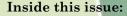
#### Special points of interest:

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



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Conference summary
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Alberta Family Mediation Society Newsletter Edition 22: June 2007

### AFMS Conference- a huge success

AFMS wishes to thank everyone that helped in some capacity to make the conference and AGM a success!

The annual conference is a wonderful opportunity for learning but also for networking and meeting new colleagues in the field.

Approximately 150 people attended the Thursday evening session and about 110 people attended the workshop for professionals on Friday.

### **AFMS NEW Board of Directors**

Geeta Bharadia (President) Jane Warren (Vice President) Karen Fawcett (Secretary) Kate Wood (Treasurer) Brenda Arseneault Kent Taylor (Past President) Elaine Bucknum Lynn Hutchinson Trevor Neil Lynn Parish Michael Porter Kim Rieger

## 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 colleagues (all over a lunch break). There is no cost and you just need to bring your own lunch.

Wednesday May 2/07– Edmonton Public Schools– Peer Mediation Programs.

**Wednesday June 6/07**– Diane Daley– Mediation & Restorative Justice Centre. One year later– an overview of the research for assessing family violence and dynamics of restorative justice mediation.

### John Hayes Award

At the Annual General Meeting each year, the John Haynes award is awarded to a person who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of Family Mediation in Alberta. This is done in memory of the late Dr. John Haynes who pioneered the early training of family mediators in the province. This award has been in existence since 2001.

Thank you to all the mediators in Edmonton and Calgary who do a tremendous job of assisting families effectively deal with family conflicts and disagreements. Yogesh Gupta has been developing mediators throughout the province via contracts and now we can reach ever area of Alberta. Yogesh also spearheaded the hiring of Family Court Counsellors and Family Information Specialists. In doing so, Yogesh has also helped build relationships with the Courthouses and law professionals across the province.

We'd also like to thank the Strategic Managers who attended our conference and were very instrumental in ensuring all ADR Programs in Justice were successful.

# A special thank you to Alberta Justice for the important work you do and CONGRATULATIONS.

# From the newsletter Editor- Charmaine Hammond

Spring has sprung! Arthur Rubenstein states that "The seasons are what a symphony ought to be: four perfect movements in harmony with each other". As mediators, what is it we do to maintain harmony and balance in our practice?

Contact Charmaine at 780-464-3828 or email Charmaine.hammond@hammondgr oup.biz to share your strategies in the next newsletter.



### **Helpful Information**

- an imbalance of power between the bully and the target
  - Contrasting feelings between the bully and the target as a result of the bullying episode (the child who bullies may feel excited, powerful or amused, while the target feels afraid, embarrassed or hurt).
  - •

The four most common types of bullying are:

Source: Alberta's Bullying Prevention Strategy

- Verbal Bullying—name calling, derogatory comments, sarcasm, teasing, spreading rumours, threatening, making references to one's culture, ethnicity, race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, unwanted comments.
- **Social Bullying**—mobbing, scapegoating, excluding others from groups, humiliation, gestures or graffiti intended to put others down.
- Physical Bullying—hitting, punching, kicking, poking, pinching, chasing, shoving, coercing, destroying, unwanted sexual touching.
- **Cyber Bullying**—using the internet or text messaging to intimidate, insult or spread rumours about someone.
- Repeated/consistent negative actions against another

Bullying, as defined by the Bullying Pre-

vention Strategy is the assertion of inter-

personal power through aggression.

**Alberta's Bullying** 

**Prevention Strategy** 

Through the joint efforts of Alberta

learn about bullying and deal with

bullying issues.

**Bullying involves** 

Bullying

Education and Alberta Children's Ser-

vices, three websites have been devel-

oped to help children, youth and adults

A provincial bullying prevention strategy was developed in response to feedback

provided at the May 2004 Alberta Roundtable on Family Violence and Bullying.

#### Alberta's Bullying Prevention Strategy

A provincial bullying prevention strategy was developed in response to feedback provided at the May 2004 Alberta Roundtable on Family Violence and Bullying. Through the joint efforts of Alberta Education and Alberta Children's Services, three websites have been developed to help children, youth and adults learn about bullying and deal with bullying issues.

#### www.teamheroes.ca

Aimed at children 3-11 years of age, the S-Team Heroes help kids learn about bullying prevention and intervention through this interactive online game.

#### www.B-Free.ca

Intended for youth 12-17 years of age, this site features interactive components and information about how youth can take a stand against bullying in their community.

### 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 weblook us up!

"Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future." Paul Boese

The measure of success is not whether you have a tough problem to deal with but whether it is the same problem you had last year. By John Foster Dalles.

It is not a problem when we have a problem. It is a problem if we don't deal with the problem. Mary Kay Utech

#### 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 most serious mistakes are not being made as a result of wrong answers. The truly dangerous thing is asking the wrong questions. Peter Drucker