



**Family Dispute Resolution
Institute of Ontario**

N O V E M B E R 2 3 - 2 7 , 2 0 1 5



ALL IN THE FAMILY: Family Dispute Resolution Under One Roof

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

~Ryerson Student Centre/Oakham House
63 Gould Street, Toronto~

Bringing together a diverse network of Family Dispute Resolution practitioners, legislators and clients, the first Annual FDRIO Conference. We welcome expertise, skill and collaboration from all corners of the FDR community. The conference promises an impressive cast of speakers, engaging workshops, the voice of clients, diverse approaches to case scenarios and creative engagement with participants.

BREAKFAST 8:30-9 A.M.

WELCOME: WHAT IS FDRIO? 9-9:15 A.M.

KEY NOTE ADDRESS: 9:15-9:30 A.M.

Premier Kathleen Wynne

OPENING PLENARY: 9:30-10:30 A.M.

Dr. Bernie Mayer, Professor of Dispute Resolution
& author of *The Conflict Paradox*

BREAK: 10:30-10:45 P.M.

MORNING WORKSHOP: CLIENT PANEL 10:45-12 P.M.

From the Eyes of the Client: Hear directly from clients who experienced different FDR processes, including mediation, arbitration and collaborative practice. Did they feel they had input in the outcome and/or the process? What did they like best about the process? How did the process impact their relationship with their former spouse? How did it affect their children? What did it cost? What do they wish their FDR professional had done differently? These real clients will offer insight into what is working and how our processes can be improved.

LUNCH & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 12-1:30 P.M.

BREAK: 1:30-1:45 P.M.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOP: CASE SCENARIO 1:45-3:00 P.M.

CPD Credits Pending

Untangling Harry & Harriet: Clients facing separation and divorce have several out of court options; such as - traditional negotiation, mediation and collaborative practice. This workshop will develop a sophisticated understanding of differences between the options so clients can choose the right process with the right professionals for them. We explore screening and assessment, client intake, use of other professionals, client involvement and management of impasse and follow up post agreement

CLOSING PLENARY: 3:00-4:30 P.M.

Where Do We Go From Here? A creative, interactive brainstorming session designed to engage conference participants in generating ideas to shape the future of FDRIO and create the goals and priorities of the FDR field. Issues include access to justice, diversity, collaboration and more.

ENTERTAINMENT: Kamal Akhtar

FEATURED

Bernie Mayer, Ph.D., Professor of Dispute Resolution, The



Werner Institute, Creighton University, is a leader in the field of conflict resolution. Bernie has worked in child welfare, mental health, substance abuse treatment, and psychotherapy. As a founding partner of CDR Associates, Bernie has provided conflict intervention for families, communities, universities, corporations, and governmental agencies throughout North America and internationally for over 35 years. Bernie's latest book, (January, 2015) is *The Conflict Paradox, Seven Dilemmas at the Core of Disputes*. Earlier books include: *The Dynamics of Conflict*, *Beyond Neutrality*, and *Staying With Conflict*.

Dr. Barbara Landau, President, Cooperative Solutions, Psychologist, Lawyer, Mediator. President of FDRIO, a Certified Comprehensive Family Mediator and Chartered Arbitrator.



Barbara has been awarded the:

- Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and
- Women's Intercultural Network Award for exceptional community service
- Mc Gowan Award from ADR Institute of Canada
- "Long Term Achievement" Award from Family Mediation Canada,
- "Distinguished Mediator Award from Association for Conflict Resolution,
- "Award for Excellence in Dispute Resolution" from Ontario Bar Association.
- Lifetime title of "Fellow of Canadian Psychological Association" for outstanding contribution to clinical psychology.

Barbara co-authored the *Home Court Advantage Report: Creating a Family Law Process that Works* and served on the Attorney General's Expert Advisory Panel on Family Law Reform. She co-authored "*The Family Mediation, Arbitration & Collaborative Practice Handbook*" with Lorne Wolfson & Niki Landau; "*From Conflict to Creativity*", with Sy Landau & Daryl Landau and numerous articles on mediation and collaborative law. Barbara participated in 3 Compassionate Listening missions to Israel and Palestine. She co-chairs Canadian Association of Jews and Muslims (CAJM), and co-founded "Together in Hope", a Jewish, Palestinian/Arab women's dialogue group.

Dr. Julie Macfarlane is Professor of Law and



Distinguished University Professor at the University of Windsor. She has researched and written extensively on dispute resolution and in particular the role of lawyers. Her books include *The New Lawyer: How Settlement is Transforming the Practice of Law* (University of British Columbia Press 2008) and *Islamic Divorce in North America: Choosing a Shari'a Path in a Secular Society* (Oxford University Press 2012). Her current research is with self-represented litigants in family and civil court (The National Self-Represented Litigants Research Project; see www.representing-yourself.com)

Barbara Jo Fidler, Ph.D., C.Psych., Acc.FM. is a clinical developmental psychologist. She has worked with high conflict separating/divorcing families conducting assessments, professional consultations, expert testimony, mediation, arbitration,



therapy and parenting coordination for over 29 years. Dr. Fidler provides training to judges, lawyers and mental health professionals and has presented at numerous conferences. She is co-author of four books: *Child Custody Assessments* (2008), *Challenging Issues in Child Custody Disputes* (2008), *Best Practice Guide: Responding to Emotional Harm & Parent-Child Contact Problems in High Conflict Separation* (2013), and *Children Who Resist Post-Separation Parental Contact: A Differential Approach for Legal and Mental Health Professionals* (2012). She has been actively involved in the development and training of parenting coordination services and was appointed to the AFCC Task Force charged with developing guidelines. Dr. Fidler is on the editorial board of the *Family Court Review*. She is co-founder of *Family Solutions* and maintains an independent practice. Dr. Fidler is Past President of AFCC Ontario (2011-2012) and currently sits on the BOD of *Overcoming Barriers*, a nonprofit organization.

Victoria Smith JD, C.Med., Cert.CFM (FMC)



Victoria is a family lawyer in practice over 30 years. For nearly 15 years she has confined her work to Collaborative Practice, Mediation and training. She is a member of Chestnut Collaborative Solutions, a group of 11 independent Collaborative Professionals in Toronto practicing in two locations. She is an accredited comprehensive mediator.

Victoria's life work is to help her clients resolve conflict wisely and with dignity, and to support an evolution in the legal profession from adversarial advocacy to conflict resolution advocacy. She has successfully resolved hundreds of mediations and collaborative cases. Committed to the growth of Collaborative Practice and settlement advocacy, she provides workshops for collaborative professionals regarding CP, negotiation and advocacy across North America and internationally. She is an Adjunct Professor of Collaborative Lawyering at Osgoode Hall Law School. She is co-author of *Collaborative Family Law, Another Way to Resolve Family Disputes* and numerous articles on Collaborative Practice. Victoria is a member of the Board of Directors of Collaborative Practice Toronto and a former member of the Board of Directors of the IACP.

Fareen Jamal L.L.B. L.L.M.



Fareen practices family and estate litigation at Jamal Family Law Professional Corporation in Oakville, Ontario. She has assisted clients with significant assets, complex property protection needs, multi-jurisdictional holdings and interests in family businesses. Fareen is a trained professional in Collaborative Family Law, and an accredited mediator. She also serves as a Deputy Judge in Milton and Burlington.

Fareen serves as the Vice-Chair on the Ontario Bar Association's Family Law Section since 2009 and will serve as Chair to the Executive in 2017. She is a board member of the Ismaili Conciliation and Arbitration Board since July 2012. Fareen completed her masters in law, specializing in family law, in 2012. Fareen was the 2014 recipient for the OBA Young Lawyers Award.

Vivian M. Alterman, MBA, CPA, CA, CBV



partner of AP Valuations Limited, a boutique valuation firm specializing in matrimonial and other litigation matters. Ms. Alterman is a Chartered Business Valuator (1997 - *achieved highest mark in Canada*) and Chartered Accountant (1995). She has completed

the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants in-depth tax course (1996), has a Master of Business Administration (1992), and is a member of the ADR Institute of Ontario and Collaborative Family Law Practice of Toronto.

Ms. Alterman has appeared as an expert witness in Ontario. Ms. Alterman was a consultant to DIVORCEmate software on the spousal support advisory guidelines. Additionally, Ms. Alterman is co-author of *Financial Principles of Family Law*, Carswell Legal Publications 2001 and author of various articles and seminars for the legal and valuation communities.

Deborah Graham, B.A. Hons, LL.B., Acc.FM (OAFM)



Deborah's family law practice has been entirely devoted to Collaborative Practice and Mediation for the past ten years. Deborah teaches Collaborative Lawyering to the upper year law

students at Osgoode Hall Law School and is a faculty member of the newly launched IACP Training Faculty. She has spoken or led workshops about Collaborative Practice and growing your settlement practice at the annual conferences of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals, the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, and the Ontario Collaborative Lawyer's Federation. She is a Collaborative Practice Toronto board member.

Deborah has recently launched The Settlement Clinic, A Resource for Family Dispute Resolution Professionals which is currently offering a one year program - Growing Your Settlement Practice. Visit www.DeborahGraham.ca or www.theSettlementClinic.ca to learn more. Follow Deborah on Twitter @DeborahGraham15 for program updates and her settlement blogs.

When she is not collaborating, mediating or teaching, Deborah is hanging out in the woods with her teenage son who is a nature photographer or she is ballroom dancing

Tom Dart, L.L.B. was called to the bar in 1976. In the



early stages of his career, he practiced as a criminal lawyer, a civil litigation lawyer and a family law lawyer. He now practices only in the area of family law and alternative dispute resolution.

Tom has appeared at all levels of Court in Ontario from Ontario Superior Court of Justice to the Ontario Court of Appeal. He has conducted many trials and many successful negotiations.

Tom is a mediator providing private mediation services and by way of contract to the Mediation Centre, Barrie. Tom has assisted many mediation clients in resolving their disputes on a comprehensive basis - settling custody and access issues as well as financial issues such as property division and support. Tom is also an experienced Arbitrator of family law disputes and has been retained as an expert in family law malpractice claims. He also conducts practice reviews on behalf of the Professional Development and Competence Department of the Law Society of Upper Canada.

Tom has been married to Colleen for over 40 years and together they have five children and seven grandchildren. Tom enjoys golfing, cycling and spending time with his family when he is away from the office.

Nicole Aylwin is the Assistant Director of the Winkler Institute for Dispute Resolution, a justice innovation hub dedicated to improving access to justice. She is also the Executive Director of the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice and an adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School.



Nicole currently works on issues related to access to justice, dispute resolution and innovation in the justice system. She is a co-editor of the *Journal for Arbitration and Mediation* and is a lead researcher on several access to justice research projects and pilots, including the *Family Justice & Mental Health Social Lab*, a joint project with Legal Aid Ontario and the Ontario Psychological Association.

Sheila Brown MSW RSW Acc.FM (OAFM) specializes in working with families through the process of separation/divorce. In her Family Professional role in Collaborative Practice Sheila works with separating couples to restructure their communication and set new boundaries in their relationship. Sheila provides mediation to parents who wish to develop parenting plans. As a Neutral Facilitator Sheila manages the collaborative team process and works with clients and team members to assist clients in reaching agreement in an interest based process. Sheila has been a leader in the Toronto area in the development of interdisciplinary team practice and has provided training to collaborative professionals in Canada and the United States. Sheila is a member of the Board of Directors of Collaborative Practice Toronto.



Dr. Richard W. Shields L.L.B., M.A., L.L.M., Ph.D is a lawyer, mediator, arbitrator, and trainer. Admitted to



the practice of law in Ontario, Canada in 1976, he now restricts his professional practice to Collaborative Law, family mediation, family arbitration, and training in all of these disciplines. Rick has an M.A. in Conflict Resolution, an LL.M. in ADR, and a Ph.D. in Adult Education. He is a

Certified Specialist in Family Law (Law Society of Upper Canada), a Certified Comprehensive Family Mediator (Family Mediation Canada), a Chartered Mediator and Chartered Arbitrator (ADR Institute of Canada), a Certified Family Mediator and Certified Family Arbitrator (ADR Institute of Ontario), and an Accredited Family Mediator (Ontario Association for Family Mediation). He is a past certifying administrator for Family Mediation Canada, a past president of the ADR Institute of Ontario, a past president of the Ontario Association for Family Mediation, and currently an officer and director of the Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario. Rick is an adjunct professor in the Certificate in Dispute Resolution and Certificate in Family Mediation programs at York University. He is a co-author of *Collaborative Family Law: Another Way to Resolve Family Disputes*. For more information, please visit Rick's website at www.familydisputeresolution.com

Impact (a.k.a. Kamal Akhtar) is a Canadian MC/rapper and spoken word artist from Toronto, Ontario. He has been performing since the early 2000's at local anti-war protests and interfaith gatherings across the Greater Toronto Area. As a dedicated fan of hip-hop and showcasing a talent for poetic lyricism, he has used rap music to express his ideas to the world and inspire audiences of all demographics. Visit www.twitter.com/impactemcee for more information.



Lorne Wolfson was called to Ontario Bar in 1977. Senior Partner, Family Law, Torkin Manes, Toronto LLP. Appointed as Dispute Resolution Officer of the Ontario



Superior Court of Justice and member of Family Rules Committee and Professional Advisory Committee of Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto. Lorne is author of, *The New Family Law*

(Random House, 1987). Co-author of "Money & Family Law" (Carswell) (1986-2014), "The Best of Money & Family Law" (Carswell, 1998), "Family Mediation, Arbitration and Collaborative Practice Handbook, 5th Edition" (Lexis Nexis, 2009) and "The Controlling Mind" (Carswell, 2012). Wrote the "Child Support Guidelines Workbook" for the Department of Justice Canada. Cited in the Canadian Lexpert Directory 2000-2014 as a consistently recommended leading family law practitioner. Included in 2006-2014 editions of Best Lawyers in Canada. Member, ADR Institute of Ontario. Completed Mediation and Domestic Violence training and Harvard Negotiation Institute Mediation Workshop. Instructor, Bar Admission Course, Basic Family Mediation Course and Family Law Arbitration Course. Accredited by the Ontario Association for Family Mediation.

Philip Epstein is senior partner, Epstein Cole is the



Editor in Chief of the Reports of Family Law and "Epstein, This Week in Family Law" (eCarswell). His current practice is mediation, arbitration and appellate advocacy. He previously argued many significant family cases in the Ontario Superior Court, Court of Appeal and

Supreme Court of Canada.

Phil has published extensively and lectured in family law at the University of Toronto Law School, Osgoode Hall Law School, the University of Sidney, the National Judicial Institute and in Family Law Programs across Canada. He is a former Dispute Resolution Officer of the Superior Court of Ontario, a Certified Mediator/Arbitrator of ADRIO, and a Certified Mediator with OAFM. He is the former Chair of the Family Law Section of the Ontario Bar Admission Course, and a former Chair of the Family Law Section of the OBA.