separation 1999, 2 children now independent

Wife full-time homemaker after second child
Divorce 2000; husband earning $43,680 and wife $14,560; 1 child still dependent
Court order for $374/mo child support, plus s. 7 and $400/mo spousal
Husband additional training and works extensive overtime to increase earnings
2007, child support ended, wife applies for upward variation
Husband’s income $71,641 and cohabiting with new partner earning $17,323
Wife’s income $28,000
Wife presents SSAG range [calculated as $1364-$1783] and seeks increase to $1,600/mo [midpoint]
Court orders $1000 per month; husband cannot be expected to continue to work extra overtime because of age and health

(c) With Child Support Formula

Together 14 years (married 6), 2 children 12 and 6, with wife, husband 43, wife 34
Matrimonial home to be sold, matrimonial assets divided equally
Husband sales rep. for pharmaceutical company, paid by salary, commissions and benefits
Fluctuating income, $156,074/yr.
Child support $1,981/mo.
Wife worked part-time as assistant manager at restaurant, earned $15,100 in 2006
Quit job, child care problems, pay problems, proposes home-based catering business, no income
Wife seeks $3,683/mo. based on SSAG mid-point if wife no income
Order for $2,000/mo., indefinite, but self-sufficiency possible in 4 years, left to variation
[If wife no income, range $2,992-$3,825/mo.; if $15,100, range $2,578-$3,394/mo.]
[If wife full-time income $25,000, range $2,236-$3,095/mo.]

Married 16 years, 1 child 14 with husband
2005 interim order: no child support by wife, spousal support $600/mo.
Wife health issues, post-partem depression, then schizoaffective disorder
LTD benefits plus CPP Disability, $5,544 plus $9,840, total $15,393/yr.
Spousal support non-compensatory, duration not indefinite, 13 more years (16 years total)
Husband works at car dealership, earns $48,000 (including bonus), new partner and her 2 children
Custodial payor range $233-$420/mo., but spousal support to continue at $600/mo.
Higher as her need and inability to manage, severe disability, parenting time and access expenses
Child support $128/mo., no undue hardship as adjusted already in spousal support
[Exceptions applicable: disability, non-primary parent to fulfil parenting role]

Ellis v. Ellis, [2008] N.S.J. No. 102, 2008 CarswellNS 126 (O’Neil J.)
Together 16 years (married 13), 1 child 12, equal shared custody, husband and wife 39, separated 2004
Husband earns $38,500/yr., licensed practical nurse, wife $35,000 as medical clerk at hospital
No child support, as husband pays 100% of s. 7 expenses, okay under s. 9 ($336-$308=$28 if set-off)
Wife worked throughout, husband new partner (also LPN)
Entitlement based on interdependency, from 2006 petition, 3 years spousal support
$200/mo. for 2006 (range $160-$214); $175/mo. for 2007 (range $183-$245); $150/mo. for 2008-05-20

Married 17 years, wife 50, children 19 and 15
Older child with husband, engineering student, younger with wife
Wife underemployed as lecturer, not sufficient effort, earns $31,741/yr.
Wife says SSAG range $1,566-$2,288 using $136,000/yr. as husband’s income
Husband engineering professor, income determined as $125,000/yr.
Child support, split custody: $1,025 - $280 = $745/mo. interim
Spousal support $600/mo. interim, indefinite, review fall 2008
[Estimated range if wife earned $50,000: $643-$1,376/mo.]

Married 6 years, plus 7 prior cohabitation; 2 children 12 and 10; separation 2007
Wife worked full-time in homecare during marriage; husband’s parents cared for children
Since 2006 father working in Alberta two weeks out of three
After separation wife took stress leave from work; children residing with grandparents; wife moves back to Ontario with her mother
Custody to husband; husband to pay all wife’s access costs from Ontario
Wife’s income $7200; no child support payable
Husband’s income $96,000
Spousal support ordered under provincial legislation: lump sum of $5000 to wife to buy car so she can work in homecare; periodic support of $500 per month for 18 months.
SSAG not applicable because of a “number of variables” including husband’s payment of wife’s access costs
[SSAG range under custodial payor formula $978-$1307; even if wife earning $30,000, range would be $730-$973]

Mid-length marriage, 2 children 15 and 7, with wife
Husband mechanic, now earns $26,000 in new common-law partner’s business
Partner a substantial income
Income of $50,000 imputed to husband, given past employment, former business
Wife continuing care assistant, just started employment, earns $24,000/yr.
Child support $715/mo.
Property divided equally, plus $7,000 for husband’s former business
Entitlement to spousal support, but Guidelines range suggests no amount of support
But husband’s cohabitation, lower shelter costs, $200/mo. ordered
[Guidelines range 0 to 0 at $50,000, 0-$268 at $60,000]
ONTARIO

(a) Appeal Cases


Interim support appeal allowed in part
Married 20 years, 2 children, with wife
Husband earns $127,453, child support $1,731/mo., plus $7,000/yr. s. 7 expense for dance
Wife no income at hearing, depression at separation, worked part-time since birth of second child
$34,000 imputed in Sept. 2007 as part-time French teacher, full-time by Sept. 2008
Interim spousal support of $2,000/mo. ordered, from August 2006 to August 2007, then terminated
Factors and objectives of Act not discussed, nor SSAG raised in argument
Interim support to continue until Sept. 2008, subject to further order
Guidelines range $1,179 to $1,940, mid-point of $1,563/mo. ordered from Sept. 2007 until then
“No articulated basis for departing from the Guidelines”


19 year marriage, separation 2004, no children
Husband completes B.A. and B. Ed. during marriage; then teacher earning $65,000; 1999 new job with teacher’s federation; income increases in last 3 years of marriage and continues to increase after separation: 2003, $81,800; 2004, $120,000; 2005, $132,000; 2006, $140,000
Husband new partner with two young children, staying home, receiving $700 per month child support
Wife worked during marriage, sometimes full-time, sometimes part-time; also took university courses;
average earnings $30,000; income $41,000 for 2 years before separation unusually high
Wife depressed after separation; unemployed and on disability benefits; back to full-time employment,
earning $30,000
October 2004, interim support $2000/mo
either party able to request review in 2009; no retroactive support; no reference to SSAG even though parties argued
Wife’s appeal allowed
Trial judge made errors in finding of fact relating to wife’s employment and potential new relationship
Wife’s claim for support primarily non-compensatory
Husband’s obligations to second family not to be relied upon to reduce support; new partner capable of working:
No basis for review order; no specified uncertainty
Support to be made retroactive to Oct. 2004; consistent with SSAG which include interim support in calculating duration of awards
Time-limited order appropriate; seven years of transitional support
Incomes determined by averaging incomes earned in 3 years prior to separation and in the year of separation; result: husband $89,825 and wife $35,500
Trial judge’s order replaced by order of spousal support for $3000 per month (for 3.5 years) beginning October 2004, step-down April 1 2008 to $1,500 (for 3.5 years); terminating Sept 1, 2011 (7 years total)
SSAG a “useful tool” or “litmus test” in determining reasonableness of award; when counsel address SSAG; trial judges should provide reasons if award amount outside range
Range: $1,290 to $1,720 ($15,483 to $20,644 annually), 9.5 to 19 years
Court’s award outside range for both amount (higher) and duration (lower), but allowed by restructuring because with global range [global range: $147,088 to $392,236; trial judge’s global award $94,200, outside range; Court of Appeal’s global award $189,000, within global range, at low end]
(b) Without Child Support Formula

Together 10 years, husband 59, wife 53, no children
Wife waitress/bartender, earns $14,000/yr.
Husband mould maker at glass co., earns $68,225/yr.
Both worked throughout, both children of previous relationships
Dispute re commencement of cohabitation, 1994 vs. 1996, found to be mid-1995
SSAG calculations by both, range $678-$904/mo., 5 to 10 years
Order for mid-point, $791/mo. for 8 years from separation
Interim order for $700/mo. from May 2006, separation August 2005

Married 35 years, 3 adult children, husband 65, wife 61, separated 2003
Wife unemployable, due to age and medical condition, no income
Husband chartered accountant, earned $110,000/yr., retired 2005, monthly payments from accounting firm
Husband’s income $63,588/yr., from part-time accounting, CPP, OAS, monthly payments from firm
2004 interim order $3,000/mo., but not paid
Dec. 2007 without prejudice interim agreement for $1,200/mo.
Husband claims large debt load, wife seeks $3,000/mo
Order for $2,000/mo., “consistent with guidelines”, some credit for debt payments
[Estimated range $1,987-$2,540/mo.]

Married 30 years, separated 1999, husband and wife 60, traditional marriage
3 children 28, 25 and 22, 2 older with husband, younger with wife after separation
Child support to wife ended 2007
Since 2000, spousal support of $925/mo.
Support increased to $1,070/mo. in 2007 plus $150/mo. for medical insurance
Husband federal government employee, earned $96,000 til retirement in 2008
Husband’s pension $46,747/yr. ($19,000 less after division), remarried, new wife earns $5,000/yr.
Wife nurse, worked 4 days/week in doctor’s office, around child care obligations, earned $40,000/yr.
Wife retired at 60 in 2007, pension $21,897/yr.
Husband applies to terminate/reduce support, wife seeks to continue $1,070/mo.
SSAG “not help in achieving a just result”, $600/mo. ordered, indefinite, plus $150/mo. insurance
[Estimated range: $777-$1,035/mo.]

Together 18 years (married 15), husband 55, wife 49, no children
Wife moved twice during marriage for husband, medical lab technologist
Only full-time since June 2007, earns $76,208/yr.
Husband not appear at trial, no financial statement, no NFP statement
Husband millwright at Chrysler, earns $123,193/yr.
Guidelines range $1,057-$1,410, mid-point of $1,235/mo. ordered
Duration 9 to 18 years, not indefinite, 9 years ordered
Property equalization, $100,000-plus to wife

Campbell v. Campbell, [2008] O.J No. 2168 (Linhares de Sousa J.)
Together 5 years (married 2 ½)
Jan. 2005 unrepresented agreement for $500/mo. spousal support to Jan. 2007
Separated July to Dec. 2004, husband paid half rent of $500/mo., voluntarily
Reconciled spring 2005 to Oct. 2005, voided agreement
Husband earns $38,596/yr., $42,000 previously, pays $400/mo. for previous child
Wife gets full-time permanent job in Feb. 2006, rehabilitation assistant, $37,880/yr.
Compensatory support: wife moved to Edmonton and back for husband, cared for his child
Transition to self-sufficiency needed
**Appendix III: Case Summaries by Province: Ontario, Sept. 12, 2007 - July 10, 2008**

Guidelines range $89-$118/mo., 2 ½ to 5 years, not accepted
Spousal support from July 2004 to Jan. 2006 of $500/mo. for 18 months

Togethe 18 years (married 8), no dependent children, interim support
Husband earns $120,000, wife $64,300
Wife experienced reduction in standard of living, frugal budget
Interim support of $1,250/mo. ordered, lower end of range sufficient for reasonable living standard
[Guidelines range $1,253-$1,671/mo.]

**Smith v. Smith,** 2008 CarswellOnt 1921 (Conway J.)
Married 10 years, husband 41, wife 50, no children
Entitlement based on need, “lengthy marriage”
Wife disabled at marriage, obsessive-compulsive disorder, physical problems
Earns $6,300/yr. as personal care worker, ODSP social assistance $10,872/yr.
Wife seeks support of $1,556/mo., interim support of $1,200/mo. from June 2007
Husband earned $45,866 in 2006 as diver, etc., only $32,927 in 2007
Guidelines range $390-$520, 5 to 10 years, but dollar-for-dollar deduction from ODSP
Guidelines rejected, $1,200/mo. ordered, no time limit, no review
[No mention of disability exception]

**Dor v. Traynor,** [2008] O.J. No. 1212 (Graham J.)
Married 14 years (cohabited 20?), 2 children 13 and 11, husband 48, wife 52
Interim dual nesting order, but husband failed to pay support, home sold
Children in temporary care of family & children’s services since Sept. 2007
Wife no income, disabled, degenerative disc disease, employability for trial
Husband earns $85,000
Interim spousal support based on need, $2,400/mo. ordered, considers medical expenses of wife
Guidelines range if 14 years, $1,488-$1,983/mo.; if 20 years, $2,125-$2,833/mo.
Plus $400/mo. on arrears, also advance on equalization ordered

**Ferguson v. Ferguson,** [2008] O.J. No. 1140, 2008 CarswellOnt 1676 (Hambly J.)
Married 22 years, husband 54, wife 49, 2 children 22 and 19, younger with wife, working
2004 orders: child support $600, spousal support $1,304/mo., spousal continued in 2006
Husband analyst in government, earns $80,833/yr., new partner since 2004
Wife arthritis, unable to work, modest income at best, $3,429/yr.
Cessation of child support a change in circumstances, even if spousal support not previously reduced
Range $2,129-$2,838/mo., 37.8 to 46.8% NDI to wife, order for $2,700/mo., indefinite

Married 25 years, husband 52, wife 48, 2 adult children, traditional marriage
Interim support $1,300/mo.
Husband firefighter, but heart attack, kidney disease and diabetes, blind
Wife on workers’ comp and CPP Disability, $15,116 ($6,371 non-taxable), cohabiting, partner $30,000
Guidelines range stated as $1,500-$2,000/mo., 44.9 to 51.5% NDI
Order for $1,500/mo., within customary range (36.6 to 47.5% NDI)
Support to terminate on his retirement in Sept. 2012, then OMERS pension split
[Range with gross-up for wife’s income, $1,432-$1,909/mo.]

Together 15 years (married 7), no children, husband 58, wife 44, separated 2004
2005 separation agreement: $130,000 to wife, equalization and lump sum support, waiver of support
Application to set aside 6 months later, lump sum support $25,000 to $29,000
Not in compliance at stage 1 of Miglin
Husband skilled tradesman at Ford Motor
His income: 2005 $129,093; 2006 $109,837; 2007 $90,000

Wife rural mail carrier, income 2005 $23,949; 2006 $25,956, 2007 $25,956, then lost job

Spousal support: 2005 $2,500/mo.; 2006 $2,000/mo.; 2007 $1,500/mo., Guidelines considered
[Range 2005 $1,971-$2,629/mo.; 2006 $1,573-$2,097; 2007 $1,201-$1,601]

Husband retired at end of 2007, support to be reconsidered

Langdon v. Langdon, 2008 CarswellOnt 545 (Kane J.)
Married 29 years, 1 adult child, husband 50, wife 49, traditional marriage
Husband paying $1,733/mo. since June 2007
Husband says income $100,000, nickel industry, offers $3,125/mo., using SSAG range ($3,125-$4,167)
Wife says he earns more, $122,000-$194,000, nickel bonuses
Interim spousal support $3,800/mo., Guidelines more important where limited information

4 year cohabitation, both parties 32
Both working at beginning of relationship but then wife starts university and now half way through degree
Husband’s income $120,000; wife’s income $21,892 (student loans and part-time earnings)
Interim support under Family Law Act: $500 per month from Nov. 2007 until earlier of May 2009 or trial (19 months)
Court uses husband’s SSAG calculations [not specified] and chooses low end of range
[Estimated range: $491-$654, duration 2 to 4 years]

Long traditional marriage [length not specified], 2 children
Divorce 2003: husband’s income $71,749, wife’s income $32,175; child support $945 per month plus education expenses under s. 7, plus $400 per month spousal support
Child support ends December 2006; wife seeks increased spousal support
Husband’s income now $79,363; wife’s income $49,230
Spousal support of $1000/per month ordered; strong compensatory claim
SSAG ranges presented and referred to as helpful guide but not specified
[Estimated range if marriage 20 years, $753-$1004; if 25 years range $942-$1256]

3 year marriage, no children
Husband Canadian citizen, wife Ethiopian; marry in Ethiopia in 2003; wife arrives in Canada in 2005; separation 2006;
Under immigration sponsorship agreement husband obligated to support wife for 3 years, until Dec. 2008
Husband’s income $52,329, 4 children from prior marriage; paying child support, amount not specified
Wife on social assistance and studying English; part-time employment income of $480/mo ($5760/yr) imputed
Interim spousal support under Family Law Act; wife seeks $1500/mo
Court orders $900/mo, payable until Dec. 2008 [giving wife $1,200 per month with part-time work]; above high end of SSAG range; justified by husband’s sponsorship agreement
[Range if no deduction for prior child support obligation: $175-$233, duration 1.5 -3 years]

42 year traditional marriage with 6 children, separation 2004
Husband retired
Agree to split husband’s pension [each $416 per month]; not included in equalization
Husband’s income after pension division $26,220; wife’s income after pension division $13,512
Range $397-$530, wife asks for $1000 per month [including pension] to equalize incomes under SSAG
Court orders $400 per month; equalization not appropriate; husband had assumed debt; wife had additional income from inheritance, husband’s employment pension and RIF already divided in equalization(?); wife will have income from equalization payment
(c) With Child Support Formula

Married 7 years, 2 children 6 and 5 and step-daughter 15
Husband convicted of sexual assault on step-daughter, under appeal
Husband, income issues, various companies and contracts, imputed $125,000
Wife earns $32,700/yr.
Interim child support of $1,977/mo.: $2,209 (3), less $232 paid by biological father
Interim spousal support: range $811-$1,654/mo., order for $800/mo.
Order for arrears of child and spousal support of $30,029

Married 19 years, 3 children 17, 15 and 11
Oldes with husband, other 2 with wife, youngest special needs
Wife works part-time at bank, earns $21,840
Husband had serious motor vehicle accident, structured settlement
Determination re loss of income portion, $18,337/yr. non-taxable, grossed up to $25,000/yr.
Plus $20,000 from investments plus $16,000 imputed income on investments, total $61,000/yr.
Interim child support, split custody, $961-$186 = $775/mo., trust funds pay s. 7 expenses
Wife used higher husband’s income of $128,440 for SSAG range of $967-$1,483/mo.

**Lewis v. Lewis**, [2008] O.J. No. 2227 (Gray J.)
Married 15 years, 2 children 16 and 12, equal shared custody, separated 2006
Husband commercial real estate agent, salary and commissions, fluctuating
Husband earned $977,930 in 2007, average income $850,000/yr.
Wife part-time teacher, for a while, $43,120/yr.
Interim child support $10,225/mo., also s. 7 expenses of $59,964/yr. ($4,947/mo.)
Previously husband paid $15,500/mo. plus s. 7 expenses
Wife seeks interim spousal support $14,828/mo., husband offers $7,500/mo.
Lifestyle considerations, much left to trial judge, SSAG “little, if any, application”, high income
Interim spousal support of $9,000/mo. ordered

Married 37 years, 3 children, 22-year-old disabled son, with wife
Family jewellery company, both worked in company
Husband breached understanding, selling off company inventory
Income of $125,000/yr. imputed to husband
Child support: table amount $1,068/mo., less $746 disability pension, $322/mo. ordered
Wife obtained new job after separation, earns $37,827/yr.
Interim spousal support: long-term marriage, wife in matrimonial home
Husband operating business, wife took steps to obtain employment
Mid-point SSAG range, $3,000/mo. ordered
[Adult child with child support formula range: $2,496-$3,328]

**P.G. v. N.L.**, [2008] O.J. No. 2045 (Kane J.)
Together 3 years, child 2 with wife, also 3 children of wife’s first marriage
Allegation of sexual abuse of 13-year-old, supervised access of 2-year-old
Husband works in mining, average income $67,900
Child support $638/mo. (1)
Wife medical receptionist, 13 hrs/wk, $8,400/yr.
Husband pays $400/mo. for another child, wife receives $1,400/mo. child support
Interim spousal support, judge recalculates range as $695-$1,007/mo.
Mid-point of $848/mo. ordered
[if UCCB included in wife’s income, range $627-$944]
Appendix III: Case Summaries

Married 10 years; separation 2006; husband 42, wife 38
2 children 11 and 7, custody contested, sole custody to wife
Equalization of property contested; marriage contract set aside on basis of non-disclosure; $360,000 to wife
Husband in family business, income $60,000/yr
Wife limited part-time work during marriage; new part-time job after sep; income $24,400/yr
Child support: $902/mo plus sharing of s. 7 expenses
Spousal support: $125 per month, SSAG range of $0 - $129 considered; indefinite; pre-determined time-limit not appropriate; Fisher distinguished as non-compensatory case [para 515]

Separation 2003, 2 children 17 and 13, with mother
Husband fails to disclose, answer struck, fails to appear at hearing
Income imputed at $100,000/yr., wife’s income approx. $20,000/yr.
Interim child support $1,404/mo., insufficient evidence on interim to establish s. 7 expenses
Interim spousal support $1,000/mo., Guidelines range $925-$1,684
Low end of range because of uncertainty re wife’s income
Support orders retroactive to August 2006

**Miles v. Swick**, 2008 CarswellOnt 1658 (Pazaratz J.)
Married 20 years, separated 1998, husband 60, wife 57, children 23 and 20, traditional marriage
1999 separation agreement: $3,000/mo. spousal support, no child support
husband earning $119,000, wife $21,000
Now 1 child home with wife, in college
Oldest child in Alta., not dependent, but husband pays $7/800 voluntarily, not considered
Spousal support to be indefinite, following Guidelines
Wife educational assistant, earns $30,000
Husband real estate agent, variable income, issues re expenses, also pension $991/mo. from previous job
Husband’s income $90,000/yr., child support agreed at $1,100/mo., table plus expenses
Spousal support $1,100/mo. [Guidelines range $916-$1,480/mo.]

**D’Vaz v. D’Vaz**, 2008 CarswellOnt 1492 (Backhouse J.)
Married 24 years, husband 59, wife 50, 4 children 24, 21, 18 and 13
Oldest with husband, no child support, other 3 with wife
Husband air conditioning business, income issues, cash income, estimated $185,000
Interim child support for 3, $3,103/mo.
Guidelines range $3,103-$4,201/mo.
Mid-point of $3,809/mo. ordered for interim spousal support, leaving wife 59.3% NDI
Long-term traditional marriage, good lifestyle, husband in matrimonial home, wife in apt., debts

**Emery v. Emery**, 2008 CarswellOnt 1165 (Gordon J.)
Married 16 years, separated Jan. 2004, husband 43, wife 38, children 18 and 15
May 2004 separation agreement: wife net proceeds from home sale, release support claims
Reconciliation for 18 months, re-separated in Dec. 2005, pension release survives, not spousal release
Wife working in retail store, catering part-time, income $24,000-plus
Husband machinist, earns $63,000
Oldest child in community college til 2009, employed part-time, support only for education expenses
One child amount of $584/mo. to wife, net difference to 2-child amount of $360/mo. direct to older child
Both debts, totalling $42,000-plus, Guidelines range $121-$490/mo.
Spousal support of $300/mo., indefinite, starting Jan. 2010
Lump sum support of $8,000 and husband to pay debts in meantime

Married 9 years, 2 children 13 and 9 with wife, separated May 2002
Husband earns $81,475 at Ultramar, child support $1,177/mo.
Income of $15,000 imputed to wife in clothing business
Husband paid spousal support of $750/mo. for 3 years, to end of 2005, none since
Guidelines range $673-$1,201/mo., husband seeks review when youngest child 12
No review after Leskun, expect wife to be self-sufficient within 5 years; if not, basis for variation
Spousal support of $800/mo., from Sept. 2005

Tremblay v. Tremblay [2008] O.J. No. 420 (Kane J.)
Together 7 years (married 4), separation 2005, husband 29, wife 27
3 children 7, 4 and 3 with mother; 1 child has learning disability
Husband post-separation income increase; from $56,000 to $100,000 (2008 estimated)
Wife attending school since separation; no work or school 2007/08; return to school Sept. 2008; no income attributed
Interim child support, Dec. 2007, $1983/mo., based on husband income of $100,000
Interim spousal support ordered $1,400/mo., mid-point of Guidelines range
Court notes that indefinite support not likely to be ordered at trial given short term of marriage, wife’s age and the educational qualifications she is obtaining
[Guidelines range: $1202-$1604 with no UCCB; with UCCB, $1,058-$1,469]

Two children 8 and 6 with wife, husband’s pleadings struck for non-disclosure and he didn’t attend
Unequal division of property
Husband electrician, own company, income “guesswork” at $75,000
Child support $1,098/mo., plus $117/mo. for summer camps under s. 7
Wife not employed, home, older child autism, younger learning difficulties
No interim order since Aug. 2006 separation
Spousal support of $1,250/mo. from Dec. 2006, SSAG considered
[Guidelines range estimated $1,097-$1,400]

Married 22 years, plus another year of cohabitation (?), husband 46, wife 45
2 children: 26 on own; 19 in college, lived with wife until Apr. 2007, now with husband
Wife home, now works 3 days/wk. with Hearing Society, earns $22,000/yr.,
Husband operates grocery business, big issues of income, disclosure and lifestyle
His income found to be $108,000, cohabiting with partner (earns $30,000)
Retro child support to wife at $938/mo., but wife now to pay $188/mo.
Interim spousal order Apr. 2006 for $3,500/mo., $1,000/mo. paid in 2007 ($1,700/mo. in 2005)
Income of $45,000/yr. imputed to wife, as of Jan. 2009
Spousal support at $3,500/mo., retro to Feb. 2005, then $2,500/mo. until Jan. 2009
Fisher applied, to find duration of 7 years total, another 4 years to go, so $1,000/mo. for last 3 years
[Estimated custodial payor range, 23 years: $1,984-$2,645/mo at $22,000; $1,440-$1,921 at $45,000]
[Estimated without child support range, 23 years: $2,473-$3,297/mo.]

Lalonde v. Lalonde, 2008 CarswellOnt 308 (S.C.J.) (Hennessy J.)
Married 17 years, 1 child 9, husband 43, wife 44
Husband earns $50,612, heavy equipment mechanic, cohabiting, her 3 children
Custody shared 2 ½ years, not principal residence to wife, child support $467/mo.
Wife cohabiting since July 2007, home 2 years in marriage, worked evenings, now in college
No spousal support paid to date, need/disadvantage, but no SSAG calculations by counsel
Spousal support $500/mo., indefinite, variable, wife should make self-sufficiency goal over 5 years
[Estimated range: $1,002-$1,244/mo., but recipient cohabiting]

Married 17 years, 2 children 15 and 13, equal shared custody
Wife employed NRC $34,230, husband electrician, own co., income issues, $82,560
Interim child support: $1,191 - $508 = $683, plus $250, for $933/mo.
Interim spousal support: range if simple set-off $141-$829/mo., $600/mo. ordered

Married 22 years, 2 children 21 and 19 in university, UVic and Carleton
Wife teacher, earns $50,400, no imputing for full-time or summer months
Husband broker RBC Dominion, will earn $153,140 in 2007 (earned more in 2005 and 2006)
Big s. 7 university expenses paid by husband: $42,201/yr.
First determine NDI split at first stage, then sort out spousal support, s. 7 cost-sharing at second stage
NDI 58% to husband, 42% to wife
2nd decision: no change in NDI split because of _Fisher_
Older child no longer child of marriage
Wife to contribute $228/mo. in 2008 for 2007 s. 7 expenses of younger child
Husband to pay spousal support of $2,633/mo., starting Jan. 2008

Married 20 years, 2 children 14 and 16, with wife in Edmonton
Husband in Parry Sound, doctor, 3-yr. average income $389,700
Wife home with children, now in law school, no income
No binding interim agreement, husband paid $12,000/mo. April 206 to June 2007
Child support $4,772/mo., plus $500/mo. for s. 7 summer camps
Wife seeks $10,126/mo. spousal, husband offers $8,000/mo.
Interim spousal support $8,800/mo., due to costs of access, recent income increase
[Estimated range $8,196-$9,818/mo.; if $350,000, $7,205-$8,794/mo.]

Together 18 years, 16 married, husband 48, wife 43 (38 at separation)
2 children 18 and 12, younger with father, older away at school in Winnipeg
Interim 2004 order, split custody: child support $661, spousal $1,750/mo., husband earned $83,000
Wife home during marriage, thyroid problems and fibromyalgia, no income
Husband hardrock miner, back problems, now shuttle bus driver at mine, earns $73,215
Wife entitled, husband paid support for 5 years, wife seeks $2,100/mo, indefinite
Mid to upper range, custodial payor: $1,562-$1,785/mo.
Spousal support of $1,750/mo. ordered, review in 2 years, concerns re health, employment effort
Husband much more debt, also borrowed for older daughter’s hairdressing education

Together 2 ½ years, 1 child 2, shared custody, wife 37
Wife earns $25,000, 28 hours/wk. in human resources
Husband computer systems analyst, earns $80,000
Child support $506/mo., plus 50% of gross day care costs, i.e. $188/mo.
Spousal support limited duration, not impute income now, $700/mo. for 2 years, similar living standards
[Estimated range $676-$1,268, $1,225/mo. for 50/50 split of NDI]

Together 2 years, husband 34, wife 35, child 1, and wife’s 6-year-old child of previous marriage
Wife brain tumour and seizures since April 2006, earned $100,000, now unable to work
Wife on long-term disability, $34,416/yr. non-taxable, $13,824 CPP
Husband human relations manager, earns $79,900, cohabiting (partner earns $50,000)
Child support $707/mo., at $78,400
Interim spousal support, $750/mo. for 7 months, husband argues SSAG
Order for $500/mo., 2 more years
[Estimated range 0 - $162/mo. if wife’s disability grossed-up; 0-$438/mo. if not]

Married 14 years, 2 children, wife 45

2007 consent interim order, husband says income $96,000, spousal support $400/mo.
Husband’s actual 2007 income $175,000, as broker, changed employers in 2006
Husband’s incomes: 2004 $67,000; 2005 $53,000; 2006 $162,700
At $175,000, child support $2,282/mo. plus $159/mo. net day care
2008 income estimated as $157,500, child support $2,079 plus $153/mo.
Spousal support: wife claims $2,000/mo., earns $49,230/yr.
Range stated at $175,000: $1,833-$2,900/mo. [seems to assume no s. 7 expenses]
Spousal support $1,500/mo. in 2007 and 2008
[Range, considering s. 7 expenses, at $175,000: $1,765-$2,811; at $157,500: $1,389-$2,327]

Together 12 years, married 10, separated 1995, 2 children 19 and 17, older with husband since 2005
Child support $343/mo. since 2005, equalization payment by wife to husband $77,590
Wife lawyer, not worked since 1997, outstanding wrongful dismissal action, claims disability,
no medical evidence, no support sought until 2005, interim dismissed then
Wife seeks $1,500/mo. support retro to 2001
Husband aeronautical engineer, earns $105,723
No compensatory basis, non-compensatory only, wife former primary earner in marriage
Wife says income $56,000, but non-disclosure and no credibility, income imputed $72,203 (low)
Child support: $921 - $662 = $259, plus wife to pay share of university expenses
No entitlement, wife no need, could earn more, Guidelines show zero range
Spousal claim dismissed, subject to review [variation?] if change

Married 22 years, 2 children 19 and 17, wife 50
Child 19 at university, husband paying $23,000/yr, no child support order
Husband earns $345,597, mining executive, child support $2,701/mo. for 1 child
Interim spousal support: wife seeks $8,125/mo., husband offers $3,000/mo.
Wife home with children, artist, husband’s income for spousal $281,480 (stock options excluded)
No income imputed to wife, out of work force 20 years, but high-risk career
Interim order $5,000/mo., mid-point of low-to-medium SSAG range

Married 8 years, 2 children
2003 order: child support $1,031 and spousal $1,500/mo., indexed, review in 3 years, husband $80,000
2007 review: child and spousal support now $2,818/mo.
Wife working at call centre in 2003 ($15,000/yr.), now started as court reporter, $30,000
Husband paid spousal support for 7 years, not much longer, review in 1 year (Nov. 2008)
Original amount on high side vs SSAG, Guidelines used $750/mo, mid-range
[Estimated range, at $30,000 for wife: $163-$846/mo.]

Interim decision, 2 children 14 and 11, husband 43, wife 44
Husband earns $74,000 as environmental officer, wife day care worker $42,000
Exclusive possession of home to wife until sale
Children primarily with wife, week-about shared custody to commence March 2008
Child support $1,085/mo. to March, then $1,476/mo. ($79,000 for husband)
Wife seeks spousal support $1,000/mo., parties provided SSAG calculations
Order for $400/mo. until wife moves
[Estimated range: sole custody 0-$372, shared custody 0-$517 (if $79,000)]

Married 16 years, 4 children, now just one aged 17
Husband earns $56,719, wife earns $19,875
Child support $526/mo., spousal support $623/mo.
Guidelines range: $192-$623, upper end to recognize s. 15.3 Divorce Act
**Appendix III: Case Summaries by Province: Ontario, Sept. 12, 2007 - July 10, 2008**

Married 9 years, husband 35, wife 32, 2 children 13 and 9, with wife
2002 separation agreement: child support $750/mo. plus $1,000/yr. clothing, spousal $750/mo., 3 years
Husband’s income all dividends from corporation, $81,475
Child support $1,177/mo. plus $333/yr. section 7 expenses
Wife owns retail clothing stores, negligible income, $15,000 imputed
Wife unemployed in 2002, agreement assumed community college, her change of plans
Mediated agreement, no independent legal advice to wife
Agreement set aside, parties to submit Guidelines calculations
[Estimated range: $1,349-$2,065/mo.]

Married 5 years, 2 children 6 and 3, husband no answer, uncontested trial
Husband earns $48,945, child support $737/mo.
Wife unemployed in 2006, now at Scotiabank earning $17,900
Guidelines range $100-$336/mo.
Order for $200/mo., 7 mos. from Aug. 2006 to Feb. 2007 when unemployed
Child and spousal arrears, mortgage payments by wife all paid out of husband’s share of house proceeds

Together 5 ½ years, married 5, 1 child 5, husband custody of 2 children of previous marriage
Wife’s allegations of sexual abuse against husband, not verified
Custody to wife, unsupervised access to husband
Husband earns $59,566
Wife graphic designer, 2001 earned $53,013, web business, losses, on social assistance
Child support $554/mo., plus $240/mo. for counselling fees
Spousal support: husband should have paid for 6 mos. after July 2006 separation
Husband to pay $1,200/mo., from Dec. 2007 to May 2008
Amount higher than SSAG, low end of “customary range”, due to his 2 children
[Estimated range $1,010-$1,264; if notional deduction for husband’s 2 children, $591-$775]

Together 3 ½ years, married 2, 1 child 3, with wife, substantial time with husband
Husband earns $79,561 as plumber, child support $716/mo.
Wife home full-time 1 year, part-time after, owned florist business since 2000
Never made any money, wife could earn $18,400 as employee, limited options in small town
Interim consent order Mar. 2007: $700/mo. spousal support
Guidelines range $812-$1,115, $900/mo. ordered
4 factors for lower end: short cohabitation, wife living with parents, budget balanced,
full child support paid despite substantial time by husband

Interim, children 10 and 5, shared custody, home sold Oct. 2007
Husband’s SSAG range $1,888-$2,992, if his income $165,000, hers $45,000
Wife says his income $222,000, range $4,500-$5,500/mo.
Husband’s income determined as $204,000, no precise ChequeMate calculations
Table amount for husband $2,618/mo.
Wife in college, no income, “rough equality” intended
Interim child support $2,000/mo., spousal support $4,000/mo.

Married 20 years, 3 children 20 (university), 17 and 15 with wife
Wife bus driver for OCTranspo, $40,000, home 1987-95
Husband did not appear or disclose, income imputed as $96,000 based on bank statements
Child support $1,762/mo.

Spousal support $270/mo., at low end of Guidelines range, wife and children with 57.9% NDI
Unequal division of property, husband reckless, all equity in home to wife

Married 10 years, 2 children 9 and 7, equal shared custody
Husband broker, income issues, non-disclosure, 3-year average $180,367
Wife flight attendant, part-time, earns $30,394
Interim child support $2,344 - $448 = $1,896
Wife submits SSAG calculations based on husband’s 2006 income of $253,988
Calculations “not helpful” as different income finding
Interim spousal support $1,200/mo.
[Estimated range, at $180,367: $2,610-$3,570]
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

(a) Appeal Cases
no cases

(b) Without Child Support Formula
no cases

(c) With Child Support Formula

Together 11 years, 2 children 10 and 5 with wife
Wife homemaker, no income exception social assistance
Husband fisherman, owns motel, income issues, expenses, $60,000 imputed
Child support $848/mo.
SSAG calculations for different incomes, to be recalculated and top end of range awarded, as addendum
[Estimated range $848-$1,108/mo.]
QUEBEC

(a) Appeal Cases
no cases

(b) Without Child Support Formula
no cases

(c) With Child Support Formula
no cases
SASKATCHEWAN

(a) Appeal Cases
no cases

(b) Without Child Support Formula
no cases

(c) With Child Support Formula

Married 3 years, plus 2-3 cohabitation; separation 2005
1 child now 4; joint custody primary residence with wife
Wife grocery clerk before marriage; limited part-time after child; husband miner in North; gambling issues
No property; husband bankrupt and wife debts
Interim order Jan. 2006, based on husband’s income of $67,035 and wife’s income of $10,600: child
support $522/mo (table amount 1 child) plus s. 7 child care and spousal support of $750/mo
Husband laid off from mining job; no intention to return to mining; now earning half of previous income;
tentionally unemployed; income imputed as $67,000
Wife training as medical office assistant completed by trial, but no employment yet
Child support not specified, by consent order [2006 table amount, $579]
Low end of SSAG range (stated as $880/mo) based on husband’s imputed income of $67,000 found “too
high” because of “contingencies or risks associated with imputing income” plus likelihood of
wife’s income increasing in immediate future
Court orders $750/mo based on interim award
[Range based on 2006 child support tables and incomes of $67,000 and $10,600: $783-$1187; based on
1997 child support tables, $862-$1277]

Married 17 years, 4 children under 16, with wife
Husband earns $1156,255/yr., corporate retained earnings matter for trial judge
Interim child support $2,421/mo.
SSAG “not much help” for interim spousal support, wife’s income not stated
Husband paying family home expenses (amount not stated), also $1,700/mo. voluntary spousal support,
total more than $475 above upper end of SSAG range according to husband’s counsel
Interim spousal support $2,500/mo. [if wife’s income zero, range $1,027-$1,502/mo.]

Husband earns $107,579/yr., Sask. Energy, substantial overtime
Interim child support for one $600/mo.
No income stated for wife, working same job, interim spousal support $800/mo. based on “need”
Guidelines “should not be applied”, no explanation

Together 24 years, married 20, 3 children 21, 18 and 17
Oldest in university, each parent pays $600/mo, 18 on own, 217 home with wife
Interim spousal support, Sept. 2005: $12,500/mo., husband’s income $300,000
Dec. 2005 consent order: $6,500/mo., review in 3 years
Wife works part-time for Weight Watchers, earns $3,000/yr., seeks support under SSAG
Interim spousal support at $6,500/mo., until trial of issues of entitlement, etc.
[Estimated range at $300,000 if child support for one, plus $600/mo. each: $7,606-$8,941/mo.]
[Estimated range if child support for two, plus $600/mo. each: $6,650-$7,854/mo.]
Nykiforuk v. Richmond, 2007 CarswellSask 675, 2007 SKQB 453 (Ryan-Froslie J.)
Together 17 years, married 12, 2 children 17 and 7 with wife
Wife home, U.S. art and design certificate, $2,400/yr. rent only income
Husband musician, corporation, income issues, $65,000
Interim child support $910/mo., s. 7 expenses not proved, left to trial
Interim spousal support: no income imputed to wife, range $801-$1,090/mo.
Husband voluntarily paid (including $1,061/mo. mortgage) $4,000/mo. 2005,
$3,000/mo. 2006-07, $2,000/mo. since Aug. 2007
Interim order for spousal support of $1,100/mo.

Together 15 years, married 12, children 8 and 17
Wife on disability, back and fibromyalgia, since before marriage, $14,862/yr.
2005 interim order: child support $1,075, spousal $1,750/mo., husband earned $88,722
Custody varied from principal residence to wife, to shared custody
Husband earns $93,209
Child support $1,062/mo. by set-off
Guidelines range for spousal support $771-$1,275
Order for $850/mo., for roughly equal monthly cash flow, review in 2 years

4 ½ yr. marriage; wife only 18 when married; separation 2004; 1 child now 5; joint custody; primary
residence with wife
Wife living with parents; working part-time in father’s landscaping business
Interim order 2006; child support $297/mo., (husband’s income approx. $40,000); no spousal; husband
paying off debts and mortgage on matrimonial home
Husband’s self-employed cabinet maker; issues re income; found to be $52,000
Wife depression and stress from alleged abuse during marriage plus whiplash injury from automobile
accident; income $17,303 (including $100/mo UCCB); claims unable to earn more at present time
due to health
Child support: $443/mo, table amount, no s. 7, no retroactive
Advisory Guidelines referred to re duration under with child support formula; support to be indefinite
rather than time-limited
Spousal support: $500 per month for next 11 months then review; review to include medical evidence of
wife’s state of health; hope that wife to will be able to overcome her anxiety/depression and low
self-esteem once proceedings over and increase her income; if health problems chronic husband
not to be responsible
[SSAG range not referred to: calculated as $157-$486 based on wife’s income $16,103 plus claim for
UCCB; range $173 $507 if wife’s income $17,303]
(b) **Without Child Support Formula**

Married 5 years, refugees from Zimbabwe, to Toronto then Yellowknife in 2003
Interim spousal support, triable issue re entitlement
Compensatory support claim, wife supported husband while his accounting education
Wife seeks $1,000/mo., she in 1st year of 4 year nursing program
Husband cohabiting, partner working full-time, no income stated for husband
Interim support of $700/mo., more than “very modest amount” under SSAG proposed by husband

(c) **With Child Support Formula**

no cases
YUKON TERRITORY

(a) Appeal Cases
no cases

(b) Without Child Support Formula
no cases

(c) With Child Support Formula
no cases