

SUPPORT PERSON: ***Bringing Other People to Our Meetings***

We understand the value of bringing someone to your meetings with us in order to offer emotional support, take notes for you, and/or assist with our communication.

We are happy to accommodate your need or wish to have someone with you at our meetings, however, please note that ***solicitor/client privilege does not extend to your support person.***

All communications between a client and a lawyer are covered by solicitor/client privilege. That means the information shared in our meetings is confidential and cannot be disclosed to anyone outside of our office without your (the client) consent. Your support person is not our client, and information that person hears is not protected by solicitor/client privilege. In rare cases, the support person can be made to give evidence (testimony) about what they heard in lawyer-client meetings. We can work around this problem by asking your support person to leave our meetings if we are discussing things that we would not want them to be obligated to disclose.

In addition, if your support person is a romantic partner or could potentially be an adverse party in your matter, we will not be able to represent you in future matters involving your support person. This includes family law matters (e.g., cohabitation agreements/marriage contracts) and civil claims (e.g., named defendants in car accident claims), etc.

Please consider this carefully when making your decision whether or not to bring your support person to our meetings.