

**FORMING REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS FOR THE
COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE PROCESS**

<i>What Collaborative Practice <u>is</u>:</i>	<i>What Collaborative Practice <u>is not</u>:</i>
A non-adversarial approach to conflict resolution	A conflict-free approach to conflict resolution
Centered on interest-based negotiation (focus on “why”)	Centered on positional bargaining (focus on “what”)
An opportunity for your own growth	A promise of happiness or a chance to change the other person
Demanding work, both for clients and the professional team	A short-cut to divorce
A cost-effective investment of client resources and professional services	Simple or cheap
Clients learn problem-solving skills, to apply in resolving future disputes	A magic cure – problems and conflicts still will occur in the future
A process that moves at the clients’ and team’s pace	Always faster than litigation
Tailored to the needs of each client and family, within an established framework	The same cookie-cutter process for everyone
A divorce	Pleasant or easy
A process providing for equal input from both clients	A way to manipulate the process or outcome for your own motives
A foundation for a healthy future co-parenting relationship	A guarantee of a perfect future co-parenting relationship