



# WHAT'S NEW?

## Family Mediation, Arbitration and Parenting Coordination

Work with our team of certified, experienced FDR professionals.

Elizabeth Hyde  
J.D., LL.M. (ADR)

Hilary Linton  
J.D., LL.M. (ADR)

Jared Norton  
(MSW)

RIVERDALE MEDIATION  
Affordable, effective, excellent.

Family Mediation Arbitration  
Parenting Coordination DV Screening.

www.riverdalemediation.com  
416-593-0210 @riverdaleADR

Our team of Family Dispute Resolution professionals is now taking new cases for 2017. We are pleased to advise that our 2017 rates will not increase. Visit our website for more information about the experience that makes our team of Jared Norton (MSW), Elizabeth Hyde (LLM) and Hilary Linton (LLM) an excellent choice.

To make an appointment or for more information, contact Rhodes@riverdalemediation.com.

## FAMAC Conference in South Africa

In September 2016, Hilary presented a workshop on family mediation-arbitration for FDR professionals in Cape Town, South Africa, along with UK colleague Felicity Sheddin. She also met with the government's Family Advocate's office to speak about screening for family violence, and presented at the FAMAC's Second Annual Mediation Conference Sept. 14-15.



Wine & Cheese  
FAMILY MEDIATION INFORMATION NIGHT

Our "Family Mediation Information Night" is always a popular event. We hope you will consider attending our next one, Thursday June 8, where you will:

- Hear from representatives from the OAFM, FDRIO, ADRIO and FMC about how to become a certified or accredited family mediator
- Learn about training options and internships
- Meet and mingle with experienced mediators
- Hear from Riverdale Mediation interns
- Learn about work opportunities... and more.

## Training in Edmonton - Oct. 20-22, 2016

Elizabeth and Hilary and coach Akbar Ebrahim led a 3-day workshop in identifying, assessing and managing power imbalances and family violence for the Canadian Ismaili Conciliation and Arbitration Board (CAB) in October. They worked intensively with a group of 45 volunteer community mediators, visited an Edmonton mosque and enjoyed wonderful hospitality.

## IMPACT Justice Training - Fall 2016



Since the spring of last year we have been providing negotiation and mediation training to police officers and community leaders in several CARICOM countries, including Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, Grenada, Belize, St. Lucia, and Dominica. Our work was a small part of the Canadian-government funded IMPACT Justice project. Read our most recent blog post below to learn more.

## FROM OUR BLOG

### Learning as we Train New Mediators in the Caribbean (excerpt)

Hilary Linton  
Published January 5, 2017

The last session of training that we provided in the Caribbean for IMPACT Justice was in Belize in November. We spent the week with 38 police officers of varying rank, who came each day from across the country.

We were inspired by the energy these officers put into merely getting to the course. Many spent 2 hours or more each way, by bus, arriving in crisp uniforms, ready to study and practice their mediation skills.

As with all the sessions in other Caribbean countries, the people taking this training were hardly students in the usual sense.

They included senior members of the Belizean Police Force who have been utilizing sophisticated forms of dispute

resolution in tough situations for years. Many have experience that we, the trainers, will never have, including having members of the community show up at your doorstep seeking mediation. Several in this group were experienced trainers and mediators themselves.

We had many women in our group, many of whom were single parents. They described the challenges they face juggling the often dangerous work they do with demands of caring for children and family, getting to and from work, and managing in a tough economy.

Working with gender constructs is an important feature of the IMPACT Justice Project, and all participants were

already keenly aware of the impact of gender on negotiation process and outcomes.

Belize City is one of the most fascinating places I have been. Like many urban centres in former colonies, many of the buildings were designed and built in a former era, with colonial influences and often slave labour. We were fortunate to get a tour of the Supreme Court house, a former Governor's residence and the oldest Anglican Church in Central America, built with bricks that served as ballast in ships from England.

For the complete article, please visit our blog at:

[riverdalemediation.com/resources/blog/](http://riverdalemediation.com/resources/blog/)



U P C O M I N G  
C O U R S E S  
2 0 1 7

Basic Parenting Coordination (14 Hours)  
January 5-6, 2017



Advanced Parenting Coordination (14 Hours)  
January 12 & 13, 2017



Family Arbitration Law & Skills  
January 25, 26 & 27, 2017



Family Relations  
January 25, 26 & 27, 2017



Introduction to ADR  
(Conflict, Negotiation & Dispute Resolution)  
(21 Hours)  
February 15, 16 & 17, 2017



Family Law (21/30 Hour)  
March 20, 21 & 22 / 23, 2017

Screening for Family Violence, Abuse,  
and Power Imbalances (21 Hours)  
April 24, 25 & 26, 2017



Basic Family Negotiation & Mediation  
(40 Hour)  
May 11, 12, 15, 16 & 17, 2017



Duty of Care for FDR Professionals  
(10-Hour Update)  
May 31, 2017



U P C O M I N G E V E N T

Collaborating with CFL

We are excited to be working with the Association of Collaborative Family Law Professionals in Nova Scotia April 7-8, 2017. This workshop will build on our experiences as family mediators, arbitrators and parenting coordinators, and explore the applications in collaborative practice. For more information, please view the course flyer.



Riverdale Mediation was an exhibitor at FDRIO's second annual Conference November 21, 2016. Turn out was strong and our staff were glad to be there! The theme of the week long celebration of family dispute resolution was "FDRevolution". We enjoyed being part of it!



Riverdale Mediation  
peace of mind, don't settle for less.

Rhodes-Thompson Chase (left) and Frank Guerreiro (right) managing the Riverdale booth at the 2nd annual FDR week conference (November 21st, 2016).

RECENT TESTIMONIALS

IMPACT Justice Training  
(Caribbean, Fall 2016)

"It was new and dynamic information and it has opened up new and creative ways of thinking and how to deal with a variety of issues"

"(I most liked the) contribution and feedback from coaches during role plays. It was a very helpful and productive experience"

"(I liked) the way our coaches were structured and very professional in guiding me to have a better knowledge of mediation and how I can improve my work in relation to clients"

"The relevance of the subject matter to my field of work and the use of role plays"

"The role plays were my favourite as it allowed me to put what I've learnt to use. I became aware of my strengths and weaknesses"

SCREENING FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE

"(I liked) The role plays, ability to speak and hear others comments, not "lecture style". (I like) Hilary's passion and Elizabeth's sense of humour...great instructors!"

"Great material, great discussion. Loved the input from coaches. Wonderful opportunity for self-reflection."

"Role plays and feedback were very worthwhile; Materials (manual & readings) are excellent."

ADVANCED FAMILY MEDIATION

the role plays were challenging but a great learning experience"

"excellent feedback and coaching"

"(appreciated the) coaches, quality of materials and instructors"

"Lots of hand on practice; excellent feedback and coaching."

FAMILY LAW

"I would highly recommend this course to professionals... lawyers, social workers, mental health professionals."

"The quality of the materials and exercises was matched by the experience and enthusiasm of the instructors and coaches."

"This has been the best experience that I have had as an adult learner... What made it so was the theory taken into practice with coaches and professional actors. Fantastic!"