



**ASSOCIATION OF
FAMILY AND
CONCILIATION COURTS**

TORONTO

**Westin Harbour Castle
May 28-May 31, 2014**

51st Annual Conference

Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour



Child Abuse

**Domestic
Violence**

**Chemical
Dependency**

**Mental
Illness**

Alienation

**High
Conflict**



Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour

Westin Harbour Castle – Toronto • May 28-31, 2014

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Ontario Bar Association • American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers • Association for Conflict Resolution
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Special thanks to the Sponsorship Committee for the AFCC 51st Annual Conference:

Steven Benmor, Barbara Fidler, Fareen Jamal, Michael Kleinman and patti cross.

Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour

There is limited consensus about the term “shared parenting” after separation and divorce. It may refer to parenting time, decision making or responsibilities; it has multiple labels, including joint or split custody, access, time sharing and parallel parenting. Many believe shared parenting to be a worthy goal; others caution against presumptions and unintended consequences. Join AFCC for this ongoing conversation about the pros, cons, challenges and opportunities that shared parenting presents for children, families, practitioners, researchers, policymakers and advocates.

An international and interdisciplinary program featuring leading legal, mental health and dispute resolution practitioners, policymakers and researchers.

Keynote Speaker

Fiona Sampson, *the equality effect*

More than 90 sessions to choose from on topics including:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Overnights and Young Children | Testifying on Behalf of Infants |
| Relocation Risk in Young Children | Parent and Child Perspectives of Shared Parenting |
| Uncorroborated Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse | The Justice Café |
| Thinking Fast and Slow in Mediation | Preventative Family Law |
| Same-Sex Parenting and Children's Best Interests | Procedural Triage |
| Benchmarks for Your Family Court | Self-Protection for Parenting Coordinators |
| New Findings: Infant Overnights and Relocation | Children's Justice Resource Center |

And much more...

- The latest research, practice and program information.
- More than 200 presenters from Canada, Australia, Israel, Italy, New Zealand, United Kingdom and the United States.
- The best interdisciplinary networking ever!
- Earn up to 20.75 in continuing education credit for lawyers, mediators, judges, psychologists, counselors, social workers, custody (see p. 27 for details).
- Registration includes welcome reception, luncheon, dinner and entertainment!
- **NEW Technology Track**, topics include:
 - Implications of Social Media for Domestic Violence
 - Using the Cloud to Acquire Parenting Skills and Tools
 - Representing Youth in a Digital Age
 - Cutting Edge Techniques for Families
 - Online Solutions for Families



Conference Scholarships Available!

For more than ten years, AFCC members have helped deserving professionals and students attend AFCC Conferences by giving to the AFCC Scholarship Fund. Scholarships cover the cost of a pre-conference institute, conference registration, attendee meal and networking functions, and a certificate of attendance. A limited number of stipends to help with the cost of travel and lodging will be offered. Apply online via the AFCC website; see page 27 for details. **The application deadline is March 1, 2014.**

Help Support the AFCC Scholarship Fund

Help to ensure the continued success of the AFCC Scholarship Program by giving today. Make a gift online at www.afccnet.org or with your conference registration! Your gift will help colleagues stay informed and current, open doors to collaboration and improve their practice skills. Thank you for your support!

Toronto

The Westin Harbour Castle is a CAA/AAA Four Diamond hotel located on the vibrant waterfront of Lake Ontario in the heart of downtown Toronto, Canada's largest city. Stroll through Toronto's theatre and entertainment districts; enjoy events and exhibitions at the nearby Harbourfront Centre, or check out the Hockey Hall of Fame.

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AFCC

6525 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719
Phone: 608-664-3750
Fax: 608-664-3751
Email: afcc@afccnet.org
Web: www.afccnet.org



Invitation from the President

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you to attend AFCC's 51st Annual Conference, *Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour*, May 28-31, 2014, at the Westin Harbour Castle in Toronto.

I look forward to the vibrant discussion that takes place at AFCC conferences as reflective professionals congregate to explore new research, connect with colleagues, and ponder the future. At AFCC, we value and encourage the expression of different perspectives under our big multidisciplinary tent, in part because we know that the challenges facing families and children are too complex for any one of us to solve.

The theme of this conference—*Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour*—takes up a challenging conversation that has recently generated considerable discussion and is the subject of the April 2014 issue of the *Family Court Review*. This conference will examine some of the latest innovative work on shared parenting and offer sessions focused on a variety of complex questions including the following:

- How does parenting time impact children in a various developmental stages and situations?
- What factors should influence choices about overnights for infants and young children?
- How does domestic violence influence parenting and child well-being?
- How can the family court system meet the needs of a wide variety of children and families in the face of dwindling resources?
- How might attention to due process considerations support problem solving?
- How can affordable legal services be made more available for families?

We cannot guarantee that you will agree with the perspectives you hear, but we *can* promise that you will learn from the stimulating discussion that will take place among leading family law judges, lawyers, mediators, custody evaluators, social science and legal scholars and other professionals. Bring an open mind and join us as we critically examine the values, expectations, and assumptions that inform our daily work with children and families.

Because AFCC has nearly 5,000 members from around the world, this conference offers the opportunity to interact with an interdisciplinary and international delegation unlike any other existing in the family law community. If you are an AFCC member, you understand the importance of this integrative approach to addressing complex questions. If you are not a member, please join us for an experience you won't soon forget.

I look forward to seeing you in Toronto!

Sincerely,

Nancy Ver Steegh

Nancy Ver Steegh, JD, MSW
AFCC President

Conference at a Glance

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014

6:00pm–8:00pm Conference Registration

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2014

7:30am–6:00pm Conference Registration
 8:00am–5:00pm Exhibitor Forum
 8:00am–9:00am Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants
 9:00am–4:30pm Pre-conference Institutes
 12:00pm–4:30pm AFCC Board of Directors Meeting
 5:00pm–6:00pm International and New Member Orientation
 6:00pm–7:00pm Opening Reception and Exhibitor Forum
 9:00pm–12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2014

6:30am–7:15am Yoga
 7:30am–8:30am Chapter Council Meeting
 7:30am–5:00pm Conference Registration
 7:45am–5:00pm Exhibitor Forum
 7:45am–5:00pm Poster Gallery
 7:45am–8:45am Coffee and Rolls
 8:45am–10:00am Opening Session
 10:00am–10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum
 10:30am–12:00pm Workshops 1-12
 12:00pm–1:30pm AFCC Luncheon
 1:30pm–3:00pm Workshops 13-24
 3:00pm–3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum
 3:30pm–5:00pm Workshops 25-36
 5:15pm–6:15pm Open Forum—Custody Evaluation and Domestic Violence Task Force
 Evening Taste of Toronto
 9:00pm–12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2014

6:30am–7:15am Yoga
 7:15am–8:15am AFCC Committee Meetings
 7:30am–5:00pm Conference Registration
 7:30am–5:00pm Exhibitor Forum
 7:30am–5:00pm Poster Gallery
 7:30am–8:30am Coffee and Rolls
 8:30am–10:00am Plenary Session I
 10:00am–10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum
 10:30am–12:00pm Plenary Session II
 12:00pm–1:30pm Lunch on your own Exhibitor Forum
 12:00pm–1:30pm *Family Court Review* Editorial Board Meeting
 1:30pm–3:00pm Workshops 37-48
 3:00pm–3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum
 3:30pm–5:00pm Workshops 49-60
 5:30pm–7:00pm Silent Auction and Reception
 7:00pm–9:30pm AFCC Annual Banquet
 9:30pm–12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2014

6:30am–7:15am Yoga
 7:30am–12:30pm Conference Registration
 8:00am–12:30pm Exhibitor Forum
 8:00am–12:30pm Poster Gallery
 8:00am–9:00am Coffee and Rolls
 8:00am–9:00am AFCC Membership Meeting
 9:15am–10:45am Workshops 61-72
 10:45am–11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum
 11:00am–12:30pm Workshops 73-83

Pre-conference Institutes

(Separate registration fee required. Please see conference information on page 28.)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2014

9:00am-4:30pm

1. Family Interventions When Children Resist Contact with a Parent

This institute will focus on currently used intensive whole-family interventions when children resist contact with a parent. These models include a residential component and cases involving severe justified rejection are excluded from this approach. Presenters will describe families who can benefit from these interventions, differentiating the nature and severity of the contact problem, parental conflict, degree of motivation and responsiveness of each parent. The components of the work will be summarized, including screening, intake/contracting, set-up, activities, psycho-educational interventions, aftercare and the role of the court. Participants will note the advantages and disadvantages of multi-day family interventions compared with outpatient treatment, and the components that may be applied to both.

Robin M. Deutsch, PhD, *Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, Newton, MA*

Barbara Fidler, PhD, AccFM, *Toronto, ON*

Tyler Sullivan, *Overcoming Barriers, San Francisco, CA*

2. Difficult Conversations at the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Mediation

When domestic violence and mediation collide, more than process choice matters. Critical considerations include capacity, safety and informed decision making. This institute examines approaches and tools to use when domestic violence surfaces before or during mediation. How is domestic violence defined? What ethical challenges confront mediation programs, mediators and attorneys when faced with possible domestic violence? How is the decision reached about whether to mediate? What are effective techniques for conducting and terminating mediation? Discuss and practice these challenging conversations, assess methods of identifying domestic violence and debate whether or not certain cases should be mediated.

Zena Zumeta, JD, *Mediation Training and Consultation Institute, Ann Arbor, MI*

Kelly Browe Olson, JD, LLM, *Univ. of Arkansas–Little Rock School of Law, Little Rock, AR*

Laura Bassein, JD, *Univ. of New Mexico School of Law, Albuquerque, NM*

3. Whole Family, Universal Risk Screening: New Evidence, New Tools, New Possibilities

For parents and children, separation can elevate risks to well-being and safety. Asking the right questions is key to identifying risk patterns that require management. This institute focuses on two evidence based tools. The *Family Law Detection of Overall Risk Screen (DOORS)* screens the well-being and safety of parents, infants and children. It assists legal and social science professionals in identifying and evaluating risk patterns. Participants will learn paper and software formats, and explore data from 600 cases. Participants will also learn to apply *The Mediator's Assessment of Safety Issues and Concerns (MASIC)* for targeted family violence screening, and consider related research. Multi-media case illustrations bring to life effective engagement of clients at risk of harm, or of harming, and effective response to risk across the family law system, including information sharing.

Jennifer E. McIntosh, PhD, *Family Transitions, LaTrobe Univ., Melbourne, Australia*

Amy Holtzworth-Munroe, PhD, *Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN*

Claire Ralfs, PhD, *Australian Institute of Social Research, Adelaide, Australia*

4. Relocation and Best Practices

Relocation disputes are among the most challenging and frequently litigated cases, reflecting changes in parental roles, economic factors and post-separation mobility. This institute will compare legal approaches to relocation in the United States, Canada and internationally; review the social science literature about relocation; and consider the role of child custody evaluations along with the evidence that needs to be presented in these disputes as well as possibilities for mediation. A primary focus will be offering practical advice for professionals, as well as consideration of law reform. *Sponsored by the AFCC Ontario Chapter.*

Nicholas Bala, LSM, JD, LLM, *Queen's Univ., Kingston, ON*

Philip Epstein, QC, LSM, *Epstein Cole, Toronto, ON*

Hon. James Garbolino (Ret.), *Roseville, CA*

Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, *Queen Creek, AZ*

5. Uncorroborated Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse: Science and Practice

Can professionals accurately discriminate between true and false reports of child sexual abuse? How common are false reports? How should professionals and the courts respond to uncorroborated reports? What are the pros and cons of imposing supervised visitation in custody disputes that include allegations of sexual abuse? This advanced institute for mental health and legal professionals will address these fundamental—but surprisingly difficult and controversial—questions from both scientific and practical perspectives. Interactive demonstrations will be used to show just how easy it is to make serious mistakes in these cases. A focused review of the relevant scientific research will be followed by a discussion of the implications of research for practice.

Steve Herman, PhD, *Univ. of Hawaii at Hilo, Hilo, HI*

Lucy McSweeney, LLB, *The Children's Lawyer for Ontario, Toronto, ON*

6. Judicial Officers Institute: Cross-Border Child Custody and Parental Child Abduction Disputes

This institute will provide judicial officers with training in the handling of inter-jurisdictional cases of child custody and parental abduction. Participants will learn relevant legal frameworks such as the 1980 *Hague Abduction Convention* and inter-provincial child abduction legislation; skills to assess when a court should or should not exercise jurisdiction to entertain a custody application; and skills to engage in direct judicial communication in the context of the International Hague Network of Judges and the two Canadian Networks in accordance with guidelines and safeguards. Audience participation will be encouraged through the use of case studies. *Participation is limited to Judicial Officers.*

Hon. Robyn Diamond, *Winnipeg, MB*

Hon. Donna Martinson, *Vancouver, BC*

Hon. Andrea Moen, *Edmonton, AB*

Hon. George Czutrin, *Toronto, ON*

Hon. Roselyn Zisman, *Toronto, ON*

7. Triangulating the Child: Children in the Parenting Coordination Process

This advanced program introduces different models and processes of parenting coordination and the legal considerations and consequences about when and how the parenting coordinator (PC) can incorporate the voice of the child. The challenge in differentiating the child's voice from the child's capacity to represent their independent views is examined with tools provided to assess capacity. In this child-centered institute, the presenters will discuss the complexities of adolescent decision-making, including the impact of memory, fear, social conformity, isolation and parental influence, as well as the PC's role in insulating children from substance abuse, mental health concerns and gatekeeping.

Christine A. Coates, MEd, JD, *Boulder, CO*

Lourdes Geraldo, MSW, RSW, *Hamilton, ON*

Jacqueline Vanbetlehem, RSW, AccFM, *Oakville, ON*



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Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting: Guidance from the Harbour

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2014

7:30am-6:00pm	Conference Registration
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8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants
9:00am-4:30pm	Pre-conference Institutes
12:00pm-4:30pm	AFCC Board of Directors Meeting
5:00pm-6:00pm	International and New Member Orientation
6:00pm-7:00pm	Opening Reception and Exhibitor Forum
9:00pm-12:00am	AFCC Hospitality Suite

"AFCC conferences shine a guiding light to a harbour full of ideas, key issues and different perspectives. Once there, you're in for a stimulating experience that inspires, informs, and pays homage to the dynamic interplay between theory, research and practical applications. AFCC programs have been the single most important influence in my growth as a professional. I love AFCC!"

— Barbara Jo Fidler, PhD, CPsych, AccFM,
Toronto, ON

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2014

6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:30am-8:30am	Chapter Council Meeting
7:30am-5:00pm	Conference Registration
7:45am-5:00pm	Exhibitor Forum
7:45am-5:00pm	Poster Gallery
7:45am-8:45am	Coffee and Rolls
8:45am-10:00am	Opening Session

*Welcome: Nancy Ver Steegh, JD, MSW, AFCC President,
St. Paul, MN*

*Hon. George Czutrin, Senior Family Judge of the Family Court,
Toronto, ON*

Keynote Address: "160 Girls"—Making Legal History

*Fiona A. Sampson, BA, MA, LLB, PhD, the equality effect,
Toronto, ON*

When hundreds of Kenyan girls went to the police to report that they had been raped, the officers yelled at the girls, showed disbelief, blamed the victims, humiliated them, demanded money and refused to take action. But then the girls took an extraordinary stand: With the help of local activists and human rights lawyer Fiona Sampson working with *the equality effect*, they went to court, and the High Court of Kenya ordered police to investigate and prosecute the rape cases. Ms. Sampson will discuss how *the equality effect* developed this ground breaking litigation that has made legal history in Kenya, securing access to justice for the "160 Girls" that inspired the adoption of the case, and legal protection from rape for all 10 million girls in Kenya, and set the high water mark for girls' rights internationally.

10:00am-10:30am	Break and Exhibitor Forum
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10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-12

1. Guidelines for Judges Meeting Children in Family Cases

There is considerable controversy over children's participation in post-separation decision making, particularly whether and how judges should meet children who are the subject of disputes between parents. Presenters will examine recently published guidelines, which offer suggestions on how judges should exercise their discretion as to whether to meet the child, who should be present, keeping a record and how the parties are to be informed about the information obtained.

Rachel Birnbaum, PhD, RSW, LLM, King's Univ. College, London, ON

Nicholas Bala, LSM, JD, LLM, Queen's Univ., Kingston, ON

Hon. Denise McColley, Napoleon, OH

Hon. Donna Martinson, Vancouver, BC

2. Modern Family: Grandparent and Other Third Party Disputes in the United States and Canada

Since the 2000 US case of *Troxel v. Granville* and 2001 Canadian case of *Chapman v. Chapman*, grandparent/third party visitation cases have gained considerable notoriety. These cases supported parental autonomy in decision making regarding third party contact with children. In applying the best interests test, subsequent jurisprudence has not consistently followed this approach. This session will examine current case law, given cultural biases and demographic shifts, as well as the importance of understanding the intra-familial dispute and assessing children's relationships with grandparents/third parties.

Mindy Mitnick, EdM, MA, Edina, MN

Gary Debele, JD, MA, Minneapolis, MN

Dan Goldberg, LLB, BCL, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

3. Relocation Risk in Young Children: Attachment, Social Capital and Gatekeeping

Managing the risk of harm to the parent-child relationship in relocation is one of the tasks of the child custody evaluator and of the court. This presentation will build on established risk assessment protocol, adding three other levels of analysis: attachment theory and research, social capital, and the gatekeeping practices of the custodial parent. Methods of mitigating the developmental risk, including reconsideration of aspects of the relocation plan, or delaying or prohibiting the move, will be discussed.

William G. Austin, PhD, Evergreen, CO

Pamela S. Ludolph, PhD, Ann Arbor, MI

4. Same-Sex Parenting and Children's Best Interests: Smooth Sailing or Choppy Waters?

An increasing number of children around the globe are growing up in same-sex parent households, in family configurations that change fundamental notions about parenthood and parenting. This workshop explores challenges and opportunities related to decision making about children's best interests and parenting in same-sex couple families, using an interactive, problem-based learning approach. Drawing on research evidence and a complex case study, participants will consider the implications of same-sex partnerships for children, parents and family law processes, reflect on their parenting assumptions, including shared parenting and children's well-being.

Janet Walker, OBE, FRSA, AcSS, Emeritus Professor, Newcastle Univ., East Sussex, England

Gabriela Misca, PhD, CPsychol, Worcester Univ., Worcestershire, England

5. Parenting Coordination in International Custody Mediation

This session explores an ongoing pilot program of two US law schools and the US State Department to mediate cases involving international child abduction and the introduction of parenting coordination into the process. Cases are characterized by extreme degrees of parental alienation and dysfunction, and present multiple challenges regarding children's best interests, including parenting quality and child development issues. Parenting coordination interventions, logistical challenges and jurisdictional enforcement issues will be addressed.

Debra K. Carter, PhD, National Cooperative Parenting Center, Bradenton, FL

Jennifer Zawid, JD, Univ. of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, FL

6. Making Custody Mediation More Effective: Really Getting to Yes

Interdisciplinary dynamics among lawyers, mental health professionals and judges can enhance the potential efficacy of child custody mediation to reduce family conflict. The workshop will explore the role of counsel, mental health professionals and the court in assisting parties in resolving custody disputes. Presenters will address the interdisciplinary aspects of identifying families that can benefit from mediation and the education and training that can enhance the mediation process and help make it successful.

Michael J. Kretzmer, JD, Manhattan Beach, CA

Judith R. Forman, MA, JD, Los Angeles, CA

Hon. Dianna J. Gould-Saltman, Los Angeles, CA

Matthew J. Sullivan, PhD, Palo Alto, CA

7. Reproductive Technology: Parentage Determination across the Commonwealth

This session features an international panel of lawyers examining legal and ethical issues that arise in assisted reproductive technology (ART) and family creation. Presenters will address cross-jurisdictional issues that surface as a result of different legal frameworks that deal with the determination of parentage for both opposite and same-sex parents who build their families using ART. Legislation, policy and applicable case law in Canada, Australia and England will be explored.

Shirley Eve Levitan, BSc, LLB, Toronto, ON

Kelly Jordan, LLB, Toronto, ON

Colin Rogerson, LLB, London, England

8. Co-Parent Court: An Innovative Model for Serving Fragile Families

Co-Parent Court is a national demonstration project with rigorous evaluation that supports Fragile Families by integrating paternity establishment, child support, individualized assessment and attention from navigators, co-parent education, conflict resolution and mediation, and a range of social services through local non-profit organizations that can be utilized to meet individual families' and children's needs. This presentation reviews the latest research on Fragile Families, discusses the Co-Parent Court model, summarizes the co-parent education classes and highlights the promising findings from this unique intervention.

Paul Legler, JD, Burnsville, MN

Maureen R. Waller, PhD, Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY

Shonda M. Craft, MS, PhD, Univ. of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

Kjersti A. Olson, PhD, Univ. of Minnesota Extension, Andover, MN

9. Thinking Fast and Slow in Divorce and Child Protection Mediation

This interactive workshop will introduce participants to the work of Daniel Kahneman, winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences. Participants will have a chance to understand factors uncovered in the study of human decision making and explore the relevance of behavioral economics to the practice of divorce and child protection mediation. Concepts such as loss aversion, anchoring, judgment heuristics and decision weights will be introduced and implications for mediation ethics and practice will be discussed.

Gregory Firestone, PhD, Univ. of South Florida Conflict Resolution Collaborative, Tampa, FL

10. Many Shades of Gray: How to Identify Benchmarks for Your Family Court

Unified Family Courts have existed in some jurisdictions for several decades. Given the shrinking budgets and growing caseloads that characterize family courts and dockets, legislatures and other funders demand data-driven reports that demonstrate efficiency, effectiveness and accountability. This workshop suggests a model for evaluating a jurisdiction's UFC by using judicial surveys, data on the development and establishment of UFCs nationwide and other measurement tools.

Barbara A. Babb, JD, MS, Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts, Baltimore, MD

Gloria H. Danziger, JD, MPhil, Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts, Baltimore, MD

11. Deadly Sins: Learning From Our Mistakes as Evaluators

The complexities of custody evaluation practice make certain errors or limitations in assessments inevitable. However, some methodological errors render evaluations unworthy of a setting where child and parent rights are at stake. Two trial consultants who have completed peer reviews of hundreds of assessments nationally, and an attorney specializing in cross examination of experts will discuss the most damaging mistakes made in the evaluations they have analyzed over their years in practice.

Jeffrey P. Wittmann, PhD, Albany, NY

David A. Martindale, PhD, ABPP, St. Petersburg, FL

Timothy M. Tippins, JD, East Greenbush, NY



12. Cyber Space: Cutting Edge Techniques for Legally Entangled Families

This multi-disciplinary panel will examine unique online tools for assessing and treating legally entangled families. Presenters will examine: (1) the development of an online intimate partner violence and abuse (IPV/A) instrument; (2) a new form of IPV/A in young adults in intact and dissolved relationships—cyber-monitoring, and (3) an internet-based intervention for children of high conflict divorcing families. Practical and ethical issues of using cyberspace tools will be discussed.

Fernanda Rossi, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN

Amy G. Applegate, JD, Indiana Univ. Maurer School of Law, Bloomington, IN

Connie J.A. Beck, PhD, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Karey L. O'Hara, MS, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Luncheon

Presiding: Nancy Ver Steegh, JD, MSW, AFCC President, St. Paul, MN

Luncheon Speaker: The Honourable Mr. Justice Thomas Albert Cromwell

1:30pm-3:00pm Workshops 13-24

13. Talking Change with Lawyers and Mediators: Case Studies in Critical Reflection

A willingness to respond constructively to critical evaluation is essential to the health of the field. The widespread disaffection with the family justice system poses a particular challenge. Some criticism is justified, some misplaced, but the challenge is to take all concerns raised seriously. Presenters will explore three case studies of efforts to raise and respond to criticism—from clients, from the public and from fellow professionals—of family justice and dispute resolution professionals. What constitutes responsible criticism and how can we be open to learning from it?

Bernie Mayer, PhD, *Werner Institute, Creighton Univ., Kingsville, ON*

Julie Macfarlane, PhD, *Univ. of Windsor Faculty of Law, Kingsville, ON*

Andrew Schepard, JD, *Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra Univ., Hempstead, NY*

14. Court-Involved Therapy with Children: Safe Harbour or (Ethically) Stormy Sea?

At its best, therapy provides children with a safe harbour to manage the uncertainty, anxiety, trauma, conflict and other psychosocial challenges that may arise during divorce. But what happens when a parent, lawyer, judge, parenting coordinator, custody evaluator or other professional threatens this safe harbour by trying to bring information from the therapist-child relationship into adversarial processes? This workshop will use case studies to help participants identify and resolve such ethical conflicts.

Allan E. Barsky, JD, PhD, *Florida Atlantic Univ., Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, FL*

15. Expert Consultations and the Family Lawyer's Toolbox

Attorneys litigating child custody disputes are increasingly turning to expert consultants for various forms of help. As case issues become complex and demands for scientific understanding increase, expert consultants can help attorneys present their clients' cases. This workshop examines privilege, work product and discovery dilemmas that create choices for how attorneys can use mental health experts as consultants and witnesses in court.

Milfred "Bud" Dale, PhD, JD, *Topeka, KS*

Jonathan W. Gould, PhD, ABPP, *Charlotte, NC*

16. New Ways for Mediation

This workshop will demonstrate the principles and practice of this new method that emphasizes a more structured process facilitated by the mediator and greater use of simple skills by the parents. In this method the mediator acts as a strong guide, requiring the parties to ask questions, make an agenda, make proposals and make decisions. Storytelling about the past, including traditional opening statements, is not allowed. Angry comments by the parties are quickly redirected into making and responding to proposals.

William A. Eddy, MSW, JD, *High Conflict Institute, San Diego, CA*

17. Parent and Child Perspectives of Shared Parenting: Fairness and Equality

A focus on the aspects of shared-time parenting that emphasize equality of time can overlook the social, emotional and logistical aspects of living in shared time. This presentation considers the integrated results of two qualitative syntheses, which canvass existing research on how parents and children conceptualize and experience shared time. This workshop compares and contrasts the perspectives and meanings that parents and children apply along the developmental continuum in understanding their experiences of shared parenting time.

Christina Sadowski, PhD, *Federation Univ. Australia, Ballarat, VIC, Australia*

Denise L. Whitehead, PhD, JD, *Univ. of Guelph, Guelph, ON*

18. Riding the Wave: Joint Custody and Parallel Parenting in 2014

This workshop will explore the challenges of fashioning child custody and parenting plan arrangements in high conflict cases. Using recent Ontario case law as a backdrop, the focus will be on identifying cases that are appropriate for joint custody and parallel parenting orders, as opposed to those where sole custody is appropriate. Problems of terminology, the use of parallel parenting or joint custody arrangements as settlement tools, and the need for drafting structured parallel parenting orders and agreements will also be discussed.

Hon. Carolyn J. Jones, *Toronto, ON*

Hon. Deborah L. Chappel, *Hamilton, ON*

Martha Shaffer, LLM, *Toronto, ON*

19. It's Not Wrong to Get Better: Family Interventions in Litigation

Controversies exist between those who favor early intervention to assist custody disputing families and those who focus on litigation or infer that the two approaches cannot coexist. Overgeneralization and incomplete consideration of the scientific literature may occur on all sides of these disputes and may also lead to self-fulfilling prophecies of failure and premature, or overly broad, conclusions that families cannot be helped. Presenters will identify patterns of cognitive error and bias underlying these disputes and approaches to selecting relevant research and intervention.

Lyn Greenberg, PhD, ABPP, *Los Angeles, CA*

Arnold T. Shienvold, PhD, *Riegler Shienvold & Associates, Harrisburg, PA*

Lawrence Braunstein, JD, *Braunstein & Zuckerman, Esq., White Plains, NY*

20. The Justice Café: Linking New Family Law Attorneys and Self-Represented Litigants

The Justice Café is a working model in Atlanta that seeks to meet the needs of self-represented litigants and young, underemployed family law attorneys. It provides expert mentoring from senior attorneys while holding down costs. Services are provided to help move parents away from lengthy litigation, including online parent education and discernment counseling for those ambivalent about breaking up. This session will examine two years' experience with this model over three sites.

Shelia Manely, JD, The Manely Firm, Marietta, GA

Kgaf_cj K_ Icjw, The Manely Firm, Marietta, GA

Don Gordon, PhD, Center for Divorce Education, Ashland, OR

William Howe III, JD, Gevurtz, Menashe, Larson & Howe, PC, Portland, OR

21. Decision Making in Disputed Care for Infants

Whether infants should stay overnight with the non-resident parent remains a controversial issue. Yet an analysis of decisions in the New Zealand Family Court revealed that overnight contact for children aged younger than four years is frequently judicially ordered. This workshop examines the child, parent and family factors relevant to such decision making, based on available research, judicial reasoning as revealed in decisions, and family law principles. The practical implications for custody evaluators, lawyers and judges are described.

Fred W. Seymour, PhD, Univ. of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

Suzanne Blackwell, PhD, Univ. of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

22. Examining a Structured Observational Assessment for Custody and Access Evaluations

The Lausanne Trilogue Play (LTP) paradigm is a reliable and valid structured observational assessment providing an in-depth understanding into family and co-parenting functioning. Presenters will review three decades of research on the LTP and will discuss how professionals in the Italian court system have used it as the observational component of custody and access evaluations. Applicability for custody and access evaluations in Ontario will be explored.

Christie Hayos, MSW, RSW, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Nancy Webb, MSW, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Silvia Mazzoni, PhD, Univ. of Sapienza, Rome, Italy

23. Mental Illness in the Family: Legal Issues and Challenges in Parenting Arrangements

Mental illness in a parent profoundly complicates the custody process and daily parenting. Likewise, best interest issues regarding children, especially those with psychiatric disabilities, require a special focus on factors including parent capability, resources and support. For all parties in the family system, the divorce process is traumatic and further exacerbates psychiatric distress, whether the mental illness is experienced by parent or child. This workshop will provide clarity on the legal and family systems issues in these unique cases.

Carolyn Reinach Wolf, JD, MBA, Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara & Einiger, Lake Success, NY

Samuel J. Ferrara, JD, MA, Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara & Einiger, Lake Success, NY

Thomas J. O'Connor, MEd, CRC, O'Connor Associates, Washington, DC



24. Implications of Technology and Social Media for Domestic Violence and Dependency Court Cases

This interactive workshop will explore the implications of technology in domestic violence cases. Professionals will learn how batterers use smart phone technology, social networking and GPS to circumvent injunctions for protection, supervised visitation and child custody. Legal and mental health practitioners will explore how victims of domestic violence can overcome communication issues using mobile and online communication tools designed specifically for high conflict parents.

Katrina A. Volker, MAOL, OurFamilyWizard.com, Minneapolis, MN

Rachel Gibson, MS, Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Tallahassee, FL

3:00pm-3:30pm

Break and Exhibitor Forum

3:30pm-5:00pm

Workshops 25-36

25. The Parenting Coordinator and Parental Alienation: Restructuring the Resistance

When parental alienation is suspected or identified, there are heightened challenges for parenting coordinators in the face of resistance by children to a parent-child relationship. The parenting coordinator must be trained to recognize the signs of estrangement and parental alienation, while also often serving as the conductor of contemporaneous efforts of other court-appointed professionals navigating the rough waters of high conflict divorce. This workshop will examine strategies for dealing with the additional obstacles presented by parental alienation.

Ann Ordway, JD, EdS, Madison, NJ

Ruth O. Moore, PhD, LPC, Savannah, GA

Save the Date!

AFCC 11th Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

November 6-8, 2014

**La Cantera Hill Country Resort
San Antonio, Texas**

26. Evidence-Based Decision Tree for Considering Shared Parenting

Decisions regarding the feasibility of joint custody (parenting time and decision making) remain controversial. Despite growing scientific evidence in support of joint custody, there remains little consensus about when these arrangements should be promoted for a particular family. This presentation will highlight the best available quantitative and qualitative evidence based on a review of the published literature. An evidence-based decision tree as a concrete tool for deciding optimal parenting plans for children following separation and divorce will be presented.

Leslie M. Drozd, PhD, Newport Beach, CA

Nancy W. Olesen, PhD, San Rafael, CA

Michael A. Saini, PhD, MSW, RSW, Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, ON

27. What About the Village? Extended Families and Step-families Following Separation

This session explores how step-parents and extended family members may inflame the conflict and/or assist in the resolution of disputes by examining post-separation conflict through the lens of family systems theory. Presenters will consider the impact of culture on the roles extended families play when disputes arise and provide strategies to deal with the “behind the scenes” players, and examine how to build on their strengths while respecting the entire family system.

Andrea Himel, LLB, MSW, AccFM, Toronto, ON

Dana Cohen, LLB, MSW, Toronto, ON

Christine Kim, MSW, AccFM, CPMed, Toronto, ON

Hon. Robert Spence, Toronto, ON

28. Techniques and Tricks to Avoid Pitfalls in Post-Divorce Counseling

This session will examine ethical and procedural aspects of working with clients to minimize a therapist's exposure to complaints, offer practical suggestions for a framework for working with families and discuss many of the interventions that can be effective in working with both high and low conflict separated, divorced or never married parents. Practical ideas will be presented on teaching/intervention strategies with parents and on guidelines for a variety of topics to include in parenting plans.

Stephen P. Carter, PhD, Edmonton, AB

Bonnie F. Haave, PhD, Edmonton, AB

James P. Bateman, MA, Edmonton, AB

29. Only You Can Prevent Family Fires: Preventive Family Law in the 21st Century

What, if anything, can professionals in the family law system do to work toward preventing family fractures before they turn into family wars? This discussion will explore approaches to issues in family law before the fire rages or, hopefully, even sparks. Education as a preventive measure at different stages of the marriage and divorce process will be explored.

Philip M. Stahl, PhD, ABPP, Queen Creek, AZ

Hon. Mark A. Juhas, Los Angeles, CA

Michael J. Kretzmer, JD, Manhattan Beach, CA

30. Collaboration and Due Process: The Court, the Expert and the Needs of the Child

The adversarial approach and its insistence on due process for the parents may cause unnecessary delay and may fail to enable the court to reach stable arrangements for the children. A model of collaboration between mental health professionals and family court judges, together with a review of due process for the child, while taking into account the risk of blurring professional boundaries will be discussed.

Hon. Philip Marcus (Ret.), Jerusalem, Israel

Daniel S. Gottlieb, PsyD, The Israeli Institute for Systemic Studies, Herzlia, Israel

31. Procedural Triage for Lawyers, Arbitrators, Dispute Resolution Officers, PCs and Judges

With more high conflict and unrepresented parties being referred to private ADR, it has never been more important to ensure that the forum is a good fit for the parties and professionals. This workshop uses case studies, research findings, discussion and exercises to better equip professionals with skills and strategies to be comfortable with, and effective at, assessing whether a tough case can be negotiated or arbitrated effectively, safely, fairly and in a balanced way.

Hilary A. Linton, JD, LLM, Riverdale Mediation, Toronto, ON

Stephen H. Sulmeyer, JD, PhD, Corte Madera, CA

32. Alcohol Monitoring: A Constructive Approach to a Difficult Problem

Creative use of new alcohol monitoring technologies can eliminate the “he said, she said” problems that arises when one party alleges that the other abuses alcohol, allowing counsel, the parties and the court to focus on developing pragmatic solutions. Reviewing case studies and examples of programs in Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom, this workshop will bring participants up-to-date on how these technologies work and how they can be used in various family law situations.

Peter D. Marshall, LLB, Recovery Science Corporation, Bracebridge, ON

Winnie Tan, RSW, Recovery Science Corporation, Bracebridge, ON

33. Family Violence: Collaboration between the Civil and Criminal Justice Systems

Participants in family violence cases may come into contact with several parts of the justice system, including the criminal, family and child protection sectors. A lack of information sharing and coordination between systems can result in potentially inconsistent orders, delays (often in the family proceeding) and potential risks to safety. This workshop will examine the challenges in these cases and promising practices, including the Toronto Integrated Domestic Violence Court.

Claire Farid, MES, Justice Canada, Ottawa, ON

Hon. Geraldine Waldman, Toronto, ON

Rachel Birnbaum, PhD, RSW, LLM, King's Univ. College, London, ON

Maretta Miranda, LLB, Ministry of the Attorney General, Toronto, ON

34. The Impact of the Intersection of Family and Immigration Law

In our increasingly mobile society, the intersection of family and immigration law is becoming more and more common. This workshop will focus on situations of family breakdown caused by separation, divorce or abuse where a parent or the children lack status and face removal to their country of origin. Assessing the particular needs of these families and advocacy considerations will be explored.

Caterina E. Tempesta, LLB, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

William A. Sullivan, LLB, Toronto, ON

35. Using the Cloud to Acquire Parenting Skills and Tools



This workshop will review evidence-based online education when used in tandem with mobile and online communication technology commonly mandated in high and moderate conflict cases. Legal and mental health practitioners will learn how parents overcome communication issues with online lesson plans, and how mobile communication tools designed specifically for conflicted parents effectively put those lessons to work. Preliminary research examining the program's effects on parenting issues will be presented.

Don Gordon, PhD, Center for Divorce Education, Ashland, OR

Bryan Altman, BS, OurFamilyWizard.com, Minneapolis, MN

Hon. Diane M. Palos, Cleveland, OH

36. Judicial Officers Forum: Parental Sharing of Care, Decisions and Responsibilities—Challenges for Judicial Officers

This participatory session will examine how judges from different countries are addressing the challenges related to shared custody and parenting. Presenters will examine legislative and case law developments and judicial practices, and facilitate discussion about the outputs from the AFCC Think Tank on Shared Parenting. Participants will be encouraged to share their views and experiences. *Participation is limited to Judicial Officers.*

Hon. Ramona Gonzalez, La Crosse, WI

Hon. R. James Williams, Halifax, NS

Hon. Diana Bryant, Chief Justice, Family Court of Australia, Melbourne, Australia

5:15pm-6:15pm **Open Forum:
AFCC Custody Evaluation
and Domestic Violence
Task Force**

Evening **Taste of Toronto**
9:00pm-12:00am **AFCC Hospitality Suite**

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2014

6:30am-7:15am **Yoga**
7:15am-8:15am **AFCC Committee Meetings**
7:30am-5:00pm **Conference Registration**
7:30am-5:00pm **Exhibitor Forum**
7:30am-5:00pm **Poster Gallery**
7:30am-8:30am **Coffee and Rolls**

8:30am-10:00am **Plenary Session I**

Welcome: Magistrate Richard L. Altman, AFCC President Elect, Napoleon, OH

Hon. Emile Kruzick, Toronto, ON

Sharing Parenting after Separation and Divorce: The Ideal and the Real

Controversies over post-separation parenting time and decision making abound, whether referred to as joint custody, shared parenting, shared decision making, or shared care and access. What are the practical challenges of maintaining developmentally appropriate parenting plans? How can an infant's need for consistent contact with two parents be balanced with attachment and overnight concerns? How should practitioners and policymakers respond to nuanced research findings without simply seeking to leverage one finding against another? This session will explore these and other discussions from the AFCC Shared Parenting Think Tank and examine the practical applications and dilemmas with an expert panel of family law practitioners.

Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD, MSL, Smith College School for Social Work, Northampton, MA

J. Herbie DiFonzo, JD, PhD, Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra Univ., Hempstead, NY

Philip Epstein, QC, LSM, Epstein Cole, Toronto, ON

Larry S. Fong, PhD, Fong Ailon, Calgary, AB

Hon. R. John Harper, Brantford, ON

Martha A. McCarthy, LLB, Martha McCarthy & Company, Toronto, ON

10:00am-10:30am **Break and Exhibitor Forum**

Save the Date!

AFCC 52nd Annual Conference

May 27-30, 2015

**Hilton New Orleans Riverside
New Orleans, Louisiana**

10:30am-12:00pm Plenary Session II

Welcome: Hon. Peter Boshier, AFCC Vice President, Wellington, New Zealand

Charting a Course for Successful Parenting Arrangements in Domestic Violence-Related Child Custody Cases

Recent years have seen a rising tide of awareness that parenting in the context of domestic violence does not always look the same—that its currents flow differently among different families and circumstances—and that inattention to these variations can muddy the waters of effective parenting arrangements following separation. Family court practice must account for the myriad ways in which parenting in the context of domestic violence is experienced by individual people, including children and their separating parents. This session will feature new work from Canada and the United States that will help family court practitioners chart a course for identifying, understanding, and accounting for post-separation parenting along the rugged shores of domestic violence-related family court practice.

Peter Jaffe, PhD, University of Western Ontario, London, ON

Katreena Scott, PhD, CPsych, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON

Loretta Frederick, JD, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN

Gabrielle Davis, JD, Battered Women's Justice Project, Minneapolis, MN

12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch on your own Exhibitor Forum

12:00pm-1:30pm Family Court Review Editorial Board Meeting

1:30pm-3:00pm Workshops 37-48

37. Learning from Children: Comparative Approaches to Hearing Children's Voices

This workshop will undertake an international jurisdictional comparison of the way in which family courts have involved children in proceedings following parental relationship breakdown. Presenters will explain the impetus for the Children's Committee, established to consider whether children feel their voices have been heard. The Committee's work will be discussed in detail, including an overview of current and future projects and the ultimate goals.

Hon. Diana Bryant, Chief Justice, Family Court of Australia, Melbourne, Australia

Pam Hemphill, MSW, Family Court of Australia, Adelaide, Australia

38. Issues in Parent-Child Observations in Child Custody Evaluations

Parent-child observations are an important component in child custody evaluations, yet there is minimal professional guidance regarding the goals and structure of these observations. This workshop will review the benefits and limitations of various approaches and will discuss ways to tailor observations for each family system. Approaching observations in special circumstances, such as abuse and visitation resistance, will be addressed.

Robert A. Simon, PhD, Del Mar, CA

Karen K. Shelton, PhD, Charlotte, NC

39. Don't Shoot the Messenger: Self-Protection Strategies for Parenting Coordinators

Parenting coordination is a high-risk profession and dissatisfied clients may turn against their service provider. This workshop offers tools to minimize risk of reprisal and manage situations where frivolous or distorted claims have been made either in social media or to licensing bodies. Preventive strategies will include what critical provisions to include in the PC contract, how to write an effective report/recommendation and the importance of documentation.

Gary Direnfeld, MSW, RSW, Interaction Consultants, Dundas, ON

Siri Gottlieb, JD, MSW, Cooperative Parenting Center, Ann Arbor, MI

40. Divorce Proofing the Family and Closely Held Business

Divorce is a personal matter, but when a family business or closely held business is involved, divorce becomes everyone's business. While it is almost impossible to guarantee that divorce will not be detrimental, steps can be taken to safeguard the business and minimize the impact. This workshop will explore: choosing the right team to protect minor children and future generations, drafting agreements to keep the "golden goose" intact, tips for minimizing disruption to other owners and employees, and looking at creative and non-traditional ways to settle the divorce dispute.

Edward L. Winer, JD, Moss & Barnett, Minneapolis, MN

Stacie R. Glazman, LL.M., CBV, CS, Synergy Valuations, Toronto, ON

Elizabeth A. Hyde, LL.B., AccFM, mediate393, Toronto, ON

Deborah L. Moskovitch, BAS, The Smart Divorce, Toronto, ON

41. Closing the Family Justice Access Gap

This workshop will explore the crisis in access to family justice. Drawing on the recent reports of the National Action Committee, chaired by Supreme Court of Canada Justice Thomas Cromwell, the workshop will examine the nature, scope and consequences of the access problem. The primary workshop focus will be on what can be done to fill the "implementation gap"—the shortfall between what we already know about how family conflict should be managed, and what we actually do.

Hon. George Czutrin, Senior Family Judge of the Family Court, Toronto, ON

Hon. Barry Tobin, Toronto, ON

M. Jerry McHale, QC, University of Victoria, Lam Chair in Law & Public Policy, Victoria, BC

42. Family Dispute Resolution Initiatives

This workshop highlights recent reforms in New Zealand and England/Wales, which shift the focus away from courts to the early use of dispute resolution services with rearranged families. Opportunities for children to express their views and participate in family mediation processes will be explored, along with international developments in the relocation and international child abduction fields, including two initiatives by the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

Nicola Taylor, LLB, PhD, *Children's Issues Centre, Univ. of Otago, Auckland, New Zealand*

Marilyn Freeman, LLM, PhD, *Metropolitan Univ., London, England*

43. A Creative Model for Helping Transitioning Parents and Children

The Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families at the University of Denver provides legal education, dispute resolution, therapy, support groups and financial education to families who are in transition as a result of separation or divorce. This workshop will provide participants with the "nuts and bolts" for creating and implementing a model for interdisciplinary services.

Melinda Taylor, MSLA, *The Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families, Denver, CO*

Kirk Thoreson, PsyD, *The Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families, Denver, CO*

Beth Henson, *The Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families, Denver, CO*

Denise Breinig-Glunz, LCSW, *The Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families, Denver, CO*

44. Shared Parenting Reinvented: Supporting Those with Unique Challenges

Balancing the human rights of those with disabilities (United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) with the superseding requirement to make custodial plans in the best interests of children is a complex and challenging issue in parenting capacity and custody and access assessments. This workshop will provide a description of parenting challenges and barriers, a blueprint for fair and comprehensive assessments, and how a shared-parenting model might realize the best interests of everyone in the family.

Kimberly Harris, PhD, CPsych, *Centre for Children & Families in the Justice System, London, ON*

Daniel T. Ashbourne, PhD, CPsych, *Centre for Children & Families in the Justice System, London, ON*

Anthony Macri, *Martha McCarthy & Company, Toronto, ON*

Mary Kay Arundel, MSW, RSW, *Centre for Children & Families in the Justice System, London, ON*

45. Engaging Youth in Custody Cases: Teen Orientation and Other Strategies

Youth are seeking to meaningfully participate in their parents' family law proceedings. Learn about research and strategies to appropriately involve and engage youth and properly prepare them to address the court. This presentation will highlight a teen orientation developed by judges, lawyers, and mental health practitioners to explain the proceedings and bust myths children may have about court.

Jennifer Kelleher Cloyd, JD, *Legal Advocates for Children & Youth, San Jose, CA*

Kate Manning, JD, *Legal Advocates for Children & Youth, San Jose, CA*

Hon. Maureen Folan, *San Jose, CA*

46. Not Just a PC: ADR for High Conflict Cases with Elders and Vulnerable Adults

As family members age, conflict may develop over care of an elder or vulnerable adult. The Florida Chapter of AFCC joined the Association for Conflict Resolution in the development of a dispute resolution option to address high conflict in these cases. In an unprecedented effort involving 21 Florida statewide organizations and 23 US and Canadian organizations, this project supports inter-divisional court collaboration to fill this gap in ADR processes, broadening the definition of high conflict families in the court.

Linda B. Fieldstone, MEd, *Family Court Services, Miami, FL*

Sue Bronson, LCSW, *Milwaukee, WI*

47. It's All About Time, Right? Well Actually, No!

Join a discussion about what really matters to children and what really meets their best interests, especially if shared parenting, in its many forms, is contemplated. The session will look at legal and social science perspectives and posing and discussing questions about the relevance of time spent orders to meeting the child's best interests.

Hon. Joe Harman, *Parramatta, Australia*



48. Representing Youth in a Digital Age: Practicality, Privilege and Privacy

Mobile and social media communications have become integral to the lives of children and youth. Adapting to these modes of communication is necessary in order to fully engage with these clients. This workshop will look at ways of effectively communicating in a digital age and examine questions such as: Which modes of communication are appropriate to communicate with child and youth clients? What mitigation strategies can be used to protect their privacy? Do these technologies present risks to solicitor-client privilege?

Lucy McSweeney, LLB, *The Children's Lawyer for Ontario, Toronto, ON*

Mary Birdsell, LLB, *Justice for Children and Youth, Toronto, ON*

Ian Ross, LLB, *Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON*

Shuah Roskies, LLB, *Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON*

3:00pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum

3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 49-60

49. Overnights and Young Children: Unified Principles from Attachment and Parenting Involvement and a New Practice Framework

This workshop presents an integration of theory and research on attachment and parental (especially father) involvement that bridges two previously polarized perspectives on overnights and young children, and provides one integrated set of principles that guide decision-making. A new framework provides a hierarchy of research and clinical considerations supporting a range of options for overnights and children from birth through age three. Applications of the principles and framework will be provided by the presenters and discussed by experienced practitioners, to highlight the utility and flexibility of the framework.

Joan B. Kelly, PhD, Corte Madera, CA

Jennifer E. McIntosh, PhD, Family Transitions, LaTrobe Univ., Melbourne, Australia

Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD, MSL, Smith College School for Social Work, Northampton, MA

50. How to Prevent Complaints, Build a Thriving Practice and Feel Rewarded

Family law lawyers and mental health professionals work in an arena of relationship conflict and clients frequently elect to engage in conflict with the professionals involved in their case. They question their professionalism and file complaints with the professional's governing body. The presenters will provide guidance on how to minimize and manage client dissatisfaction and complaints, and provide practical advice on how to: (1) screen potential new clients early; (2) establish the rules, boundaries and expectations at the outset and in the retainer agreement; (3) prevent, prepare for and manage formal complaints; and (4) build a thriving practice, increase profits and maximize client satisfaction.

Steven Benmor, LLM, Toronto, ON

Jacqueline Vanbetlehem, RSW, AccFM, Oakville, ON

Linda Chodos, MSW, Family Solutions, Toronto, ON

Brian Burke, LLB, Epstein Cole, Toronto, ON

51. Charting a Path for Shared Parenting Plans Involving Children with Special Needs

This workshop will address the impact of shared parenting on special needs children and how to obtain and use objective baseline assessments to create a basis for agreements and decisions in the child's best interest. By understanding common areas of dispute such as vaccination, diet, and medication practitioners, professionals will be better able to prevent and negotiate disputes in advance. Presenters will discuss incorporating the child's needs and abilities into functional parenting plans and the necessity for more cooperative co-parenting.

Jennifer Kupiszewski, JD, Scottsdale, AZ

Jason Castle, MSW, JD, Phoenix, AZ

52. Children's Justice Resource Centre: Promoting an Early Intervention Initiative

While the rates of separation and divorce continue to remain high, the family justice system fails to provide accessible and timely connections to resources at an early enough stage in the family breakdown process. By the time the appropriate professionals are in place, the post-separation familial issues have been exacerbated by the litigious nature of the legal system, the passage of time and unmet needs. This workshop proposes a Children's Justice Resource Centre, a family law reform initiative that links the court with clinical resources at the commencement of cases that involve custody and access issues.

Shely Polak, MSW, AccFM, Toronto, ON

Hon. R. John Harper, Brantford, ON

Alfred Mamo, LLM, LSM, London, ON

53. Providing Family Court Support to Survivors of Domestic Violence

Lack of legal representation for family court litigants poses challenges, especially to those who are more vulnerable because they have left abusive relationships. The presenters have been integrally involved in the development of three innovative models for providing family court support in Ontario to victims of domestic violence who are engaged in the family court process. They will discuss best practices, examine whether these programs make a positive difference for women and their children, and explore policy implications.

Pamela Cross, LLB, Luke's Place Support & Resource Centre for Women & Children, Oshawa, ON

Mary Lou Fassel, LLB, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, Toronto, ON

Donna C. Babbs, LLB, Whitby, ON

54. To Treat or Not to Treat: Legal Responses to Transgender Young People

The significance of the landmark decision for transgender young people and their families, in *Re: Jamie*, will be discussed. The position in Australia regarding young people and consent to medical treatment will be compared and contrasted with those in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. Key issues for analysis include the significance of Gillick competence, the limits on parental consent and whether family courts should exercise supervisory jurisdiction.

Hon. Justice Steven Strickland, Adelaide, SA, Australia

55. Baptism to Upanayana: Clinical and Legal Options—Exploring Religious Differences

Professionals working with parents who have different religious beliefs often avoid generating discussion about these belief systems, preferring to keep interaction on a secular level. This workshop will explore (1) how the courts have balanced the rights of parents against the best interests of their children when making decisions with respect to religious upbringing; (2) how parents' conflicts over religious beliefs may impact their children; and (3) options that might be considered to address this challenge.

Linda E. Feldman, LLB, AccFM, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Silvia Novak, MSW, RSW, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Kike Ojo, MA, Children's Aid Society of the Region of Peel, Mississauga, ON

56. Custody by Function: A Solution When High Conflict Files Become Intractable

This presentation will provide an alternative way for child custody evaluators to provide parents with a less adversarial, more conciliatory approach to designing and implementing child custody and access plans. This alternative assessment process is titled Custody by Function and minimizes issues of power and control from steering, if not monopolizing, the child custody and access process. Case examples will be provided that compare and contrast the settlement of child custody files using the Custody by Function process versus the alternative power-laden designations of sole or joint custody.

Margo Kushner, MSW, PhD, Salisbury, MD

57. "Just Get Over It" Isn't Enough: Toward Becoming a Trauma-Responsive Court

Traumatic exposures can lead to challenging behaviors associated with struggles in relationships, disengagement from school, involvement in the justice system and poor health outcomes across the lifespan and over generations. Participants will learn (1) how physiological responses to chronic stress such as abuse and neglect, and domestic violence can have a profound impact on human development; (2) how subsequent adaptive skills can push injured persons away from protective influences such as school; and (3) how courts and allied systems can become more trauma-responsive.

Shawn C. Marsh, PhD, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Reno, NV

Hon. Lisa I. Abrams, Tucson, AZ

Rebecca M. Stahl, JD, LLM, Pima County Office of Children's Counsel, Tucson, AZ

58. Adult Children of Grey Divorce: Family Systems in Flux

This workshop examines the "grey divorce" revolution and focuses on adults whose parents are choosing divorce after decades of marriage. These adult children are coping with their own grief as well as the emotions of their parents and their own children. Maintaining neutrality may not be possible in the face of issues such as their parent's health, capacity and emotional demands. Learn about shifting services to meet a challenging shift in family structures.

Marion Korn, LLM, AccFm, Mutual Solutions, Toronto, ON

Jennie Ormson, MSW, Toronto, ON

Colleen Currie, LLB, MA, Ottawa, ON

59. Towards Holistic and Affordable Family Dispute Resolution

This workshop demonstrates a model of cost effective self-ordering of shared parenting on family breakdown, by creative use in tandem of (1) mediation to resolve the family's future operational framework, and (2) family arbitration under the Rules of the Institute of Family Arbitrators (established in England and Wales in 2012) for financial and property determinations.

Frances Burton, LLB, MA, Oxford, England

Felicity Shedden, MCI Arb, Shedden Family Law, Bedfordshire, England



60. Online Technology: Solution-Based Opportunities for You and Your Clients

Online applications offer creative divorce solutions including: co-parenting scheduling, parent-to-parent communication and special expenses-sharing software, rebalancing beneficiaries support insurance, educational podcasts and online divorce coaching. Professionals can utilize these services to create appropriate legal strategies, judicial review, fact-based evidence for custody assessments, teachable and reviewable co-parenting skills, insurance to secure support payments fairly and other solutions to help clients navigate forward in a healthier manner. Learn how technology can enhance your billable time while providing practical client solutions.

Stephen Rosenfield, BA, Come to Agreement, Ltd., Toronto, ON

Deborah L. Moskovitch, BAS, The Smart Divorce, Toronto, ON

5:30pm-7:00pm

Silent Auction and Reception

7:00pm-9:30pm

AFCC Annual Banquet

9:30pm-12:00am

AFCC Hospitality Suite

"Once again, I found the AFCC conference inspiring and practical. It's such a great opportunity to take time from our busy professional lives to pause, reflect and discuss the pressing issues we confront each day. I have left each AFCC conference with at least one new idea that I can incorporate into my daily work. Thank you for a great conference."

— Hon. Richard A. Simons, Berkshire Probate and Family Court, Pittsfield, Massachusetts

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2014

6:30am-7:15am	Yoga
7:30am-12:30pm	Conference Registration
8:00am-12:30pm	Exhibitor Forum
8:00am-12:30pm	Poster Gallery
8:00am-9:00am	Coffee and Rolls
8:00am-9:00am	AFCC Membership Meeting

9:15am-10:45am Workshops 61-72

61. The Nuts and Bolts of Conducting Substance Abuse Evaluations

A review of alcohol, illegal drugs and prescription medications in terms of their actual effects on parenting behaviors will be provided. Procedures for gathering information about allegations of substance abuse will be described, and specific recommendations that need to be considered for substance abusing parents will be reviewed.

Harry Somers, EdD, North Andover, MA

62. Separation and Divorce Proceedings May be Hazardous to the Health of Participants

Compared with married persons, separating and separated individuals with children tend to experience unnatural deaths (murders) and serious intentionally inflicted injuries more frequently. The perpetrators are usually recently separated men. The contribution made to these adverse health outcomes by participation in different types of separation and divorce proceedings will be documented and implications for procedural triage decisions aimed at preventing serious intimate partner violence will be presented.

Desmond Ellis, PhD, York Univ., Ajax, ON

63. Perceptions in Parenting Coordination: Letting Data Drive the Process

This workshop will present results from a pilot study on parenting coordination processes and experiences, including data from parents and parenting coordinators. Presenters will highlight results and focus on specific parenting coordination procedures and their perceived impact on reducing co-parenting conflict and triangulation in the family as well as improving child-related communication. Implications for the practice of parenting coordination will be offered along with suggestions for the potential utility of a focused co-parenting consultation and future research.

Debra K. Carter, PhD, National Cooperative Parenting Center, Bradenton, FL

James P. McHale, PhD, Univ. of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL

64. Relocation in Special Populations

Relocation raises different issues depending on the specific family characteristics. This workshop will address the legal and psychological ramifications of relocation on children and parents specific to two populations: the LGBT family and the economically disadvantaged.

Barbara Dildine, JD, The Children's Law Center, Brooklyn, NY

Sherri Donovan, JD, Sherri Donovan and Associates, New York, NY

Mark Rand, PhD, MPH, Forensic Psychological Services of New York, New York, NY

Martha Schneiderman, JD, The Children's Law Center, Brooklyn, NY

65. Elder Mediation: Focus on the Family at the Other End of the Continuum

The population is aging and families are impacted as they make decisions about care of an aging family member. Families are faced with difficult decisions as parents transition from caregivers to care recipients. The stress this causes can impact children as much as the stress related to divorce and separation. This workshop examines the unique needs of older adults, how to deal with aging issues in mediation and the burgeoning elder mediation field.

Resa S. Eisen, MSW, RSW, Toronto, ON

Joan Braun, MSW, LLB, Vancouver, BC

66. The Inside Scoop on Successful Court-Connected Mediation Programs

This workshop focuses on the history, development and nuts and bolts of running three different court-based programs in Oregon, Missouri and Ohio. Topics will include an overview of the wide range of services provided by each program, populations served, how services are accessed and sources of funding and statutory authority. Two court-based programs are located in urban/suburban areas (Eugene, Oregon and St. Louis County, Missouri), while the third is located in rural northwestern Ohio covering six counties.

Nathaline Frener, MS, Lane County Family Mediation Program, Eugene, OR

Andrea Clark, MSW, Domestic Relations Services Unit, St. Louis, MO

Christopher DeFavero, JD, Northwest Ohio Court Mediation Services, Napoleon, OH

67. Issues in Shared Parenting: The Italian Experience and Critiquing Shared Parenting Without Shared Support

This session features two presentations, first a comparative legal perspective examining Italian law n.54 of 2006 regarding shared parenting in separation and divorce and its application. The second presentation will focus on the relationship between access rights and financial support, arguing that imposing duties of support serves an important screening function and is needed to ensure that the legal parent's parenting prerogatives are not lightly overridden.

Federica Giardini, Univ. of Padua School of Law, Padua, Italy

Robin Fretwell Wilson, JD, Univ. of Illinois College of Law, Champaign, IL

68. Bringing Up Baby: Developing Parenting Plans that Grow with the Family

A large and growing group of young children have parents who consider shared custody. The legal complexities these parents face will be discussed, emphasizing significant controversies in the law and developments in alternative dispute resolution and litigation practice. Research on shared care, attachment and parental gate-keeping and its implications for child custody evaluation and mediation will be addressed. Suggestions for parenting plans that will grow with the young family will be made.

Leslie Ellen Shear, JD, Encino, CA

Pamela S. Ludolph, PhD, Ann Arbor, MI

69. From Chaos to Co-parenting: Helping Unmarried Parents Work Together

In many US states, nearly half of all children are born to unmarried parents. Helping these parents co-parent outside of marriage requires special attention on the part of the family professional involved. Learn important tools from three experts: a communication and conflict-resolution specialist, a clinical psychologist and an attorney/mediator.

Rachael F. Kennedy, JD, Columbia, MO

Joyce Woodford, PhD, Manhattan, KS

Dawn Kuhlman, MA, Liberty, MO

70. New Findings on Infant Overnights and Relocation

The effects of overnight parenting time for infants, and the effects of parental relocation after divorce or separation, are two complex issues. This workshop provides participants with a concise review of prior, but little-known studies on infant overnights, new evidence that infant overnights have long-term beneficial consequences for father-child relationships and child health and new evidence that relocation is a risk factor for the development of psychopathology and engagement in risky behavior for children of divorce.

Karina R. Sokol, PhD, Glendale Community College, Glendale, AZ

Matthew Stevenson, PhD, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

William V. Fabricius, PhD, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ

71. A Better Approach: Working with Communities to Help High Conflict Families

This workshop will focus on taking a community development approach to working with high conflict families. The best efforts of four Ontario cities to organize mental health and child protection agencies, legal services and the courts to more effectively respond to developing services for children and their parents will be described. Emphasis will be on the successes in these communities to help families. Lessons learned will be shared so that other communities wanting to create a similar model can learn from these experiences.

Howard Hurwitz, MSW, Jewish Family and Child Service of Greater Toronto, Toronto, ON

Jan Christianson, Family Services of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON

Sylvia Pivko, MSW, RSW, Blue Hills Child and Family Centre, Aurora, ON

Michelle Hayes, MSW, Hamilton, ON

72. Psychological Testing and Cross-Examination: Help! There is so Much to Know

This workshop will address the research on psychological testing in custody evaluations. The presentation will cover the MMPI-2, MMPI-2-RE, MCMI-III, PAI, and 16PF, including interpretation of the validity scales, the reliability of the different tests and problems associated with them. Questionnaires designed to assess parenting related issues will be reviewed, and the use and misuse of computer generated reports will be discussed. For attorneys present, there will be a discussion of cross-examination questions interwoven throughout the presentation.

Sol R. Rappaport, PhD, ABPP, Libertyville, IL

James R. Flens, PsyD, ABPP, Valrico, FL

10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum

11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 73-83

73. Family Law Community Academic Research Partnerships

The workshop will introduce the community-academic research partnership as a framework for conducting research involving collaboration between community stakeholders and academic researchers to produce findings to improve outcomes for families undergoing parental separation. Two example partnerships will be discussed from the perspective of a family law partner (e.g., judge or court personnel) and an academic research partner. Findings from the partnerships will be presented.

Amy Holtzworth-Munroe, PhD, Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN

Hon. Jason G. Reyome, Indianapolis, IN

Irwin Sandler, PhD, Arizona State Univ., Tempe, AZ

Grace Hawkins, MSW, Pima County Family Center of the Conciliation Court, Tucson, AZ

74. Supervised Access and Custody Exchange Services: Part of the Solution

Supervised access and exchange programs have operated in many court districts since the 1980s, yet there remains confusion about which families are best suited for these services and whether families benefit from using them. This workshop will showcase the supervised access programs offered in Ontario and Quebec. Current research will be reviewed and service models, client characteristics, the integration of services with legal and mental health resources and the impact of the service on children and parents will be discussed.

Judy Newman, MSW, RSW, Ministry of Attorney General, Toronto, ON

Marie-Christine Saint-Jacques, PhD, Laval Univ., Quebec, QC

Steven Benmor, LLM, Toronto, ON

Michael Saini, MSW, RSW, PhD, Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, ON

75. Strategies to Increase Use of Legal Custody Options under the CFSA

Legal custody orders under the Child and Family Services Act (CFSA) are a useful approach to permanency for children. A provincial Legal Custody Project Group (PLCPG) was established within the Child Welfare Sector and presented a report of its findings, including comments and recommendations regarding strategies, to increase the use of legal custody orders. An overview of this work is presented in this workshop.

Sonia Gentile, MBA, MSW, Family and Children's Services of Frontenac, Kingston, ON

Tracy Engelking, Children's Aid Society of Ottawa, Gloucester, ON

76. The Legal-Clinical Child Representation Team: More Than the Sum of its Parts

For over 20 years, the Ontario Office of the Children's Lawyer has used a legal-clinical collaborative approach to representing children in custody/access cases. Over time, it has increasingly assumed functions that go beyond advocacy and evaluation. For instance, re-establishing parent-child relationships, parent education and coaching, and acting as a link between courts and treatment providers. This workshop will explore the opportunities that the legal-clinical partnership has presented for supporting positive change in separated families, as well as the challenges that come with assuming these new roles.

Carolyn Leach, LLB, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Elizabeth McCarty, LLB, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Tara Noble, MSW, RSW, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

Silvia Novak, MSW, RSW, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON

77. Buoys in the Harbour: Resources for Families to Ease Shared Parenting

Professionals are often challenged in locating and creating resources for families attempting to learn how to co-parent effectively and in the best interests of their children. This workshop will provide tools to access local resources, resources on a broader level and create resources when needed. Information will consider families in high conflict, families with mental health and substance abuse issues, families with children who have special needs and military families.

Sunni Ball, MA, Domestic Advocacy for Children, Colorado Springs, CO

Magistrate Evelyn Hernandez-Sullivan, Colorado Springs, CO

Joyce Miller, MA, Colorado Springs, CO

Janet Gould, BA, High Conflict Parenting Resources Group, Woodland Park, CO

78. How Conflict Resolvers Can Build Emotional Skills Through Mindfulness

As conflict resolvers, we handle strong emotions: our own, the other sides' and those of our clients. We need to understand emotion and build skills around it. Brain research tells us that when we fall into the loop of reactivity, there is a malfunction in the interaction of the various parts of our brain. Through a process called neuroplasticity, when we intentionally bring "attention" to our thoughts and emotions, we can strengthen a part of the brain that is implicated in the effective management of the neural circuitry of emotion. The science, the marshmallow study, and mindfulness techniques will be the primary subject of discussion.

Meysa Maleki, LLB, AccFM, Toronto, ON

79. When High Conflict Families Go Adrift

High-conflict parents struggle against forces that can push and pull them in different directions as they attempt to navigate the parenting coordination process. Professionals will be introduced to strategies that will help high conflict parents overcome rough sailing by plotting a course that will lead to adjustments to bounce back as well as bounce higher. Strategies focusing on experiencing optimism, building resiliency, assessing progress, as well as emerging stronger and more resourceful to better cope with co-parenting struggles will be presented.

Ann Marie Termini, EdS, MS, Clarks Summit, PA

Bradley S. Craig, LMSW-IPR, CFLE, Grand Prairie, TX

80. Shared Parenting and Child Support: Formulas, Incentives and Consequences

This workshop will explore the range of child support models being used across the country, including income share models, percentage of income models and Melson Formula models, and how they affect, and are affected by, decisions about shared parenting. The workshop will explore the relationship between child support guidelines and child custody determinations, and the often attendant challenges related to the inevitable incentives to increase or decrease either of the dependent variables of child support and child parenting time in order to influence the other.

Steven Ballard, JD, Wellesley, MA

81. Mediation and International Family Disputes

Parental abductions are on the rise in Canada and many parents are left at the mercy of international treaties, such as the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, to assist with the return of their children. This session will provide an introduction to the scope and applicability of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, and as it relates to Canada. The session will explore when and how mediation can be an appropriate tool for international family disputes.

Mary Damianakis, MSW, MPA, CFM, Baie D'Urfé, QC

82. The Disintegration of the Family and Its Impact on Gifted Children

How does the gifted child deal with the process of divorce and the disintegration of the family? Are their coping strategies different than those of other children? This presentation will examine the impact of divorce on the gifted and highly gifted child and discuss strategies and interventions designed to help these children.

Marc A. Caplan, PhD, Las Cruces, NM

Lori M. Comallie-Caplan, LMSW, Las Cruces, NM

83. Testifying on Behalf of Infants: Attachment and the Science of Neurodevelopment

There are two areas of research that have important implications for questions of custody and access involving infants and young children: attachment theory and neuroscience. This presentation will give a general overview of the state of the literature on attachment and brain development emphasizing the implications for experts testifying on behalf of young children involved in high conflict divorce proceedings.

Evelyn Wotherspoon, MSW, Calgary, AB

Richelle Mychasiuk, PhD, Calgary, AB



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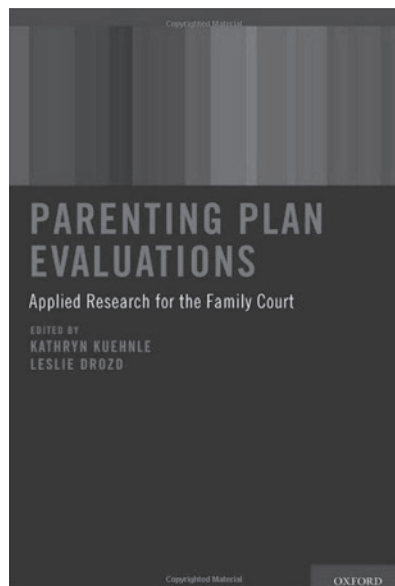
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**PARENTING PLAN EVALUATIONS:
Applied Research for the Family Court**
Edited by Kathryn Kuehnle and Leslie Drozd

Written by some of the leading researchers in the field of children and divorce, each chapter in this book presents current empirical knowledge on the important and complex issues that arise in child custody evaluations. This book will assist professionals in identifying scientifically-based conclusions proffered by forensic mental health experts from those conclusions based on pseudo-science. Parenting Plan Evaluations is a must-read for forensic mental health professionals, legal practitioners, family law judges and attorneys, and other professionals.

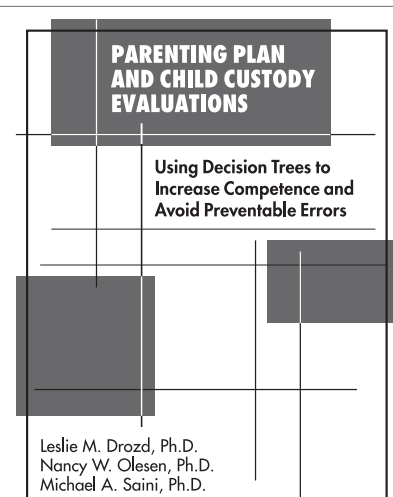
Topics Include:

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Alienation, Domestic Violence, Relocation, Cultural Issues,
ADHD, Gay & Lesbian Parents, Daubert & Frye,
Application of Research in Parenting Plan Evaluations**

**PARENTING PLAN & CHILD CUSTODY EVALUATIONS:
Using Decision Trees to Increase Evaluator Competence
& Avoid Preventable Errors**
By Leslie Drozd, Nancy Olesen, and Michael Saini

This book is about developing systematic ways to improve the processes evaluators use to create and test hypotheses as well as how they collect, organize and analyze information in a transparent and comprehensive way. The authors advocate for the benefits of visually organizing pertinent information in custody evaluations by utilizing charts, decision trees, and grids for clarification.

Included in the book are reproducible checklists and tools to reduce human biases and errors and to improve the accuracy of decision making. These tools have been "field tested" by the authors and they believe the consistency and transparency of decision-making is improved with the aid of these tools.



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praise for the book:

"This innovative and useful book presents a paradigm shift in the approach to parenting plan evaluations. Its layout is equally imaginative... The annotated bibliographies at the conclusion of each chapter and the A to Z appendices provide the reader with more information than any book currently on the market. The application of scientific literature in this book creates a meticulous decision-making model for evaluators, attorneys and judges."

– Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., *Director of the Center of Excellence for Children, Families and the Law, Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology*

...it will assist the evaluator in confronting his/her own biases and short cut thinking. It is not just the evaluator who can benefit from this process: judges and lawyers should consider consciously adopting this method to better their own decision making."

– Marjorie A. Slabach, JD, *retired judicial officer, presided over Family Court in San Francisco Superior Court 1997-2011*

...Decision Trees outlines a scientific path for evaluating the complex fact scenarios created when parental relationships dissolve and families divorce. This book creates a replicable model that illuminates how evaluators can think in disciplined ways. It is a "light" that should brighten every evaluator's bookshelf."

– Milfred "Bud" Dale, Ph.D., J.D., *Attorney at Law, Forensic Psychologist, Topeka, Kansas*



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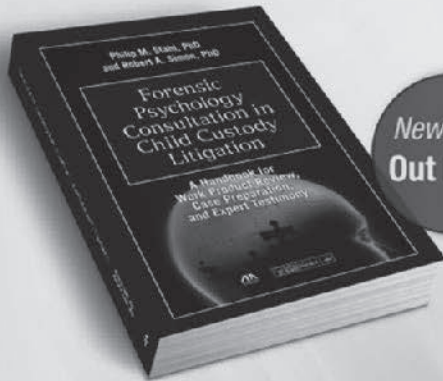
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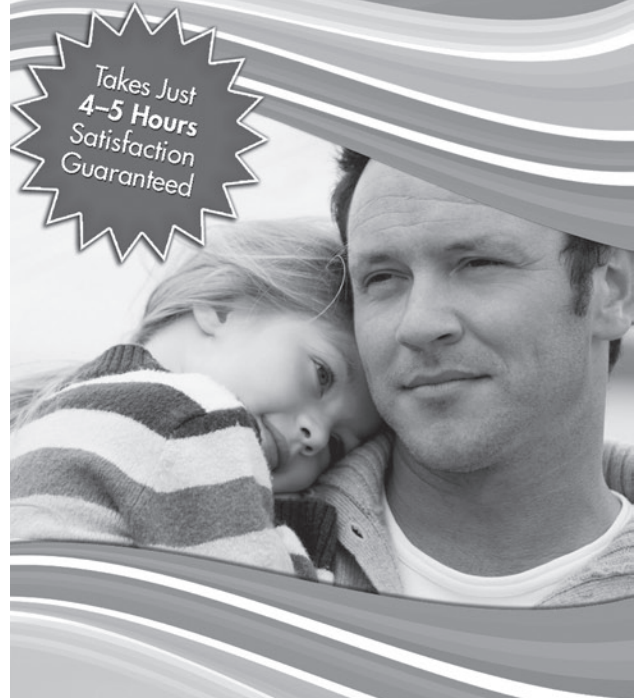
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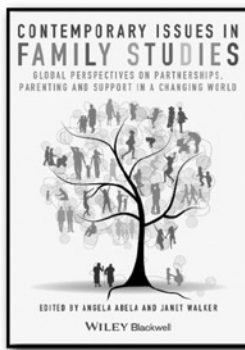
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or email divorce@sesame.org
for more information.



“Our relationship with AFCC has been instrumental to the success of Sesame Workshop’s Little Children, Big Challenges: Divorce initiative. AFCC has helped broaden our project’s reach and impact. Through our partnership, we are disseminating digital tools to a whole new audience of professionals, and we have been able to distribute over 12,000 multimedia resource kits to families and children we couldn’t reach ourselves. Through it all, AFCC members and leadership have proven their dedication to our shared mission of helping families with young children cope with divorce.”

— Lynn Chwatsky, Vice President of Community and Family Engagement, Sesame Workshop

Important Conference Information

AFCC Silent Auction

The 16th Annual AFCC Silent Auction will take place on Friday, May 30, immediately before the Annual Banquet. Auction proceeds help support AFCC projects and initiatives. Contributions will be recognized in the silent auction catalog and in the *AFCC eNEWS*. If you would like to donate an item, please contact AFCC program manager Erin Sommerfeld at esommerfeld@afccnet.org or 608-664-3750.

Continuing Education Credits

AFCC will provide a certificate of conference attendance for a processing fee of \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. *The certificate will verify attendance at conference sessions and may be used to apply for continuing education credits with the registrant's accrediting institution.* A complete list of conference sessions eligible for continuing education credits will be available at the AFCC registration desk.

Ontario Lawyers: An application will be submitted to the Law Society of Upper Canada to accredit the educational program content for professionalism hours (Continuing Professional Development or CPD) for lawyers.

US Lawyers: An application for accreditation of continuing legal education activity will be submitted to Vermont. US Lawyers may use the certificate of attendance to apply to their individual state for credit.

Psychologists: AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for the program and its content. The program is eligible for up to 20.75 hours of continuing education for psychologists.

Mental Health Professionals: An application for continuing education approval from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) will be submitted for up to 20.75 CE credits; however, individuals will need to verify approval with their credentialing or licensing boards.

AFCC is approved by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences to offer continuing education for MFT and LCSW professionals in California, PCE#4630. The pre-conference institutes provide 6 hours and the conference program provides up to 14.75 hours toward continuing education required by BBS.

AFCC is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP™) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet the National Board of Certified Counselor requirements. The ACEP is solely responsible for all aspects of the program. Up to 20.75 hours may be earned.

Mediators: All conference sessions are eligible for continuing education units through the Association for Conflict Resolution.

California Custody Evaluators and Mediators: Applications will be submitted to the Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts. The views expressed in the program are those of the faculty and do not necessarily represent the official positions or policies of the Judicial Council of California or the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Audio Recording

Conference sessions will be recorded by Digital Conference Providers, Inc. MP3 downloads of the sessions may be ordered online at www.dcpvidersonline.com/afcc after the conference concludes. No personal audio or video recording of sessions is permitted.

Conference Scholarships

For more than ten years, AFCC members have helped deserving professionals and students attend AFCC Conferences by giving to the AFCC Scholarship Fund. Scholarships include pre-conference institute registration, conference registration, welcome reception, luncheon and annual banquet tickets, AFCC hospitality suite; and a certificate of attendance. A limited number of scholarships include stipends to help offset the cost of travel and accommodations for recipients. Preference for scholarships with stipends is given to applicants with higher travel costs, international applicants and those who demonstrate financial need. The scholarship application is available on the AFCC website: www.afccnet.org. **The scholarship application deadline is March 1, 2014.** Recipients will be notified in mid-to-late March.

Exhibitor Forum

The Exhibitor Forum will be open during conference hours and provides an opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives and discuss your needs for products and services. AFCC publications will be available for purchase. If you are interested in renting exhibit space or distributing materials to conference attendees, please contact AFCC program manager Erin Sommerfeld at 608-664-3750 or esommerfeld@afccnet.org.

Conference Bookstore

Caversham Booksellers will sell books in the Exhibitor Forum during the conference. If you would like to have your book displayed, please contact joe@cavbk.ca or karl@cavbk.ca, no later than March 31, 2014, with "AFCC Bookstore" in the subject line.

AFCC Hospitality Suite

The AFCC hospitality suite will be open for informal networking and refreshment on Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00pm–12:00am and on Friday from 9:30pm–12:00am. Please wear your name badge. The hospitality suite location will be posted at the AFCC registration desk.

Taste of Toronto

Thursday evening is your opportunity to enjoy the area with friends and colleagues. Sign up on site before 1:00pm on Thursday and join a group of 8–10 for dinner at a local restaurant in the Toronto area. Participants are responsible for food, beverage and transportation costs.

Special Needs

If you have dietary restrictions or other special needs, please note this on the registration form. The Westin Harbour Castle's meeting facilities, its guest rooms, common areas and transportation services are in compliance with the public accommodation requirements of the CDA.

Registration Information

Please read before completing your conference registration form!

AFCC Members Save up to \$165 USD/\$175 CAD on Registration Rates: Register and pay by March 7, 2014, to receive the best rates for the conference! The early bird special rates are available only to AFCC members. Not a member? Find out more about the New Membership Special below.

New Membership Special: Join AFCC when you register for the conference and receive a twelve-month membership for \$150—a \$10 discount—and save up to \$165 USD/\$175 CAD by registering at the AFCC member rate! To join, simply select the new membership special rate on the registration form. *The new membership special rate is available only to first time AFCC members.*

Pre-conference Institute Registration: Includes attendance at a pre-conference institute, refreshment break and institute materials. *Institute registration is separate from registration for the full conference.*

Conference Registration: Includes all conference sessions, electronic conference materials, refreshment breaks, opening reception, luncheon, annual banquet and AFCC hospitality suite. *Pre-conference institutes require a separate registration fee.*

Spouse/Guest Registration: Available only to a spouse or significant other, NOT a business associate or staff colleague, accompanying a full conference registrant. Includes plenary sessions, opening reception, luncheon, annual banquet and AFCC hospitality suite.

Conference Presenter Registration: Available only to conference presenters. Includes all conference sessions electronic conference materials, refreshment breaks, opening reception, luncheon, annual banquet and AFCC hospitality suite. *A separate registration fee is required for presenters who wish to attend pre-conference institutes.*

Full-Time Student Registration: Includes all conference sessions and electronic conference materials. Meal functions are not included; however, meal tickets may be purchased separately. Registration must include proof of full-time student status. *Separate registration is required for pre-conference institutes.*

Certificate of Attendance Registration: AFCC will provide a certificate of attendance for a processing fee of \$15 for members \$20 for non-members. You will receive instructions for obtaining your certificate at the AFCC registration desk, along with a list of conference sessions eligible for continuing education credit.

Additional Luncheon Ticket

The luncheon is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$75 USD/\$80 CAD until May 2, \$85 USD/\$95 CAD after May 2. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

Additional Annual Banquet Ticket

The annual banquet is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$100 USD/\$105 CAD until May 2, \$110 USD/\$115 CAD after May 2. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

For Canadian Residents: Bank protocols limit AFCC to accepting credit card payments in US dollars. Fees in Canadian dollars are based on the exchange rate on the date of publication and have been rounded to the nearest \$5 increment. Canadian residents may pay in Canadian dollars by check or money order. All credit card payments from outside the United States will be processed at the exchange rate on the date of the transaction.

AFCC reserves the right to cancel or substitute any presenter or session should circumstances arise beyond its control.

Travel and Lodging Information

Hotel Information

The Westin Harbour Castle

1 Harbour Square
Toronto, ON M5J 1A6
Canada
Phone: 416-869-1600

Exciting, vibrant and cosmopolitan, Toronto is Canada's largest and most diverse city—and is the most multicultural city in the world. The Westin Harbour Castle is located on the waterfront of Lake Ontario and nearby attractions include the Hockey Hall of Fame, CN Tower, Eaton Centre (shopping), theatre and financial districts. Westin is known for its Heavenly Beds and this hotel features a 24-hour fully-equipped fitness center, indoor heated pool and a European Day Spa. Hotel information is available at www.westin.com/harbourcastle and Toronto visitor information can be accessed at www.mytorontomeeting.com.

Make your reservations today! The Westin Harbour Castle is offering a special rate to AFCC conference registrants of \$185 CAD per night for single occupancy or \$206 CAD per night for double occupancy. *All rooms are subject to availability and early reservations are encouraged to ensure a room at these great rates.* On May 1, 2014, any non-reserved rooms in the AFCC block will be released and the special AFCC rate will not be guaranteed. Please remember that hotel rooms may be sold out before the reservation deadline. Make your reservations by calling toll-free 1-800-937-8461 and requesting the AFCC special rate, or go to www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/AFE25A.

Proof of Citizenship

Make sure you carry proper identification for yourself and children traveling with you. Canada Border Services Agency's website, www.cbsa.gc.ca/travel-voyage/ifvc-rpvc-eng.html#a1, provides complete information on what is necessary to enter Canada. Most visitors are required to present proof of citizenship when entering and leaving Canada. US citizens are required to have a valid passport or other travel document approved by the Department of Homeland Security for re-entry into the United States. Routine passport applications are being processed in approximately 4-6 weeks and US residents may visit www.travel.state.gov for more information.

Air Travel Information

The Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) is located approximately 28km (17 miles) from the Westin Harbour Castle. For more information, visit www.torontopearson.com. WestJet Airlines is offering a 10% discount for AFCC conference attendees. To book your flights, call WestJet group reservations at 1-888-493-7853 and use the discount code CC8078 (Mon–Fri 7am–5:30pm MST). Air Canada, www.aircanada.com, is one of the major airline carriers that flies into Toronto. Porter Airlines, www.flyporter.com, flies into Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, located minutes from downtown Toronto.

Ground Transportation

Taxi fare is currently \$60-\$65 CAD from the Toronto Pearson International Airport to the Westin Harbour Castle and takes about 40 minutes, depending on traffic. Toronto Airport Express (www.torontoairportexpress.com) provides direct motor coach transportation to/from the airport. The cost is approximately \$28 CAD one way and travel time is 45-50 minutes. Airport Express bus service operates every 40 minutes between 6:25am–12:05am from the airport to downtown and between 5:25am–8:45pm from downtown to the airport.

Rental Car Information

The following rental car companies are located onsite at the Toronto Pearson International Airport: Avis, Budget, Dollar/Thrifty, Enterprise, Hertz and National/Alamo. Car rental counters are located on Level 1 of the parking garages adjacent to both terminals.

Parking

Parking rates at the Westin Harbour Castle are \$45 CAD per day for valet with unlimited in/out privileges. Self-park is \$35 CAD per day with unlimited in/out privileges (located 1 block north of hotel at 16 Harbour Street at The Pinnacle Centre). If you wish to self-park, you may drive to the main entrance of the hotel where you will be able to unload and store your luggage. The parking cashier will issue you a self-parking pass.

Climate

In late May, temperatures in Toronto range from a high of 30°C/86°F to a low of 18°C/65°F. Meeting rooms, restaurants and hotel facilities can be cool, so take a light jacket or sweater.

Conference Registration Form

AFCC 51st Anniversary Conference • May 28–31, 2014 • Toronto, ON, Canada

Please register by April 25, 2014, to ensure that your name appears on the list of conference attendees included in the electronic conference materials.

Register online at www.afccnet.org

1 Please type or print clearly. This form may be duplicated.

First Name (Dr. / Mr. / Ms. / Judge) _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____ Degree _____

First name or Nickname (as you would like it to appear on your name badge) _____

Title/Profession _____ Organization _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Country _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Name of Spouse/Guest _____

(If they are registering below at the Spouse/Guest rate)

Is this your first AFCC Conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have dietary restrictions or other special needs?

☐ Luncheon/Banquet Meals ☐ Access ☐ Other Please provide details: _____

Professional

Designation
(Select one please)

- ☐ Academic
☐ Court Administrator
☐ Court Commissioner
☐ Custody Evaluator
☐ Financial Professional
☐ Judge
☐ Lawyer
☐ Mediator
☐ Mental Health Professional
☐ Parenting Coordinator
☐ Parent Educator
☐ Researcher
☐ Other: _____

2 Registration Rates

Please circle the appropriate amount(s) when making your selections and enter your total at the bottom

New Membership Special

Join AFCC for 12 months and register at AFCC member rates! For first time members only.

Pre-conference Institute Registration Rates

	Paid by March 7 \$USD/\$CAD	Paid by May 2 \$USD/\$CAD	Paid after May 2 \$USD/\$CAD
Full Day Institute Registration – AFCC Member	\$150 / \$155	\$150 / \$155	\$150 / \$155
Full Day Institute Registration – Non-member	\$195 / \$205	\$195 / \$205	\$205 / \$215

Conference Registration Rates

	Paid by March 7 \$USD/\$CAD	Paid by May 2 \$USD/\$CAD	Paid after May 2 \$USD/\$CAD
Conference Registration – AFCC Member	\$455 / \$475	\$480 / \$500	\$525 / \$545
Conference Registration – Non-member	\$570 / \$595	\$570 / \$595	\$620 / \$645
Conference Presenter Rate – AFCC Member	\$265 / \$275	\$265 / \$275	\$280 / \$290
Conference Presenter Rate – Non-member	\$290 / \$300	\$290 / \$300	\$310 / \$325
Full-time Student Rate – AFCC Member (ID required. No meals included.)	\$150 / \$155	\$175 / \$180	\$200 / \$210
Full-time Student Rate – Non-member (ID required. No meals included.)	\$175 / \$180	\$200 / \$210	\$225 / \$235

Other Registration Rates

	Paid by March 7 \$USD/\$CAD	Paid by May 2 \$USD/\$CAD	Paid after May 2 \$USD/\$CAD
Certificate of Attendance – AFCC Member	\$15	\$15	\$15
Certificate of Attendance – Non-member	\$20	\$20	\$20
Additional Luncheon Ticket	\$75 / \$80	\$75 / \$80	\$85 / \$90
Additional Banquet Ticket	\$100 / \$105	\$100 / \$105	\$110 / \$115
Spouse/Guest Registration Rate (Meals and plenary sessions only.)	\$265 / \$275	\$265 / \$275	\$280 / \$290
Scholarship Fund Donation	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

3

Institute Selections—Wednesday, May 28, 2014

If you have registered for an institute, please check only one of the following boxes:

Pre-conference Institutes 9:00am–4:30pm

- ☐ 1. Family Interventions When Children Resist Contact with a Parent
☐ 2. Difficult Conversations at the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Mediation
☐ 3. Whole Family, Universal Risk Screening: New Evidence, New Tools, New Possibilities
☐ 4. Relocation and Best Practices
☐ 5. Uncorroborated Allegations of Child Sexual Abuse: Science and Practice
☐ 6. Judicial Officers Institute: Cross-Border Child Custody and Parental Child Abduction Disputes
☐ 7. Triangulating the Child: Children in the Parenting Coordination Process

4

Conference Workshop Selections

Seating is not guaranteed and will be first-come first-served. Your selections will ensure that sessions with more attendees are scheduled in larger meeting rooms.

(Please write in one workshop number per time slot)

Thursday, May 29	10:30am–12:00pm	1–12 _____
Thursday, May 29	1:30pm–3:00pm	13–24 _____
Thursday, May 29	3:30pm–5:00pm	25–36 _____
Friday, May 30	1:30pm–3:00pm	37–48 _____
Friday, May 30	3:30pm–5:00pm	49–60 _____
Saturday, May 31	9:15am–10:45am	61–72 _____
Saturday, May 31	11:00am–12:30pm	73–83 _____

5

Conference Meals

To ensure sufficient space and quantities, while reducing waste, please indicate which meals you will attend:

- Wednesday Opening Reception ☐ yes ☐ no
Thursday Luncheon ☐ yes ☐ no
Friday Annual Banquet ☐ yes ☐ no

6

Method of Payment

Registrations must be paid in full prior to attendance.

☐ Payment of \$ _____ is enclosed (US or Canadian currency only please)

☐ Please charge \$ _____ to my ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Credit card transactions will be processed in US dollars; exchange rate on day of transaction will apply.

Card Number _____

Exp. Date ____ / ____ / ____ Security Code _____

Card Holder's Signature _____

Purchase Order # _____

Cancellation Policy: Transfer of registration to another person may be done at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds must be made in writing. Written notice of cancellation received by fax or postmarked by May 5, 2014, will be issued a full refund minus a \$75 service fee. Written notice received by fax or postmarked by May 16, 2014, will have the \$75 service fee deducted and the balance will be issued as a credit for future AFCC conferences, publications or membership dues. No refunds or credits will be issued for cancellations received after May 16, 2014.

You may register online at www.afccnet.org
or return the completed form and payment to:

AFCC • 6525 Grand Teton Plaza • Madison, WI 53719
Phone: 608-664-3750 • Fax: 608-664-3751 • afcc@afccnet.org



6525 Grand Teton Plaza
Madison, WI 53719

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
AFCC 51st Annual Conference

TORONTO

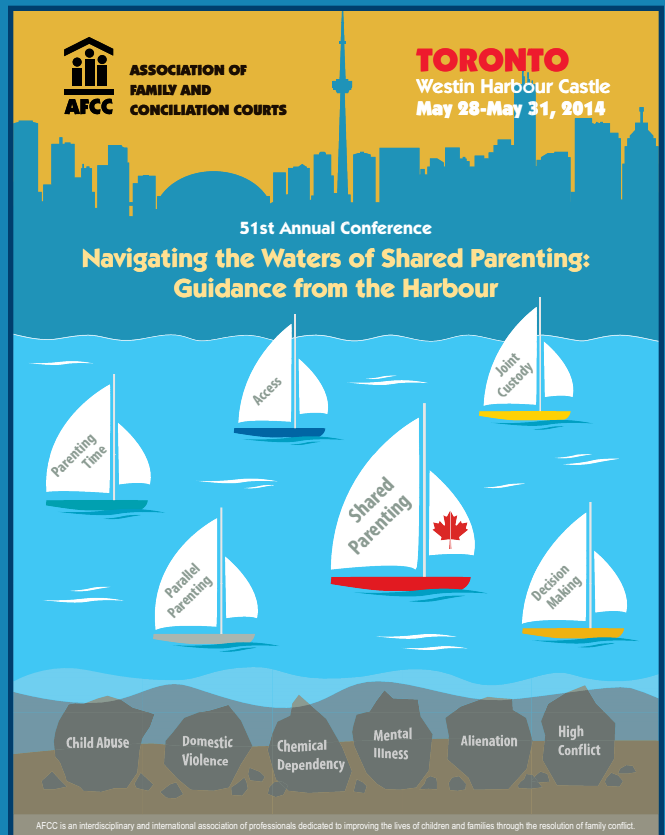
**Navigating the Waters of Shared Parenting:
Guidance from the Harbour**

**Westin Harbour Castle–Toronto
May 28-31, 2014**

Conference Sessions Include:

**Family Interventions
When Children Resist Contact
Relocation Risk in Young Children
Successful Court-Connected
Mediation Programs
Closing the Family Justice Access Gap
Reproductive Technology
Overnights and Young Children
Thinking Fast and Slow in Mediation
Perspectives of Shared Parenting
New Ways for Mediation
Decision Making in
Disputed Care for Infants
Preventive Family Law in the 21st Century
Family Dispute Resolution Initiatives**

Diamond Sponsor:
OurFamilyWizard.com



**Register online at
www.afccnet.org**