

# ALBERTA FAMILY MEDIATION SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

Edition 18: June 2006

### Special points of interest:

- We welcome your input about the newsletters and encourage you to submit articles and features

### A Brief Summary of “Lunch and Learn” Session, April 11, 2006

**Brad Kring**, Legal Counsel and Senior Program Coordinator of the Family Law Information Centre, gave a well put together power point presentation on an overview of the New Family Law Act.

Brad answered questions and provided clarification on wording and meaning of wording in a clear and understandable manner.

Attendees brought forward different concerns regarding situations they had encountered and were provided answers and information to apply in their workplaces with and for their clients.

Brad Kring can be reached at (780) 415-0404 or information on the New Family Law Act is available at [www.justice.gov.ab.ca](http://www.justice.gov.ab.ca) and look for the document entitled “An Introduction to Alberta’s Family Law Act.”

### Inside this issue:

<i>Lunch and Learn Summary</i>	1
<i>Lunch and Learn sessions</i>	2
<i>Helpful Information</i>	3
<i>Book Summary</i>	%
<i>Quotes</i>	4

### AFMS NEW Board of Directors

**Ms. Geeta Bharadia (President)**

**Ms. Jane Warren (Vice President)**

**Ms. Kim Rieger (Secretary)**

**Kate Wood (Treasurer)**

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**Dr. Trevor Neil**

**Mary Jane Klein**

**Mr. Michael Porter**

**Ms. Bonnie Murray**

**Ms. Shelley Taggart**

**Kent Taylor (Past President)**

# Lunch and Learn Sessions

The location is always the Edmonton City Hall in the Heritage Room. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and the presentations run from noon until 1:00 p.m. There is a question period and mixer beginning at 1:00 to 1:30. This is a great venue to learn, share information and network with

## Next Lunch & Learn:

**JUNE 7, 2006**

There is no cost and you just need to bring your own lunch.

## A.F.M.S. Address :

#1650- 246 Stewart Green  
SW

Calgary, AB T3H 3C8

**PRESENTS A NEW SERIES OF LUNCH AND LEARN SESSIONS**  
**In Co-operation with Mediation and Restorative Justice Centre**  
**(NO COST / BRING YOUR LUNCH)**

EDMONTON CITY HALL, HERITAGE ROOM  
11:30 AM (doors open) to 1:30 PM  
(Presentation begins at noon to 1:00 PM.)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Gordon Andreiuk (Lawyer with Laurier Law Office) Summary, insights, funny stories of "Changes in Retroactive Child Support"

**Remember:**

**AFMS members  
receive a  
discount at  
Master and  
Scribes  
Bookstore in  
Edmonton**

## From the newsletter Editor– Charmaine Hammond

June is just around the corner and the newsletter will take a short break over the summer. Please watch for a mid summer update that will come to you by email and will be posted on the website.

Should you have any events or information you would like to share for the fall newsletter, please contact Charmaine.

Over the past year, the newsletters have been completed monthly. We are interested in knowing if a) people are reading

them and b) should we continue with monthly or quarterly newsletters.

You can contact Charmaine at 780-464-3828.



## Helpful Information

The Public Health Agency of Canada has some valuable resources for families experiencing separation and divorce.

Their publication "Because Life Goes On" is available on the website listed at the end of this article. This publication offers families information about:

- 1) what to expect
- 2) challenges you might face
- 3) financial issues
- 4) resources
- 5) where to get help
- 6) support networks
- 7) mediation
- 8) family violence
- 9) reading list and more.

[www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publica/mh-sm/divorce/1\\_e.html](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publica/mh-sm/divorce/1_e.html)

Relationships Australia state that there are about ten common mistakes that parents make when experiencing separation and divorce. Some of these include:

- failing to tell the children about the separation
- not reassuring the children enough
- bickering and fighting in front of the children
- parental put downs to the child
- encouraging the children to take one parent's side
- abruptly changing or upsetting children's routines and schedules.
- Setting up competitive activities against the other parent

Source: What about the Children– Relationships Australia

[www.relate.gov.au/separation](http://www.relate.gov.au/separation)

## Law Days 2006



## Membership Categories with AFMS

**Registered Family Mediator (RFM)** specializing in separation/divorce mediation.

**Registered Family Mediator (RFM)** specializing in General Family Mediation.

**Registered Family Mediator (RFM)** specializing in Family Business Mediation.

**Practicing Mediator** (designation for those who are continuing to gain mediation experience or for whom mediation is a small part of their practice.

**General Member**  
**Student Member**

## ALBERTA FAMILY MEDIATION SOCIETY (AFMS)

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Alberta *family* Mediation Society

*Advancing the practice of  
family mediation.*

*We're on the web—  
look us up!*

### About AFMS

Established in 1984,  
the non-profit  
society provides  
services to family  
mediators.

The organization has a  
part time administrative  
assistant and is managed  
by a volunteer board of  
directors, with  
representatives across the  
province.

The society is dedicated to  
both professional and public  
education regarding family  
mediation.

**"The possible's slow fuse is lit, by  
the imagination. "**

**Emily Dickinson**

**"Happiness is an attitude. We either  
make ourselves miserable, or happy  
and strong. The amount of work is  
the same."**

**~Francesca Reigler**

Every exit is an entrance somewhere  
else. -- Tom Stoppard

**"Quality begins on the in-  
side...and then works its  
way out. "**

**Bob Moawad  
Chairman and CEO of Edge  
Learning Institute**

*"We gain strength, and courage,  
and confidence by each  
experience in which we really stop  
to look fear in the face...  
we must do that which we think we  
cannot." — Eleanor Roosevelt*

## **Book Summary**

Preparing for Mediation- a dispute resolution guide by Deborah Lynn Zutter

This book, published 2005, provides readers with a wide variety of information pertaining to the mediation process including:

- Selecting the most appropriate dispute resolution process
- Preparing for mediation
- Selecting a mediator
- Dispute analysis
- Procedural choices
- The skills that are useful in mediation processes

The book also provides a number of checklists that serve as useful tools for mediators and others considering this as an option to resolve their issues or to better understand the process to assist in effective referrals.

Each section of this book also provides helpful hints applicable to the process, skills and tools.