

## CONSENT AGREEMENT TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF THE CHILD(REN)

This Agreement made this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_

**BETWEEN:**

Leanne Toews, MA, RCC, HTC

(the "Interviewer")

**AND:**

(the "Parent")

**AND:**

(the "Parent")

**WHEREBY IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Parents wish to have the views of the following child(ren) heard and recorded verbatim by the Interviewer for use in their litigation, access or custody hearing, or related court proceeding:

**NAME** (Surname, Given Name, Middle Name)

**DATE OF BIRTH** (MM/DD/YYYY)

I.

II.

III.

IV.

V.

**INITIALS** \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Interviewer is, and will remain, a neutral and impartial party to any litigation, access or custody hearing, or related court proceeding, and will listen to the views of the child(ren) to report back to the Parents and the court/legal counsel to assist them in making decisions about the child(ren). Hearing the view of the child(ren) is voluntary, unless a court orders otherwise. The child(ren) must agree to share their views. They will not be forced to share them. The views of the child(ren) will be put into writing, verbatim. Each party acknowledges that if the child(ren) discloses information during the interview that indicates the child(ren) is/are in need of protection as set out in Section 13 of the CFCS Act (attached as Schedule "A"), then the Interviewer must immediately report this to the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) Child Protection.

3. The Interviewer is free to share the views of the child(ren) and corresponding report with: a lawyer for any party, the court, and a lawyer for a child(ren) (if applicable), but all parties agree that the information will only be shared if the receiving party keeps the information confidential. All parties agree to keep the child(ren) views confidential and between themselves, unless the child(ren) consent otherwise.

4. If the child(ren) are over the age of 12, they must also provide written consent to being interviewed, and must sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement as an addendum to the Professional Services Agreement.

5. The Interviewer will meet with the child alone, or with a neutral party who may act as an observer. The neutral party can be selected with the agreement of the parties, or the Interviewer will arrange for one. The neutral party who attends the interview must keep the interview discussions confidential.

6. The parties agree that they will tell the child(ren) about the interview beforehand, but not tell the child(ren) what to say, or press the child(ren) for details after the interview.

7. The Parents agree to participate in the transportation of the child(ren) to or from the interview.

**THIS AGREEMENT** shall serve as informed consent to hear the views of the child(ren).

By signing below, the Parents and the Interviewer agree to the above terms of the Agreement, and the child(ren) being interviewed:

LEANNE TOEWS, MA, RCC, HTC

the "Interviewer"

**INITIALS** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Leanne Toews

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

MM DD YYYY

the "Parent"

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

MM DD YYYY

the "Parent"

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

MM DD YYYY

INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_