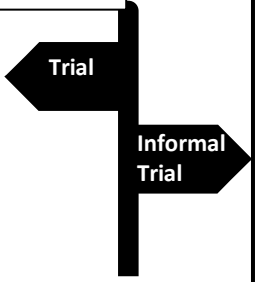


Informal Trial Process | Kamloops Registry Pilot

The judge at an informal trial has control over the trial process. They may adapt the process depending on the case to better meet your needs. You should follow the trial judge's direction but your informal trial experience may look like this:

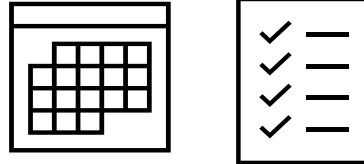
During your pre-trial appearance...

The judge explains that you have the option of an informal trial. They explain the process and refer you to more info.



You can review the resources and talk to a lawyer before you decide which process is best for you. The informal trial process is voluntary and you must file a consent form if you agree to it.

After the parties file consents and the judge agrees to an informal trial process, your case is scheduled for an informal trial. Use the How to prepare for an Informal Trial Guided Checklist to help prepare for the informal trial.



At the informal trial...

The judge explains the informal trial process and the expectations for everyone. The judge makes sure everyone understands.



At today's informal trial...

The parties and the judge have agreed to the informal trial process.

Each party is invited to give an opening statement.

We can't agree about...

I want you to order... because...

A judge at an informal trial may...

- Ask you to explain the issues in your own words
- Identify the issues to be resolved at the informal trial
- Ask questions to help understand your story and make sure you have covered information about each issue
- Allow a witness other than a party to give evidence

Could you please tell me your story?

Do you have any documents to introduce?

Each party gives their evidence, without the other party interrupting.



The judge helps facilitate the cross-examination.

Are there any other questions you want me to ask?



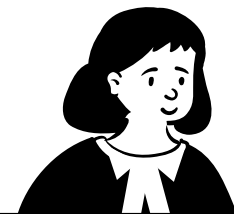
If the judge agrees that other witnesses would be helpful...



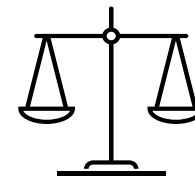
The parties have their witnesses give evidence.

Closing Statements

The evidence supports the order I am asking for and is in the best interests of the children...



Each party is invited to make a short closing statement about the issues and how the judge should decide the issues.



The judge will consider what each party says and the evidence which has been provided to determine if it is important to the case.

The judge can sometimes make a decision before you leave the courtroom...

...but sometimes the judge needs more time and asks the parties to return to hear the decision or gives it in writing.



Final Order

THE END



Scan the QR code using your smartphone camera to go to more family law resources

