



# Addendum to the Edition 4 AFMS Newsletter

## **Reminder of the February 16/05 Lunch and Learn**

The February Lunch and Learn Session will be held on February 16/05. Averie MacNary and Marnie Plucer of Alberta Justice will be presenting on the Civil Claims Mediation Project in Queen's Bench.

## **Family Mediation Day**

Family Mediation Canada has designated February 2/05 as the national Family Mediation Day. They are doing a web page ([www.fmc.ca/callathon](http://www.fmc.ca/callathon)) and national callathon to raise money as well as to provide a free consultative mediation session for families experiencing conflict. They are also doing a media release. Volunteers from across the country previously agreed to volunteer to provide the consultative sessions so callers will be matched up to a volunteer within their jurisdiction wherever possible. Callers are not required to donate but will be asked if they would like to support FMC. If the initiative works well, they will continue it as an outreach and community awareness building activity.

There are activities that you may want to do to celebrate and recognize Family Mediation Day:

- Mark February 2/06 in your calendar for next year to plan ahead and look at how you can recognize this day in your work next year
- Post a notice in your office that February 2 is National Family Mediation Day
- Advise your local newsletter or radio station that February 2 is National Family Mediation day and offer information about mediation in family situations, how the process of mediation works, benefits of mediation for families, etc.
- Set up a display about family mediation (e.g. at your place of work, a library, courthouse, etc.)
- Send letters to referral sources notifying that February 2 is Family Mediation Day and remind referral agents about the positive benefits of mediation in family situations
- Talk about the field of family mediation to people during the course of this day
- Approach local radio stations to do a brief interview with you about family mediation
- Reflect upon why this day is significant to you as a practitioner