



WINTER/SPRING 2016

WHAT'S NEW?

- Our acclaimed Family Mediation Certification Program began in late January with Introduction to ADR (Jan. 21-23, offered again on Apr. 20-22). The program continues in March with Family Law (Mar. 21-24), followed by Screening for Family Violence (Apr. 13-15), and concluding with Basic Family Negotiation & Mediation (May 5-6, 9-11). In 2015 alone, we have trained over 150 professionals.
- Hilary Linton, Elizabeth Hyde and selected coaches will be training civic leaders in various Caribbean nations in Alternative Dispute Resolution, in collaboration with the **Improved Access to Justice** in the Caribbean project. The three training sessions will be held late February – early April 2016.
- Hilary Linton and colleague, Laura Catone-Tarcea, presented at the CAB Knowledge Symposium on Feb. 11, 2016, where the focus of the evening will be on "Accreditation and Internships - Inculcating Confidence".
- Between Nov. 2-4, 2015, Hilary and Elizabeth were at Western University as co-instructors to the entire first-year law class in the "Introduction to Dispute Resolution". The intensive 3-day program included well-known speakers and coaches from both London and Toronto. It was a truly collaborative effort.

BACK - TO - BACK

Elizabeth and Hilary are teaching at Western University Faculty of Law. The course, entitled "Negotiation and Mediation", introduces students to the theoretical elements of dispute resolution, and will equip them with the fundamental skills required for effective advocacy in all conflict resolution processes.



Western UNIVERSITY · CANADA



Between Feb. 8-12, 2016, Hilary, Elizabeth and colleague Christine Kim delivered an intensive five-day training session on "Non-Adversarial Resolution of Family Law Issues" in the Family Law LL.M. program at Osgoode's Professional Development Programme.



On Jan. 7-8, 2016, Hilary was retained by the Durham Children's Aid Society (DCAS) to provide an intensive two-day training session on "Strategies and Skills for Successful Facilitation". Cheryl Jeffrey, Service Supervisor at DCAS, provided this testimonial: "Hilary's two-day training was exceptional... She was well prepared, informative and provided us with relevant information that we will be sure to make good use of moving

forward. Hilary's well researched and proven strategies were both practical and relevant to us. We were able to practice our new skills under her guidance and supervision which then allowed us the opportunity to internalize our new learning in a supportive environment. Hilary was quick to make an assessment of our learning needs and she was flexible in adjusting her curriculum accordingly. Her teaching style of calm confidence and willingness to support us in the best way possible encouraged our engagement in her training opportunity. I would highly recommend Hilary Linton to anyone who is seeking advanced training in facilitation skills".



Hilary with Betty, renowned Vancouver Family Mediator

Hilary delivered a two-day workshop on Advanced Family Mediation at the 2015 FMC Conference. The workshop was held on November 13-14, 2015 in Vancouver, British Columbia at the Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue. Hilary provided this feedback: "I was honoured to be asked to provide two days of advanced family

mediation training for Family Mediation Canada (FMC) in Vancouver this month. It was a particular pleasure to do this on the 30th anniversary of FMC's creation by the Department of Justice in Ottawa. Howard Irving, one of the original FMC directors, spoke about the history behind FMC and brought with him some of the very first editions of RESOLVE, the FMC newsletter. I was fortunate to train many senior and experienced family mediators from across the country and we enjoyed learning from one another very much." For more information on FMC (Family Mediation Canada), please visit: www.fmc.ca



On Thursday, December 3rd, 2015, we held our popular Wine & Cheese Family Mediation Information Night at the Law Chambers (181 University Ave.), an interactive session where prospective mediators mingle with experienced mediators. Elizabeth Hyde and Jared Norton facilitated the session, with help from current interns Brook Thorndycraft, Andrea Watt and Michelle Walton. To say the least, the night was a great success!



UPCOMING COURSES

Our courses are designed in reliance on the family mediation certification requirements as posted on the OAFM website, and also for the ADRIO Cert. F. M. designation.

Family Law
March 21, 22, 23 & 24, 2016

Screening for Family Violence, Abuse, and Power Imbalances
April 13, 14 & 15, 2016



This course has been accredited for 4.75 Professionalism Hours and 16.25 Substantive Hours.

Introduction to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
April 20, 21 & 22, 2016



This program contains 8.5 Professionalism Hour(s), and is eligible for up to 12 hr 30 min of substantive content.

Basic Family Negotiation & Mediation
May 5, 6, 9, 10 & 11, 2016



This program has been accredited by the Law Society for 7.5 Professionalism Hours and up to 32.5 Substantive Hours.

Duty of Care for Family Law Professionals (10-Hour Update)
May 16, 2016



This program has been accredited by the Law Society for 3.0 Professionalism Hours and 7.0 Substantive hours.

REGISTER ONLINE

PACKAGE DISCOUNTS ARE AVAILABLE!

TEAM SPIRIT SHINES

On Feb. 2, 2016, the Riverdale staff met at the Ballroom for an evening of food, drinks, laughs and 10-pin bowling! It was a great opportunity for staff to engage in a social activity outside of the work environment as well as demonstrate their (hidden) bowling talents...Strike!



FROM OUR BLOG



RIVERDALE MEDIATION GOES INTERNATIONAL!

Hilary Linton
Published February 29, 2016

Over the next several months, Riverdale Mediation Ltd. will be training civic leaders in various Caribbean nations in Alternative Dispute Resolution, in collaboration with the Improved Access to Justice in the Caribbean project (IMPACT JUSTICE).

This week, Elizabeth Hyde of Riverdale Mediation Ltd. is leading three of our former interns (and all mediators on the mediate393 inc. roster) in a week-long training of 35 community leaders in Grenada.

Hosted by the University of West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, the training is part of a five year regional justice sector reform project funded by the Government of Canada. The project goal is to enhance access to justice for the benefit of women, men, youth and businesses in CARICOM member states.

The training provided by Riverdale focuses on the ADR component of the project, designed to facilitate increased knowledge and use of ADR processes as a means of settling disputes at an early stage without court interventions.

Focusing on civil, community and family mediation process design and skills, the four Riverdale trainers will lead the program participants through five days of intensive theory and skills training in conflict analysis, negotiation theory, mediation practice and skills training, mediation and negotiation role playing and de-briefing, and discussions about ethics, liability and codes of conduct for mediators.

The training is approved by the ADR Institute of Ontario towards its civil mediation designation.

RECENT TESTIMONIALS

INTRODUCTION TO ADR COURSE

"Enthusiasm of the instructors, applicability of the theory to the problems we see daily in practice"
- Jason Murphy, January 2016

"Collegial, pleasant atmosphere and I liked the people"
- Jim Jordan, January 2016

MEDIATION

"I want to thank you (Hilary) for your great work on the file and bringing the parties to resolution." - Toronto Lawyer, 2015

"I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank-you (Hilary Linton) for your help and guidance yesterday. You were a very calming presence in the room, in a situation that could have been even more heated than it was at times." - mediation client, 2015

SCREENING FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE COURSE

"(What I liked most was) Faculty, coaches and guests! Very knowledgeable...I was very impressed (and) enjoyed meeting each of you...I've learned a lot and am excited to continue my journey in mediation."
- Jamie Stacey, October 2015

"Such an excellent course! Great way to tackle some very difficult material. Practical and theoretical skills for many fields. Has me thinking of new ways, and has left me with lots to work with and integrate into my work and my life..."
- Frances Maychak, October 2015

"Role play (screening vs. mediation) gave me more time to process my thoughts and have more carefully crafted questions. I will now be better at the mediation level."
- Paige Postma, October 2015