

Advocacy and Support Groups

These references are provided to help clients of the Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) who are seeking additional information or assistance related to child access, support and other family issues. MEP does not endorse any of the following groups and makes no representation about the accuracy of any information they may provide or of the descriptions below.

The Equitable Child Maintenance and Access Society (ECMAS)

ECMAS indicates that it focuses on the healthy development and well-being of children from separated and divorced families. The society's mission is to assist and support members of these families and educate society and public officials about their needs.

The society has two functions: (1) to provide support and information for families and individuals engaged in the family court process; (2) to lobby for changes to family law in Alberta and Canada.

Contact (Edmonton):
13920-135 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5L 3Y8
Fax and Message Line: 780-666-3776
E-mail: ecmas@ecmas.ca
Website: <http://ecmas.org>

Men's Educational Support Association (MESA)

MESA indicates that it is an organization devoted to helping families and fathers in domestic crisis, including domestic violence, and to making available the emotional and legal resources that fathers require during family breakdown.

Contact:
Gus Sleiman MESA
P.O. Box 4691, Str. C
Calgary, Alberta T2T 5P1
Phone: 403-228-6366
E-mail: info@mesacanada.com
Website: www.mesacanada.com

Men's Help Line

Located in Edmonton, the Men's Help Line is a volunteer organization that offers referrals to services for men and women experiencing marital or relationship breakdown. Referrals include social agencies, counselling, shelter services, lawyers, psychologists, and crisis referrals. The Men's Help Line also offers support group services and coordinates referrals for individuals dealing with abusive situations. The Help Line accepts calls from across Alberta and links people with the appropriate services in their areas.

Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 7 days a week

Phone: 780-452-7193

Movement for the Establishment of Real Gender Equality (MERGE)

MERGE indicates that it promotes equal rights and understanding between the sexes. It lobbies persons in authority and provides public information efforts, such as small conferences. An area of particular concern is abuse within families, including false accusations of such.

Contact:

Ferrel Christensen, President 780-488-4593

Fax: 780-482-6648

E-mail: ferrel.christensen@ualberta.ca

- MEP has other Information Sheets, on a variety of helpful topics. To see them, visit MEP's website at www.albertamep.gov.ab.ca.
- To contact MEP, phone 780-422-5555 or toll-free in Alberta at 310-0000.
- To view information about your MEP file, log in to *MEP Accounts Online* on MEP's website and select "Account login".