

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY



AND CONCILIATION COURTS

## 45th Annual Conference **VANCOUVER**



**Fitting the Forum to the Family**  
**Emerging Challenges for Family Courts**

May 28-31, 2008  
Westin Bayshore

AFCC is an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to improving the lives of children and families through the resolution of family conflict.

# AFCC 45th Annual Conference

## Fitting the Forum to the Family: Emerging Challenges for Family Courts

Westin Bayshore Resort  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
May 28-31, 2008

### Top ten reasons that *you* should attend this conference

*(and find out why more than 900 professionals attended last year's sold out conference!)*

#### 1. The first and best interdisciplinary education and networking for family law, mental health and dispute resolution professionals.

For 45 years AFCC has convened interdisciplinary conferences, leading the field with historic innovations such as mediation, divorce education, parenting coordination, child welfare mediation and much more.

#### 2. Location, location, location!

Bike, hike or jog through Stanley Park, shop Vancouver's famous Robson street, experience the restaurants and nightlife of Gastown, *all just a few steps from the Westin Bayshore!* Relax by the pool, enjoy the hotel's mountain and harbor views or take a short ride on a train or ferry to destinations like Whistler or Victoria!

#### 3. So many great sessions, it's tough to choose

You'll have a tough time choosing among the 80 conference sessions. From in-depth pre-conference institutes to lively debates at plenary sessions, this conference has something of interest for everyone.

#### 4. **NEW** advanced workshops

Three-hour advanced workshops are designed to challenge and engage those with substantial professional experience.

#### 5. Think globally

Participants from nearly 20 countries regularly attend AFCC conferences. This conference includes presenters from Australia, Taiwan, New Zealand, Ethiopia, South Africa, Israel, the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States.

#### 6. Improve your practice skills

Learn new information and ideas on topics including domestic violence, high conflict families, mediation and psychological testing that will stimulate your thinking and improve your work with families.

#### 7. Continuing education credits

Up to 22.5 hours of continuing education for psychologists, lawyers, judges, mediators, social workers and mental health professionals. See page 27 for details.

#### 8. Unprecedented organizational collaboration

AFCC partners with local, national and international organizations to bring you together with the most outstanding professionals in the field. See page 2 for AFCC's collaborating organizations.

#### 9. The strong Canadian dollar. Such a deal! *(for Canadians only)*

The cost of attendance for Canadians is the lowest it has been in decades! A rate of CAD \$178 at one of Canada's top hotels can't be beat!

#### 10. Fun, Fun, Fun

When you are not learning, events like the AFCC Hospitality Suite, Taste of the Town, Morning Run/Walk, Silent Auction and dinner and dancing at the AFCC Annual Banquet will provide everyone an opportunity to meet, greet and mingle.

**Special thanks to Complete Equity Markets, Conference Networking Sponsor**

# Featured Presenters



Hon. William C. Fee  
AFCC President  
Angola, IN



Janet R. Johnston, Ph.D.  
San Jose State University



Hayne Wai, M.A.  
Vancouver, BC



Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D.  
Family Transitions  
North Carlton, Australia



Sujata Warriar, Ph.D.  
Bloomfield, NJ



Peter G. Jaffe, Ph.D.  
University of Western Ontario



Julie Macfarlane, Ph.D., LL.M.  
Author, *The New Lawyer*



M. Jerry McHale, QC  
British Columbia Ministry  
of Attorney General



Clare Dalton, J.D., LL.M.  
Northeastern University  
School of Law



Forrest S. Mosten, J.D.  
Author, *Complete Guide  
to Mediation*



Hon. Anita Josey-Herring  
District of Columbia  
Superior Court



Mary Ellen Trupel-Lafond,  
J.D., M.S.W.  
Representative for Children  
and Youth, Victoria, BC



Nancy Ver Steegh, J.D., M.S.W.  
William Mitchell  
College of Law



Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D.  
Psychologist  
Corte Madera, CA



Nicholas Bala, LL.M.  
Queen's University  
Faculty of Law



Janet Walker, Ph.D.  
University of Newcastle upon Tyne

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Hon. Graham Mullane, Newcastle, NSW, Australia

Marsha Kline Pruett, Ph.D., M.L.S., Northampton, MA

Arnold T. Shienvold, Ph.D., Harrisburg, PA

Philip M. Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, Queen Creek, AZ

Hon. Hugh Starnes, Fort Myers, FL

Nancy Ver Steegh, J.D., M.S.W., St. Paul, MN

Emeritus Prof. Janet Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, England

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Arnold T. Shienvold, Co-chair, Harrisburg, PA

Wendy Bryans, Ottawa, ON

Hon. George Czutrin, Toronto, ON

Hon. Graham Mullane, Newcastle, NSW, Australia

Irene Robertson, Victoria, BC

Robert A. Simon, San Diego, CA

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David Vigliotta, B.S.

### Registrar and Office Manager

Dawn Holmes

### Program Coordinator

Nola Risse-Connolly, B.A.

### Administrative Assistant

Erin Sommerfeld, B.A.

### Chapter Services and Development Consultant

Leslye Hunter, M.A., LMFT

## AFCC

6525 Grand Teton Plaza

Madison, WI 53719

Phone: (608) 664-3750 • Fax: (608) 664-3751

Email: [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org) • Web: [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

## Collaborating Organizations

American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution

American Bar Association Section of Family Law

Association for Conflict Resolution

BC Law Courts Education Society

BC Ministry of Attorney General

Canadian Bar Association Section of Family Law

Family Justice Services Division

Family Mediation Canada

International Academy of Collaborative Professionals

National Association of Counsel for Children

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

National Institute for Trial Advocacy

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# Conference at a Glance

## TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2008

6:00pm-8:00pm Conference Registration

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

7:30am-7:00pm Conference Registration  
 8:00am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum  
 8:00am-9:00am Coffee and Rolls for Institute Registrants  
 9:00am-4:30pm Pre-conference Institutes  
 12:30pm-4:30pm AFCC Board of Directors Meeting  
 5:00pm-6:00pm Conference Orientation and Networking  
 7:00pm-8:30pm Opening Session  
 8:30pm-9:30pm Welcome Reception  
 9:30pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2008

7:00am-7:45am Morning Run/Walk  
 7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration  
 7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum  
 7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:30am-10:00am Plenary Session  
 10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-10  
 12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Awards Luncheon  
 1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 11-20  
 3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 21-29  
 3:30pm-6:00pm Workshop 30 Judicial Officers Forum  
 5:00pm Family Mediation Canada Membership Meeting  
 Evening Taste of the Town  
 9:00pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008

7:00am-7:45am Morning Run/Walk  
 7:15am-8:15pm AFCC Committee Meetings  
 7:30am-5:00pm Conference Registration  
 7:30am-5:00pm Exhibitor Forum  
 7:30am-8:30am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:30am-10:00am Plenary Session  
 10:00am-10:30am Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 10:30am-12:00pm Plenary Session  
 12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch on your own and Exhibitor Forum  
 12:00pm-1:30pm BC Family Justice Services Division Luncheon  
 12:00pm-1:30pm Family Court Review Editorial Board Meeting  
 1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 31-40  
 3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 41-50  
 5:30pm-7:00pm Silent Auction and Reception  
 7:00pm-10:00pm AFCC Annual Banquet  
 9:30pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2008

7:00am-7:45am Morning Run/Walk  
 7:30am-12:30pm Conference Registration  
 8:00am-12:30pm Exhibitor Forum  
 8:00am-9:00am Coffee and Rolls  
 8:00am-9:00am AFCC Membership Meeting  
 9:15am-10:45am Workshops 51-60  
 10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum  
 11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 61-70

# Pre-conference Institutes

(Separate registration fee required. Please see conference registration information on page 28)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28**

9:00am-4:30pm

## 1. Advanced Institute on Parenting Coordination

This program is designed for parenting coordinators (PCs) who have prior training in the role, structure, functioning, ethics, and legal issues associated with being a PC, as detailed in the AFCC Guidelines. This institute focuses on advanced strategies and interventions for high conflict parents with specific personality disorders, followed by a discussion on the PC decision-making process when attempts to settle disputes have failed, including legal authority and rules, gathering appropriate information and writing decisions. The afternoon provides discussion and practice in analyzing court orders and parenting plans, identifying and re-writing vague language that promotes disputes, case scenarios of parent disputes and drafting agreements and decisions.

*Patricia M. Bond, LL.B., North Vancouver, BC*

*Barbara J. Fidler, Ph.D., Toronto, ON*

*Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D., Corte Madera, CA*

*Arnold T. Shienvold, Ph.D., Harrisburg, PA*

## 2. Advanced Mediation Practice Strategies

This interactive program is designed for those who want to sharpen their skills as a mediator. The morning's presentation will look at power imbalance and explore specific strategies to maximize and encourage each party's power and potential in mediation. Participants will also explore the causes of resistance to settlement and discuss customized techniques to overcome the different sources of impasse. During the afternoon, presenters will use the cognitive behavioral model to demonstrate how to create change through changing thoughts, perceptions, behaviors and beliefs that are initially distorted, rigid and inflexible.

*Larry S. Fong, Ph.D., Calgary, AB*

*Hon. Nancy A. Flatters, Calgary, AB*

*Nina Meierding, M.S., J.D., Ventura, CA*

## 3. Cross-Examination and Expert Testimony in Parenting Disputes

*An interactive program for lawyers and mental health professionals cosponsored by the National Institute for Trial Advocacy.*

This institute will teach lawyers how to work with mental health consultants to develop an effective case theory and to use that theory in formulating direct and cross examination questions. Mental health professionals will learn how to be more effective witnesses as they take the stand to be examined by the lawyers with newly honed skills. This interactive institute is based upon the National Institute of Trial Advocacy's tried and true innovative "learn by doing" training methods. All participants will be constructively critiqued by the experienced faculty. Registration is limited.

*Clare E. Burns, LL.M., Children's Lawyer of Ontario, Toronto, ON*

*Lorraine Martin, M.S.W., Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON*

*Hon. Arline Rotman (ret.), Norwich, VT*

*Andrew Shepard, J.D., author, Children, Courts and Custody, Hempstead, NY*

*Philip M. Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, author, Complex Issues in Child Custody Evaluation, Queen Creek, AZ*

## 4. Handling Clients with Borderline and Narcissistic Personality Traits and their Abused and Alienated Children

Clients with borderline and narcissistic personality traits drive many high-conflict cases and can be overwhelming and confusing. They are difficult to manage and lack self-awareness. They engage in self-defeating behaviors and attack those who try to help. The morning program will address their personality dynamics and causes, their common cognitive distortions and seven skills for handling them more effectively. The afternoon will focus on parent-child attachment difficulties that often result in child abuse and alienation. Cognitive-behavioral interventions will be presented for changing the distortions and small behaviors underlying their abuse and alienation. This institute is appropriate for all levels.

*William A. Eddy, LCSW, J.D., National Conflict Resolution Center, San Diego, CA*

## 5. Triaging Court Services: Fitting the Forum to the Family

Increasing caseloads, complex family issues and stagnant or declining resources are just a few of the challenges facing family court agencies. In response, many agencies are exploring intake processes that match the characteristics of the family with the dispute resolution process or facilitate referrals to appropriate community resources to assist in improving services and create better efficiencies. This institute will examine two such initiatives in British Columbia and Connecticut. Presenters will explore the rationale for their programs; the process of developing their procedures, with an emphasis on the development of a needs assessment tool; and implementation issues, research and evaluation.

*Debra Kulak, M.S., Court Support Services Division, Wethersfield, CT*

*Marsha Kline Pruett, Ph.D., M.L.S., Smith College, Northampton, MA*

*Dan VanderSluis, M.A., Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

*Carole McKnight, B.A., Ministry of Attorney General, Vancouver, BC*

*Tony Francis, Nanaimo Family Justice Services Centre, Nanaimo, BC*

## 6. Judicial Officers Institute

After ADR and settlement efforts are exhausted, judges must face the most challenging cases, often involving the most intractable conflict. This institute will provide judges with the necessary information and tools to help manage these difficult matters. Leading experts will address (1) child development and age appropriate parenting plans; (2) the challenges of mobility (or relocation) disputes; (3) how to understand the implications of different patterns of domestic abuse; and (4) cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse.

*Nicholas Bala, LL.M., Queen's University, Kingston, ON*

*Hon. Susan B. Carbon, President, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Concord, NH*

*Hon. George Czutrin, Toronto, ON*

*Mindy Mitnick, M.Ed., Licensed Psychologist, Minneapolis, MN*

# AFCC 45th Annual Conference

## Fitting the Forum to the Family: Emerging Challenges for Family Courts

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2008

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 7:30am-7:00pm | Conference Registration                       |
| 8:00am-5:00pm | Exhibitor Forum                               |
| 8:00am-9:00am | Coffee and Rolls for<br>Institute Registrants |
| 9:00am-4:30pm | Pre-conference Institutes                     |
| 5:00pm-6:00pm | Conference Orientation<br>and Networking      |
| 7:00pm-8:30pm | Opening Session                               |

Welcome: Hon. William C. Fee, AFCC President, Angola, IN  
Chief Justice Donald Brenner, Supreme Court of British  
Columbia

#### Domestic Violence, Differentiation and Family Court: Tensions, Terminology and Collaboration

There appears to be widespread consensus that no single model of domestic violence describes the experience of all families. However, researchers and members of various professional communities working within the family court system continue to struggle to agree on the impact of different patterns of intimate partner violence and the contexts in which it occurs. This challenge is compounded by political, ideological and definitional tensions. This session will explore preliminary outcomes from the AFCC/NCJFCJ Domestic Violence and Family Courts Project; a review of research related to patterns of intimate partner violence, and its implications for families, professionals and the courts; and an imperative for professionals and researchers to work together to develop a shared understanding of the complexities of domestic violence as a stepping stone to more effective and collaborative work with families.

Clare Dalton, J.D., LL.M., Northeastern University School of Law,  
Boston, MA

Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D., Psychologist, Corte Madera, CA

Nancy Ver Steegh, J.D., M.S.W., William Mitchell College of Law,  
St. Paul, MN

Moderator: Hon. Emile R. Kruzick, Orangeville, ON

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 8:30pm-9:30pm  | Welcome Reception      |
| 9:30pm-12:00am | AFCC Hospitality Suite |

### THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2008

|                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00am-7:45am  | Morning Run/Walk        |
| 7:00am-5:00pm  | Conference Registration |
| 7:30am-5:00pm  | Exhibitor Forum         |
| 7:30am-8:30am  | Coffee and Rolls        |
| 8:30am-10:00am | Plenary Session         |

Welcome: Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., AFCC President Elect,  
Boston, MA

#### Domestic Violence in Separating Families: Debates and Dilemmas in Developing Appropriate Parenting Plans

Domestic violence in separating families refers to a wide range of behaviors and occurs in a variety of contexts. Presenters in this roundtable discussion will examine the value and pitfalls in attempting to identify types and patterns of domestic violence. The challenges of trying to substantiate allegations, determine the nature of the violence, and remain focused on the needs of the child will be examined. The session will examine a method of screening for potency, pattern and primary perpetrator of the violence, and decision-making guidelines that help identify parenting plans appropriate for different family situations.

Nicholas Bala, LL.M., Queen's University, Kingston, ON

Peter G. Jaffe, Ph.D., University of Western Ontario, London, ON

Janet R. Johnston, Ph.D., San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D., Family Transitions, North Carlton,  
Australia

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| 10:00-10:30am | Break and Exhibitor Forum |
|---------------|---------------------------|

*"No other conference brings together such a rich mix of professionals committed to working with children and parents, and no other conference provides the opportunity for collaboration between and within these professional fields."*

Michael Saini, M.S.W., Ph.D., University of Toronto

10:30am-12:00pm Workshops 1-10

**1. Attachment in Child Custody: What You Always Needed to Know**

Recent research has produced new information about enduring attachment styles, which has important implications for marital and parent-child relationships. A deeper understanding of factors that lead to the development of the different attachment or relationships styles allows professionals to better work with families experiencing separation and divorce and to better tailor their orders and recommendations. Research and case examples will be presented to enhance an understanding of this discussion.

*Leslie M. Drozd, Ph.D., Newport Beach, CA*

*S. Margaret Lee, Ph.D., Greenbrae, CA*

*Nancy W. Olesen, Ph.D., San Rafael, CA*

**2. Advanced Innovations in Parenting Coordination**

Parenting coordination is a relatively recent development and innovations are already surfacing. These include the appointment of parenting coordinators to (1) Unified Family Court cases; (2) disputes involving biological parents and extended family members when children have temporarily been placed outside the care of the parents; and (3) gay and lesbian couples with legal adoptions or shared parenting but whose union is not legally recognized. This workshop provides participants the opportunity to explore other options for the effective legal and ethical utilization of parenting coordinators and stretch the limits of the process as we know it today.

*Debra Carter, Ph.D., Florida Institute for Cooperative Parenting, Bradenton, FL*

*Linda Fieldstone, M.Ed., Family Court Services, Miami, FL*

*Hon. Sandy Karlan, Miami, FL*

**3. Client Centered Mediation**

This workshop will examine the question, "Which mediation model works best?" and support a client-centered approach. Presenters will compare elements of law-centered settlement conferencing that resemble evaluative and directive mediation models and a client-centered mediation process by examining common practices. Participants will learn how to identify a law-centered process by its close relationship to the attributes of the adversarial system and how a client-centered mediation process sets forth a model of conflict resolution that elevates the clients' perceptions of fairness by reinforcing client self-determination.

*Stephen Erickson, J.D., Erickson Mediation Institute, Minneapolis, MN*

*Marvin E. Johnson, M.S., J.D., Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Silver Spring, MD*

*Marylyn McKnight, M.A., President, Association for Conflict Resolution, Minneapolis, MN*

**4. Judicial Stress: Causes, Prevention and Management**

Family law judges are at risk of stress associated with unique aspects of their work, including isolation, threats, weighty decisions and vicarious trauma. This workshop, drawing on the work of Zimmerman and Miller, will present research and lead a discussion about ways that stress affects judges, and how to manage such stress. Participants will then learn stress relaxation exercises that they can use in their office and home.

*Evelyn Neaman, M.A., Law Courts Education Society, Vancouver, BC*

*Philip M. Stahl, Ph.D., ABPP, Queen Creek, AZ*

**5. The Use of Dispute Resolution Processes in North American Mosques: An Empirical Study**

Since the outbreak of the so-called "shari'a debate" in Ontario in the Fall of 2005, copious newsprint and other media have been devoted to the topic of private religious family dispute processes conducted under the auspices of Muslim arbitrators. A striking feature of this debate has been the lack of any knowledge of what actually goes on in these processes, what principles are employed and why some Muslim men and women prefer these processes to traditional court processes for dissolving marriage and resolving contentious issues. This workshop will present empirical data on family dispute resolution processes in this controversial context with a focus on the nature of the private ordering of family conflict in this setting and the ways in which participants and third parties understand and make sense of their choices to use these processes.

*Julie Macfarlane, Ph.D., LL.M., University of Windsor Faculty of Law, Windsor, ON*

**6. Standards of Practice in Civil Protection Order Cases for Family Court Proceedings**

In August 2007, Standards of Practice for Attorneys Representing Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking in Civil Protection Order Cases were adopted by the American Bar Association. The standards are designed to increase awareness of the need for attorneys to represent victims in these cases and to improve the quality of representation. Since victims may obtain temporary custody, child support and visitation arrangements as a part of a civil protection order in most states, these Standards specifically include guidance on how attorneys should ethically and procedurally handle these matters. This session will provide an overview of the Standards, the goals, and a forum for discussion of the Standards and how to effectively implement them.

*Robin Runge, J.D., ABA Commission on Domestic Violence, Washington, DC*

*Rebecca Henry, J.D., ABA Commission on Domestic Violence, Washington, DC*

*Hon. James Riehl, Port Orchard, WA*



## 7. The Role of Divorce Coaches and Child Specialists

The higher the conflict between the parents, the more difficult it is to maintain a family environment that responds to children's needs. This workshop will examine a model using two divorce coaches and a child specialist to help professionals and parents. This model can be used independently or with mediation, collaborative law or litigation processes.

*Yuval Berger, M.S.W., Vancouver, BC*

*Nancy Cameron, QC, Vancouver, BC*

*Robert Colby, Ph.D., Vancouver, BC*

*Susan Gamache, Ph.D., Vancouver, BC*

## 8. Working with High Conflict Families: A Community Systems Initiative

An improved understanding of high conflict families is essential for efficient and effective delivery of services. The High Conflict Forum was formed in the Greater Toronto Area to address the gaps in knowledge and the lack of empirically based service delivery with high conflict families. The Forum has developed and implemented a best practice approach and is engaging in research initiatives to assist children and families undergoing separation and/or divorce. This presentation will focus on these initiatives and describe the strengths and challenges of community collaboration in the justice system.

*Rachel Birnbaum, Ph.D., University of Western Ontario, London, ON*

*Howard Hurwitz, M.S.W., Jewish Family and Child Services, Toronto, ON*

## 9. Conflict Resolution in Child Protection: The State of the Art

Conflict resolution in child welfare matters has existed for more than 25 years. Little has been done, however, to systematically assess the state of the field and lessons learned since its inception. This workshop will present findings of a year-long project that included a survey of practitioners and administrators and a think tank of leaders in the field, examining key challenges and approaches of child protection mediation and family group conferencing programs from throughout North America. Topics include program structure, obtaining system support, empowering families, challenges to sustainability and mediator characteristics. The development of a network of child welfare conflict resolution professionals will also be addressed.

*Marilou Giovannucci, M.S., Court Operations, Wethersfield, CT*

*Karen Largent, M.S.W., Alaska Court System, Anchorage, AK*

*Bernie Mayer, Ph.D., Werner Institute for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, Kingsville, ON*

*Susan Norwood, M.Ed., Jefferson Parrish Dependency Mediation Program, Harvey, LA*

## 10. Meeting Children's Needs in Separation and Divorce

The workshop will focus on examples of information products, programs and services available for children undergoing separation and divorce in Canada, the US and Australia. Presenters will address social science research on age-appropriate approaches and materials geared toward children and youth, particularly in light of trends towards children's increased time in front of a screen. Further, presenters will examine in what specific ways these resources are intended to support children.

*Chris Beresford, B.A., Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

*Commissioner Marjorie A. Slabach, San Francisco, CA*

*Lilia Szarski, B.A. M.Ed., Relationships Australia Victoria (RAV), Victoria, Australia*

*Lise Lafrenière Henrie, B.A., LL.B., Department of Justice Canada, Ottawa, ON*

**12:00pm-1:30pm AFCC Awards Luncheon**

*Presiding: Hon. William C. Fee, AFCC President*

### **A** New 3-hour Advanced Workshops

Three-hour advanced workshops are designed for those with substantial professional experience. These workshops are identified with a **A**. Participants are requested to register for and attend both sessions of these two-part workshops.

**1:45pm-3:15pm Workshops 11-20**

## 11. **A** Listening to Children's Views in Disputed Custody and Access Cases—Part I

This advanced workshop presents an interdisciplinary perspective on listening to children's views in the divorce processes that directly affect their lives. Three models for eliciting children's ideas and views when parents are disputing custody and access will be described. These include: (1) the pilot project "Hear the Child Interviews;" (2) judicial interviews conducted in New Zealand; and (3) a structured child interview model for obtaining children's viewpoints in the court and private sector settings. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 21.*

*Hon. Peter Boshier, Principal Family Court Judge, Wellington, New Zealand*

*Joan B. Kelly, Ph.D., Psychologist, consultant, author, Corte Madera, CA*

*Jeffrey Peterson, Family lawyer, Kelowna, BC*

*Hon. Hugh Stansfield, Chief Judge, Provincial Court of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC*

*Suzanne Williams, Director, Kelowna Pilot Project, International Institute for Child Rights and Development, Victoria, BC*

## 12. **A** The New Lawyer: Advanced Legal Practice in the 21st Century—Part I

How have families, courts and lawyers changed in recent decades and what are the implications for practice? This program, designed for experienced and sophisticated practitioners, court personnel and researchers, will analyze major changes in family structure and related changes in culture and the law. The courts and mental health professions are in an “uneasy marriage” as they deal with family cases. Lawyers need to develop new skills, attitudes and habits to deal with social and legal changes, even as they encounter barriers to needed changes. This program will provide a framework for understanding family conflict in early 21st Century North America as well as practical suggestions for professionals’ choices in dealing with it. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 22.*

*John Lande, J.D., Ph.D., University of Missouri, Columbia, MO*

*Mary M. Ferriter, J.D., M.P.A., Esdaile, Barrett & Esdaile, Boston, MA*

*Julie Macfarlane Ph.D., LL.M., author, The New Lawyer, University of Windsor Faculty of Law, Windsor, ON*

*Mary O’Connell, J.D., Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA*

*Forrest S. Mosten, J.D., author, Complete Guide to Mediation, Los Angeles, CA*

*J. Herbie DiFonzo, J.D., Ph.D., Hofstra School of Law, Hempstead, NY*

## 13. **A** Children and the Mediation Process—Part I

Mediation is often described as a process that centers on children’s needs, and there are several interventions used to effectively maintain this focus. This advanced level workshop will examine different approaches to include the child’s voice in the mediation process, including interviewing children and including a child specialist to represent the children’s needs and interests. Participants will have an opportunity to watch and discuss these approaches, consider practical tools for the work, and become familiar with the relevant research. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 23.*

*Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D., Family Transitions, North Carlton, Australia*

*Nina Meierding, M.S., J.D., Ventura, CA*

## 14. How to Get the Truth When You Are Not Jack Bauer

Family court professionals tend to avoid the coercive truth seeking techniques of Jack Bauer from the television series 24. This interactive workshop will examine “the truth” from the perspective of the judge, attorney and mental health professional. It will also look at techniques each discipline uses to sort through conflicting information provided by parties in order to figure out how to make decisions in the face of wildly conflicting facts and stories. Come prepared for discussion and sharing of techniques and cases.

*Richard Altman, J.D., Magistrate, Napoleon, OH*

*Hon. R. John Harper, London, ON*

*Marsha Kline Pruett, Ph.D., M.S.L., Smith College, Northampton, MA*

## 15. Collaborative Law: Optimizing the Effectiveness of the Interdisciplinary Team

The power of the collaborative team may be undermined when loss of trust between professionals and impasse issues arise. This workshop is designed for participants from the different professions working with family law cases. Presenters will describe the team approach from the context of collaborative practice in Canada and Australia, which is applicable to all settings where experts from different disciplines are engaged in problem-solving. Participants will discuss the importance of debriefing sessions and participate in a role play examining an unsafe environment where trust has been undermined.

*Judith L. Huddart, LL.B., Dranoff and Huddart, Toronto, ON*

*Sandra R. Demson, LL.B., Toronto, ON*

*Christina Sinclair, Ph.D., Calgary, AB*

## 16. Innovative Case Management Approaches to Child Abuse Allegations

The Family Court of Australia’s Magellan case management pathway is a novel approach to address the needs of children and families where allegations of sexual abuse or physical abuse are raised during post-separation parenting disputes. Research indicates that Magellan cases resolved more quickly, had greater involvement of the statutory child protection department, had fewer court events, were dealt with by fewer different judicial officers and were more likely to settle earlier than cases in a comparison group. Presenters in this workshop will discuss the research and broader issues of the intersecting roles of police, child protection services and criminal, juvenile and family courts.

*Hon. Rodney K. Burr, AM, Family Court of Australia, Adelaide, Australia*

*Hon. Stuart Fowler, AM, Family Court of Australia, Sydney, Australia*

*Daryl Higgins, Ph.D., Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, Australia*

## 17. Psychological Abuse in High Conflict Custody Cases

This interactive workshop will focus on four aspects of psychological abuse. Presenters will discuss: (1) the nature of psychological abuse, examine variations in research, and consider how to present evidence to the court; (2) the impact on children witnessing and/or experiencing psychological abuse compared with physical violence within the family; (3) how lawyers advocate for victims of psychological abuse and defend clients against allegations of such behavior; and (4) how judges may consider evidence of psychological abuse in the context of disputes about custody and parental access.

*Alexander Jones, M.S.W., J.D., Beveridge & Diamond, Wellesley, MA*

*Hon. Gail L. Perlman, Northampton, MA*

*Joanna Bunker Rohrbaugh, Ph.D., Harvard Medical School, Cambridge, MA*

*Robert A. Zibbell, Ph.D., Tannanbaum & Zibbell, Framingham, MA*

### 18. Behind Closed Doors: Domestic Violence in South Africa and Ethiopia

Participants in this session will screen the documentary *Behind Closed Doors*, an investigation of the response to domestic violence in Ethiopia and South Africa. The film follows the efforts of the Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association and the South Africa Prosecuting Authority in undoing decades of acceptance of this practice. Viewers will learn about their bold initiatives to help Africans challenge their accepted social views and to establish a framework for the legal system to respond to these violent crimes. Panelists representing the organizations will comment on the film.

*Mahdere Paulos, Ethiopian Women Lawyers Association, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

*Hon. Pedro de Couto, Port Coquitlam, BC*

*Tsidi Kambula, Adv, National Prosecuting Authority, South Africa*

*Susanne Dahlin, Victim Services and Community Programs Division, Vancouver, BC*

### 19. New Research on Parental Competency and Inter-parental Conflict

Differences in parenting competency are a result of highly complex interactions, particularly at stressful times such as divorce. Parents need information to help them adjust to changes, reduce levels of conflict and maintain or improve functioning to protect children from maladjustment. This workshop will explore the intricacy of parenting competency by presenting new research based on a survey of separated and divorcing parents. Participants will learn how to help parents build better confidence in their parenting roles despite the presence of conflict.

*Michael Saini, Ph.D., University of Toronto Faculty of Social Work, Toronto, ON*

### 20. Navigating the Eight C's of Child Protection Mediation

This interactive session will present an overview and critical review of multi-party mediation of child abuse and neglect cases. Challenging issues including confidentiality, concurrent criminal charges, consensus building, culture, child's voice, competence of the parties, coercion concerns, and court referral and funding will be addressed. Practical and ethical strategies will be offered for mediators, mediation participants and child protection programs.

*Gregory Firestone, Ph.D., University of South Florida, Tampa, FL*

*Cynthia Schuler, J.D., Wesley Chapel, FL*

**3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum**

**3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 21-29**

### 21. Listening to Children's Views in Disputed Custody and Access Cases—Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 11.

### 22. The New Lawyer—Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 12.

### 23. Children and the Mediation Process—Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 13.

### 24. Australian Family Law Reform

This workshop will examine how broader policy and legislative change, combined with localized service delivery changes, informed by evidence-based practice, can make a difference to the lives of people dealing with high conflict separation and divorce. Participants will learn how social reforms in Australia are changing the way people think about parenting and divorce, and review lessons from these developments, in particular, by applying cross-cultural perspective on these issues.

*Anne Hollands, Chief Executive Officer, Relationships Australia, NSW, Australia*

### 25. Divorce and the Adolescent: Complex Issues in Separation and Divorce

This workshop will review the specific issues relating to the needs of adolescents whose parents separate or divorce. Drawing on research on the adolescent brain, the complex conflicts facing teenagers of separated parents and on parenting adolescents, the workshop will place emphasis on presenting strategies for interviewing adolescents and models of successful co-parenting, particularly in high conflict situations and custody disputes. The workshop will take a multidisciplinary approach and will be of particular relevance to attorneys, the judiciary and court staff.

*Robin M. Deutsch, Ph.D., Program on Children and the Law, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA*

*Janet A. Walker, Ph.D., University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle, England*

### 26. Second Hand Shock: The Cost of Taking It All In

Those in the helping professions constantly "take in" stressful and upsetting stories about clients' lives. This can lead to high levels of stress and anxiety, impacting their home and work situations. The professional may develop symptoms of Secondary Traumatic Stress (STS) or Vicarious Traumatization (VT). The good news is they can be effectively managed, allowing them to continue their important work. This workshop will differentiate between STS and VT and give the participant strategies to use immediately in their personal and professional life.

*Ellie Izzo, Ph.D., Scottsdale, AZ*

*Vicki Carpel Miller, LMFT, Scottsdale, AZ*

*Mary L. Pulido, Ph.D., New York Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, New York, NY*

## 27. Screening for Domestic Violence in Mediation

The debate about mediation in cases involving domestic violence is ongoing, however there appears to be consensus that screening is a crucial ingredient for all family mediation matters. This workshop will address the importance of consistency in screening, the development of screening tools and how to identify the appropriate questions. This interactive session will provide participants with an opportunity to participate in a screening exercise.

*Marya Kolman, J.D., Franklin County Domestic and Juvenile Court Mediation Services, Columbus, OH*

*Christy Cumberlander Walker, M.S.A. Franklin County Domestic and Juvenile Court Mediation Services, Columbus, OH*

## 28. Child Protection Mediation in British Columbia

Successful child protection mediation in British Columbia requires strong partnerships between the child welfare and justice systems at every level. This initiative represents a massive shift in values encompassing everything from legislation and policy, to the complexities of the education and engagement of stakeholders across professions, to the challenges of a province with a wide diversity of ethnic and geographic factors, to how lawyers and social workers practice and involve families in dispute resolution on a daily basis. Presenters will offer participants an overview of the history and underlying principles guiding the development of the BC Child Protection Mediation Program.

*M. Jerry McHale, QC, Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

*Hon. Michael J. Brecknell, Prince George, BC*

*Linda Doig, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Surrey, BC*

*Sharon Sutherland, LL.M., University of British Columbia Faculty of Law, Vancouver, BC*

## 29. Integrating Ethical Treatment into Management Plans for High Conflict Families

Treatment services are frequently recommended for high conflict families but all therapy is not created equal. Methods must adapt to the dynamics of the family. Therapy may be undermined by poorly drafted orders, vague treatment goals, incomplete information, bias and inappropriate protocols. This workshop will address concerns about psychotherapy including: structuring effective orders and treatment goals, assessing the quality of existing treatment, balancing privacy with the court's need for information and preventing or solving problems that arise among therapists and other professionals.

*Lyn R. Greenberg, Ph.D., Los Angeles, CA*

*Dianna J. Gould-Saltman, J.D., Gould-Saltman Law Offices, Los Angeles, CA*

*Hon. Philip Marcus, Jerusalem, Israel*

3:30pm-6:00pm Workshop 30

## 30. Judicial Officers Forum: Canada's Domestic Violence Bench Book

The author and the chief judicial reviewer of the National Judicial Institute's *National Domestic Violence and Family Law Bench Book* will present a brief overview of the design and content of the Bench Book followed by a demonstration of the book's practical application by means of a series of fact situations. Potential topics include: responding to domestic-violator litigation tactics; assessing risk and the potential for lethal outcome; assessing the best interests of children in a domestic violence context; choosing the most appropriate custody and access remedy; interpreting targeted parent behavior; making settlement processes safe; designing and enforcing orders to enhance safety; and responding to culture and to disability in a domestic-violence, family law context. Informal networking and refreshment will take place from 5:00pm-6:00pm.

*Linda C. Neilson, LL.B, Ph.D., University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB*

*Hon. John McGarry, London, ON*

*Moderator: Hon. Donna Martinson, Vancouver, BC*

5:00pm Family Mediation Canada Membership Meeting

Evening Taste of the Town  
*See page 27 for details*

9:00pm-12:00am AFCC Hospitality Suite

## Upcoming AFCC Events

### AFCC Eighth International Symposium on Child Custody Evaluations

September 25-27, 2008  
Albuquerque Marriott  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
[www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

### AFCC Eighth International Congress on Parent Education and Access Programs

September 26-27, 2008  
Albuquerque Marriott  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
[www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

### AFCC 46th Annual Conference

May 27-30, 2009  
Sheraton New Orleans  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
[www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

### AFCC 47th Annual Conference

June 2-5, 2010  
Sheraton Denver  
Denver, Colorado  
[www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

**FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008**

|                |                         |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00am-7:45am  | Morning Run/Walk        |
| 7:30am-5:00pm  | Conference Registration |
| 7:30am-5:00pm  | Exhibitor Forum         |
| 7:30am-8:30am  | Coffee and Rolls        |
| 8:30am-10:00am | Plenary Session         |

Welcome: *Hon Emile Kruzick, AFCC Vice President, Orangeville, ON*

### Fitting the Forum to the Family: The Evolution of Family Dispute Resolution

A growing number of family dispute resolution processes have emerged over the last quarter-century. Parties to a family dispute can now choose from professionals who will help them collaborate, cooperate, coordinate, mediate, un-bundle, self-represent and much, much more. Add to this the many hybrid processes and the possibilities seem endless. What factors are responsible for this explosion in programs and services? What is the impact of this proliferation of processes on clients and their children? On the courts? How has the change impacted the skills and tools needed and used by family lawyers, and their relationship with their clients and other professionals? This panel will examine the changes and challenges in dispute resolution practice in the private and public sector.

*Julie Macfarlane, Ph.D., author, The New Lawyer, University of Windsor Faculty of Law, Windsor, ON*

*M. Jerry McHale, QC, Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria BC*

*Janet Walker, Ph.D., University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Newcastle, England*

*Moderator: Forrest S. Mosten, J.D., author, Complete Guide to Mediation, Los Angeles, CA*

|                 |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 10:00am-10:30am | Break and Exhibitor Forum |
| 10:30am-12:00pm | Plenary Session           |

### Fitting the Forum to the Family: Meeting the Needs of Families in a Changing World

In an increasingly global society, family service agencies must find ways to meet the needs of those from multiple cultures. This includes family members from different ethnicities, cultures, sexual orientations, marital status and family structure. How can service providers and public institutions keep pace with the growing changes in the community? What are the concerns specific to family courts, mental health providers and social services? This panel will provide critical ideas, perspective and information for administrators, direct service providers and anyone working with the public.

*Hon. Anita Josey-Herring, Presiding Family Court Judge, District of Columbia Superior Court, Washington, DC*

*Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond, J.D., LL.M., Representative for Children and Youth, Victoria, BC*

*Sujata Warriar, Ph.D., Bloomfield, NJ*

*Hayne Wai, M.A., Vancouver, BC*

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 12:00pm-1:30pm | Lunch (on your own) and Exhibitor Forum      |
| 12:00pm-1:30pm | Family Court Review Editorial Board Meeting  |
| 12:00pm-1:30pm | BC Family Justice Services Division Luncheon |
| 1:45pm-3:15pm  | Workshops 31-40                              |

### 31. **A** Beyond Wingspread: Domestic Violence and Differentiation—Part I

For more than two years, AFCC and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges have been grappling with issues relating to differentiation among users of domestic violence in intimate relationships: how to screen to determine the dynamics going on in each family; what interventions will be most helpful to the particular family members in each case; and what outcomes will in each case afford the maximum contact of parents with their children, consistent with the safety needs of all family members. This workshop will acquaint participants with the scope and progress of the work, examine the issues connected with screening in these cases and provide participants the opportunity to test some of the initial ideas that are emerging. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 41.*

*Hon. Susan B. Carbon, President, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Concord, NH*

*Billie Lee Dunford-Jackson, J.D., National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, Reno, NV*

*Loretta Frederick, J.D., Battered Women's Justice Project, Winona, MN*

*Peter G. Jaffe, Ph.D., University of Western Ontario, London, ON*

*Janet R. Johnston, Ph.D., San Jose State University, San Jose, CA*

*Moderator: Peter Salem, M.A., Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, Madison, WI*

### 32. **A** Advanced Issues in Psychological Testing—Part I

With increasing frequency, critics of psychological testing in custody cases have demanded that evaluators justify the decision to test, articulate the bases on which specific tests were selected and candidly discuss the limitations of their test data. This workshop will examine how the appropriate instruments can directly and indirectly shed light on parenting and co-parenting issues. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 42.*

*James R. Flens, Psy.D., ABPP, Brandon, FL*

### 33. **A** **Advances in Child Development Research Applied to Scientifically Informed Parenting Plans—Part I**

Recent research has revealed that children's accounts of their experiences of divorce are often unheard or overshadowed by parents' interpretations of family events. When adults attempt to place themselves in the shoes of children, they often project on to the children memories of their own childhood. They hear children's stories as recollections of their own childhoods, recalled through many levels of personal history. This workshop will teach participants how to construct an interview protocol for children of divorce that will provide them with concrete directions to hear about a child's experiences from the child's perspective. *Participants should also register for Part II, Workshop 43.*

*William G. Austin, Ph.D., Steamboat Springs, CO*

*Melisse Eidman, LCSW, Family Court Services, Contra Costa County, CA*

*Jonathan W. Gould, Ph.D., co-author, The Art and Science of Child Custody Evaluations, Charlotte, NC*

### 34. **The Impact of Children's Stories on Parental and Judicial Decision Making**

In the context of significant reforms to the Australian family law system and the introduction of less adversarial trial procedures, the Family Court of Australia and the Family Court of Western Australia have redesigned their child dispute services. This presentation explores procedural changes to trials and the newly implemented Child Responsive Program, which uses an early, child inclusive approach in court proceedings. Structured screening and intake, together with feedback to parents about their children's experience and views, is enhancing the ability of families and judges to make decisions in the best interests of children. Early evaluation is promising and raises some interesting questions for the future.

*Chief Justice Diana Bryant, Family Court of Australia, Melbourne, Australia*

*Jennifer McIntosh, Ph.D., Family Transitions, North Carlton, Australia*

*Dianne Gibson, Family Court of Australia, Sydney, Australia*

*Hon. Stephen Thackray, Chief Judge, Family Court, Perth, Western Australia*

### 35. **Collaborative Planning and Decision Making in BC Child Welfare**

The British Columbia Justice and Child Welfare Systems have joined to promote system-wide changes, developing and implementing a holistic view of service delivery that replaces the dispute-based model with collaborative planning and decision-making. Representatives of these two systems will discuss the model and how it effects change through policy development, partnerships, stakeholder engagement and community-based education. Presenters will discuss background on the evolution of this approach, challenges and successes.

*Mark Sieben, Ministry of Children and Family Development, Victoria, BC*

*Andrea Clarke, Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

### 36. **Addressing Learning Disabilities in Mediation**

Parents often struggle to create a parenting plan for children with learning disabilities and mediators may also struggle to adapt the process for clients with learning disabilities. This workshop will provide an overview of different types of learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders. Presenters will provide practical recommendations for ways in which a mediator can respond to the special needs of mediation clients with learning disabilities. Finally, the workshop will provide information about the issues that parents face in dealing with children with learning disabilities so that mediators will better understand the family contexts within which these mediations take place.

*Judith Glasser, Ph.D., Rockville, MD*

*John Spiegel, J.D., Rockville, MD*

### 37. **The Uniform Collaborative Law Act: An Open Forum**

The rapid growth of collaborative law is evidenced by the Uniform Collaborative Law Act (UCLA), currently being drafted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. This workshop will examine the provisions of the current draft of the UCLA and the policies and decisions that were made in creating it. Participants will be encouraged to provide perspective and feedback to the UCLA Drafting Committee.

*Andrew Schepard, J.D., Reporter, Uniform Collaborative Law Act, Hempstead, NY*

*Harry Tindall, J.D., Tindall & Foster, Houston, TX*

*Nancy Cameron, QC, President Elect, International Academy of Collaborative Professionals, Vancouver, BC*

### 38. **Utilizing the Internet for Mediation Services**

Most mediators are already "online mediators" with their own web sites, using email, sending attachments and directing participants to valuable web resources. This session will consider how mediators can most capably utilize the Internet to augment face-to-face services and where all of this may be heading. Family and divorce applications will be emphasized.

*James Melamed, J.D., Mediate.com, Eugene, OR*

*"Where else can one attend so many workshops presented by internationally recognized experts on family court issues?"*

*Cherie Simmers, Bartow, FL*

### 39. Evaluating Sexual Abuse in Custody Cases: Balancing Safety, Timeliness, Contact and Cost

Allegations of sexual abuse have serious implications for children's well-being, and courts and evaluators must balance the tension between safety and timeliness of assessment. Comprehensive evaluations can take months, often with no contact for the accused parent and children while allegations are explored. The legal system may be under pressure to make decisions based on inconclusive data. This workshop will discuss evaluation of sexual abuse allegations in the context of divorce/custody disputes, including a review of characteristics of an "ideal" evaluation using both a comprehensive model as well as a focused evaluation model.

*Jessica L. Griffin, Psy.D., University of Massachusetts Department of Psychiatry, Worcester, MA*

*Linda Cavallero, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Department of Psychiatry, Worcester, MA*

### 40. Disclosure Meetings: The Magic Ingredient in Custody Evaluations

The Ontario Office of the Children's Lawyer conducts approximately 1,400 evaluations annually and is prescribed by a Rule of Court to deliver the report within 90 days. Since the adoption of a mandatory disclosure meeting with counsel and parties to discuss the proposed contents of the report, the settlement rate increased from 9% to 33% with even more cases settled prior to trial. Further, despite initial resistance, worker satisfaction increased dramatically. Presenters in this workshop will examine the service delivery system and the powerful impact of the disclosure meeting.

*Lorraine Martin, M.S.W., Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON*

*Robert Croezen, M.S.W., Office of the Children's Lawyer, Toronto, ON*

*Chantal Bourgeois-Austin, M.S.W., Hudson Mediation Services, Hudson, QC*

**3:15pm-3:30pm Break and Exhibitor Forum**

**3:30pm-5:00pm Workshops 41-50**

### 41. Beyond Wingspread: Domestic Violence and Differentiation—Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 31.

### 42. Advanced Issues in Psychological Testing—Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 32.

### 43. Advances in Child Development Research Applied to Scientifically Informed Parenting Plans—Part II

Participants in this session are expected to have attended Part I, Workshop 33.

### 44. Family Court Improvement and the Art of Grantsmanship

Without adequate funding, courts and social service agencies generally lack the capacity to develop badly needed programs to improve service delivery. This workshop will present the lessons and principles the 11th Judicial Court of Miami-Dade County learned about the art of "grantsmanship" to develop an idea, create a community collaborative and earn funding for a new countywide project to address major obstacles for children in high conflict families and their service needs. A hands-on exercise will provide judiciary, court services and community providers with practical ideas and creative solutions to create and develop court based and court connected programs to assist these families and children.

*Linda Fieldstone, M.Ed., Family Court Services, Miami, FL*

*Hon. Judith L. Kreeger, Miami, FL*

*James M. Pann, Ph.D., Nova Southeastern University, North Miami Beach, FL*

### 45. The Impact of Disabilities on Access to Justice in Family Courts

This presentation will highlight the Family Courts' ability to provide more than structural access to justice. Presenters will provide an overview of how special needs of some children and parents severely increase the complexity of the disputes in family law. Participants will learn about the need for the courts' and community resources to better educate and collaborate in order to effectively identify the multifaceted layers of emotions that are blanketed over the pre-existing charged atmosphere of family breakdown.

*Hon. R. John Harper, London, ON*

*Hon. Randolph Mazza, Hamilton, ON*

### 46. Mediation or Evaluation? Tensions in Resolving Child Custody Disputes

Research demonstrates that family mediation cases frequently involve complexities such as domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health issues, as well as an increasing number of unmarried and self-representing parents. As cases have become more challenging, court-connected programs are focusing on more evaluative processes or creating more evaluative mediation processes. Are these trends necessary? Are they positive? This workshop will examine the tensions within today's family court services and propose methods of strengthening the mediation process.

*Hon. Leonard P. Edwards (ret.), Center for Children, Families and the Courts, San Francisco, CA*

*George Ferrick, M.A., Center for Children, Families and the Courts, San Francisco, CA*

**47. Family Law and the Court of Public Opinion**

Should the work of lawmakers and decision-makers in family law reflect community values and standards? Few such decision-makers actually know what standards the community, in fact, values and holds, as such little data exists. Instead they must base their views on their unfounded intuitions. This workshop examines new research on public opinion about substantive issues in family law. Presenters will examine findings about child support, relocation and parenting plans.

*Sanford Braver, Ph.D., Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ*

*Ira Ellman, J.D., Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ*

*William Fabricious, Ph.D., Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ*

*Mary O'Connell, J.D., Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA*

**48. Re-imagining Family Breakdown and the Law**

This workshop is devoted to an interdisciplinary reconsideration of how family breakdown is managed, without regard to the present legal system, and will focus on a single question: is there another way to do this? Participants will be asked to re-imagine systemic processes following separation from the ground up and creatively explore alternatives which might better address the needs of separating parents and their children.

*John-Paul Boyd, M.A., LL.B., Aaron, Gordon & Daykin, Vancouver, BC*

**49. Working with High Conflict: You Be the Judge**

This interactive workshop will provide an opportunity to put on the robe and make the calls that judges get to make. Participants will view a series of brief courtroom vignettes produced by Canada's National Judicial Institute covering pre-trial through post-trial issues with a high conflict family. Panel and audience members will have the opportunity to comment on the proceedings and compare their decisions.

*Hon. James Williams, Halifax, NS*

*Linda Elrod, J.D., Washburn Law School, Topeka, KS*

*Matthew J. Sullivan, Ph.D., Palo Alto, CA*

**50. Adapting Mediation to Cultural Realities**

Mediation must adapt to the social values and realities of families to be culturally consistent and useful. In Taiwan's Chinese heritage, traditional concepts of marriage, children as carriers of family lineage, and the role of paternal grandmothers pose challenges to promoting mediation. Two professors have been innovating new processes for mediating custody and access, finding three factors necessary to adapt the mediator's process. This is relevant for other cultures where the couple is not the only decision-maker, and where current law confronts traditional family values. The panel will explore the factors and specific techniques for mediating with extended families.

*Dr. Wei-Shiuan Jeng, Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan*

*Dr. Chin-Chun Sue, Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan*

*Alison Taylor, M.A., author, A Handbook of Family Dispute Resolution, Hillsboro, OR*

*Moderator: William J. Howe, J.D., Gevurtz, Menashe PC, Portland, OR*

5:30pm-7:00pm

**AFCC Silent Auction**

7:00pm-10:00pm

**AFCC Annual Banquet**  
Live Music, Dinner and Dancing

9:30pm-12:00am

**AFCC Hospitality Suite**

**SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2008**

7:00am-7:45am

**Morning Run/Walk**

7:30am-12:30pm

**Registration**

8:00am-12:30pm

**Exhibitor Forum**

8:00am-9:00am

**Coffee and Rolls**

8:00am-9:00am

**AFCC Membership Meeting**

9:15am-10:45am

**Workshops 51-60**

**51. A New System for Families and Children: Implementing the Vision in British Columbia**

British Columbia is implementing an ambitious family justice reform agenda. It envisions a system that: emphasizes cooperative approaches to the resolution of family law disputes; creates 'front doors' to the justice system offering information, needs assessment, and referrals to other services; relies on lawyers to help clients choose the most appropriate dispute resolution model and provide legal advice at all stages of a dispute; has simplified procedures for family law; and subsidizes settlement systems rather than litigation. This workshop describes the development and implementation of key elements of this reform.

*Nancy Cameron, QC, Vancouver, BC*

*Jill Dempster, Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

*Irene Robertson, Ministry of Attorney General, Victoria, BC*

*Hon. Hugh Stansfield, Vancouver, BC*

**52. Family Restructuring Therapy: Working with High Conflict Parents and Angry Children**

Family Restructuring Therapy is an active, directive process with families in conflict to modify maladaptive interactions. This therapy is highly effective in teaching parents to co-parent, in reuniting parents with alienated children and in developing concrete, practical parenting plans. This session will describe the variety of individual and team therapeutic interventions that can be used between parents, between a parent and an alienated child or with entire family systems.

*Stephen Carter, Ph.D., Edmonton, AB*

*Shirley Vandaersteen, Ph.D., Edmonton, AB*

*Bonnie Haave, Ph.D., Edmonton, AB*

*Hon. Marguerite Trussler (ret.), Edmonton, AB*



### 53. The Con Game: How to Avoid Being Had

Charm that masks significant personality disorders can lead to bizarre outcomes in high-conflict divorces for children and their parents. This workshop will help the lawyers, judges, mental health professionals and court staff who are involved with these families recognize what is really going on behind the charm. Strategies and tools for unmasking the deceptive and shameless charmer and assessing the actual relationship dynamics in the family will be presented. Consideration will be given to changes that need to be made in our legal and mental health systems to prevent manipulation and to hold parents accountable for complying with decisions made on behalf of their children.

*Emily M. Brown, LCSW, Key Bridge Therapy & Mediation Center, Arlington, VA*

*Isolina Ricci, Ph.D., author, Mom's House, Dad's House, San Ramon, CA*

*Lynelle Yingling, Ph.D., J & L Human Systems Development, Rockwall, TX*

### 54. Representing the Best Interests of the Child: An Interdisciplinary Innovation

This workshop will focus on an alternative method of child representation: using a mental health professional and an attorney as co-equal *guardians ad litem* for the child. Presenters will discuss with participants how to most effectively ensure the best interests of the child are presented, and how doing so may very well change the focus of the dispute and lead to better, faster and longer lasting resolutions.

*Sheldon E. Finman, J.D., Fort Myers, FL*

*Deborah Silver, Psy.D., Silver Psychology Center, Fort Meyers, FL  
Hon. Hugh Starnes, Fort Meyers, FL*

### 55. Iatrogenic Effects of Treatment Programs for Batterers

Increased attention has been paid to proactive interventions that are focused on the behavioral, cognitive and societal attributes of the domestic violence perpetrator. Batterer intervention programs were designed to rehabilitate perpetrators without incarceration through cognitive and behavioral change and acceptance of accountability. However, research suggests that some of the most utilized models may increase violence or perpetuate negative cognitive beliefs about women and violence. This presentation will address the strengths and weaknesses of current batterer intervention programs and the concurrent research, suggest changes to current systems, as well as identify collaborative practices that judges, attorneys and probation officers can use to better identify, refer and monitor offenders.

*Gayle Poyner, Ph.D., Poyner Psychological Services, Choctaw, OK*

*John Hurley, Ph.D., Poyner Psychological Services, Choctaw, OK*

*Cynthia Repanshek, Psy.D., Poyner Psychological Services, Choctaw, OK*

### 56. A Collaborative Multidisciplinary Program of Child Custody and Sex Abuse Evaluators

Attitudes and beliefs about child sexual abuse influence custody evaluations where allegations of sexual abuse are involved. It is generally believed custody evaluators are more skeptical of sexual abuse allegations while abuse evaluators may more frequently overcall abuse. This workshop proposes a model for joining traditional child custody and child abuse evaluators with different perspectives and skill sets into a collaborative team. Presenters will examine the advantages and disadvantages of the divergent and convergent decision making in cases with complex abuse and custody issues.

*Helen T. Brantley, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC*

*Nancy Berson, MSW, LCSW, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC*

*Mark D. Everson, Ph.D., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC*

### 57. The Intersection of Mediation and Family Group Conferencing

A recent survey of child protection professionals found that most believed child protection mediation and family group conferencing should work well together and enhance each other's benefits, but that in practice it was awkward and confusing to try to coordinate these approaches. This participatory workshop will examine the key issues raised when both mediation and FGC are offered as decision-making models in child protection cases.

*Andrea Clarke, M.S.W., Ministry of Attorney General, BC*

*Kelly Browe Olson, J.D., LL.M., University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law, Little Rock AR*

*Debora Brownyard, Nebraska Supreme Court, Lincoln, NE*

### 58. Separated with Children: Dealing with the Finances

This workshop showcases a BC Law Courts Education Society program that provides information and resources to parents about financial separation and its impact on parents and their children. Presenters will provide an overview of the program, share strategies for helping parents successfully add financial plans to their parenting arrangement and negotiate unexpected expenses. They will also use vignettes, drawn from their experience as family mediators, to show ways to help parents reduce conflict around support matters and protect children from ongoing financial dialogue.

*Linda Bonnell, BScN., North Vancouver, BC*

*Elizabeth Ife, M.Ed., Ministry of Attorney General, Surrey, BC*

### 59. Can You Hear Me When I Don't Speak? Listening to the Body

Body language provides potent information about a dispute and the potential for its resolution. Nonverbal signs help clarify intentions, feelings and moods. Listening to body language can provide additional layers of a story and supports healing at the root. Join this workshop to learn what is actually being said, and how to "hear" it.

*Sue Bronson, M.S., New Prospects, Milwaukee, WI*

## 60. Expanding the Role of Parenting Coordination in the Courts

Parenting coordination has developed rapidly, however for most it remains an expensive proposition. This workshop will describe the *pro bono* parenting coordination (PC) program of the American Psychological Association, developed in conjunction with the District of Columbia Superior Court, Argosy University and the District of Columbia Bar. Presenters will discuss how the program expands the PC role to reach a diverse, urban and indigent population and describe the team format used for service delivery. Information on training, legal provisions and outcome data will also be presented.

*Shirley A. Higuchi, J.D., American Psychological Association, Washington, DC*

*Stephen J. Lally, Ph.D., Argosy, University, Washington, DC*

*Giselle A. Hass, Psy.D., Argosy University, Washington, DC*

*Alan Nessman, J.D., American Psychological Association, Washington, DC*

**10:45am-11:00am Break and Exhibitor Forum**

**11:00am-12:30pm Workshops 61-70**

## 61. Mediating Post Adoption Contract Agreements in Child Welfare Cases

This workshop will provide an overview of the Children's Court Mediation Program and the policies, procedures and best practices for mediating post adoption contact agreements (PACAs) between birth and prospective adoptive parents. The presenters will use exercises, activities and discussion to describe the 3-Step PACA mediation process, review the elements of a comprehensive agreement, provide strategies for maximizing participation in mediation and explore techniques that work effectively with the emotions related to open adoption mediation.

*Teresa Berry, M.A., Children's Court Mediation Program, Albuquerque, NM*

*Susan Malone, LPCC, Albuquerque, NM*

## 62. Understanding Substance Use Assessment in Parenting Disputes

Assessing substance use in high-conflict divorce situations presents unique challenges. This workshop will provide practical ways to look at substance use disorders in high-conflict divorce. Presenters will cover the basics of addictions and substance use disorders and identify key considerations in determining the seriousness of the substance use and understanding substance use allegations within the context of the divorce dynamics. Participants will learn components of a comprehensive substance use evaluation. Alcohol and drug testing/monitoring and strategies that help to insure compliance of abstinence before and during parenting time schedules or access will be reviewed.

*Armond D. Lebovits, LCSW, CAC III, Denver, CO*

*John A. Rymers, LPC, CAC III, Littleton, CO*

## 63. Clustered Interventions

This session will examine strategies and resources for achieving optimal effectiveness from mixing and matching interventions aimed at transforming or re-directing and containing high- and medium-conflict parents. Presenters will examine the potential ethical and procedural challenges of mixing and matching professional roles (parent educator, mediator, parenting coordinator) that customarily are considered separate processes.

*P. Leslie Herold, Ph.D., Solutions for Families, San Bernardino, CA*  
*Shirley Thomas, Ph.D., Colorado Co-parenting, Longmont, CO*

*Donald Gordon, Ph.D., Center for Divorce Education, Longmont, CO*

*Laura Backen Jones, Ph.D., Iris Media, Eugene, OR*

## 64. Compulsory Dispute Resolution in Australian Parenting Proceedings

In July 2007 the Family Law Act in Australia was amended to require all parties to parenting disputes attend Compulsory Parenting Dispute Resolution with the Family Dispute Practitioner or mediator prior to approaching the court. How are such mandated arrangements viewed by the community and legal profession? Are there dangers that such a system will be seen as creating a speed bump the parties must pass over before they can approach the court? Or can the amendments be generally embraced as an entire change of culture and as non-litigious resolutions? This workshop will address these and other questions raised by such reforms.

*Joe Harman, Harman & Co. Specialist Family Law Solicitors, Penrith, NSW, Australia*

## 65. Managing Child Abuse Allegations in Custody Cases

Child abuse allegations in custody cases present enormously complex issues for courts with limited effective options, regardless of whether allegations are substantiated. This workshop will address both legal and therapeutic interventions, including: advocating for children; representing both the accusing parent and alleged abuser; managing the potential interplay of family, juvenile and criminal courts; and addressing abuse in a therapeutic setting including, if appropriate, reunification in polarized families.

*Gary A. Debele, J.D., Walling, Berg & Debele, Minneapolis, MN*

*Sandra K. Hewitt, Ph.D., St. Paul, MN*

## 66. Ethics Complaints Against Mediators and Parenting Coordinators

This workshop explores what happens when clients of mediators and parenting coordinators have ethics complaints about their service providers: What types of ethical complaints may arise? What are the available forums for clients who want to pursue complaints? What are the potential barriers for clients who want to pursue complaints? And what are the potential catalysts that encourage clients to pursue complaints? By understanding the barriers and facilitators to raising ethical complaints, policies and procedures can be developed that permit clients to raise valid ethical concerns in appropriate forums.

*Allan Barsky, J.D., Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University, Fort Lauderdale, FL*

## 67. Psychosexual Evaluations in the Context of Parenting Exams

A parent's sexual behavior may become a focus of concern in the context of a marital dissolution. In such cases, a psychosexual evaluation can help address these concerns, by clarifying the sexual behavior problem and the potential impact of the behavior on children, and providing recommendations for managing any potential risk of harm. This workshop will provide participants with an overview of some issues involved in conducting psychosexual evaluations in the context of parenting evaluations. A review of clinical and empirical information related to problematic sexual behavior will be included.

*Jennifer Wheeler, Ph.D., Seattle, WA*

## 68. The Professional as Story Teller

Humans understand the world through storytelling. Lawyers, mediators and evaluators tell the stories that decision makers (parents and judges) use to craft a parenting plan. Effective custody narratives present the facts decision makers need to craft a parenting plan for a specific family, and help frame a new paradigm for the family's changing relationships. This workshop will take a multidisciplinary look at the powerful role of narrative, and teach professionals how to become better storytellers.

*Leslie Ellen Shear, J.D., Encino, CA*

*Diane M. Goodman, J.D., Encino, CA*

## 69. Drafting Parenting Plans that Really Work

Clear, unambiguous and customized parenting plans take more time to write, but the benefits to the clients are enormous. Parenting plans may be ignored when the road of life is smooth, but when families hit the inevitable potholes, a well-written parenting plan is essential. The professional's job is to create a user-friendly parenting plan that is specific to each family's special needs and that takes into account the usual and unusual situations that arise after the dust of separation has settled. Join two experienced mediators who routinely write detailed and specific parenting plans to learn the skills, strategies and techniques of good drafting.

*Rebecca T. Magruder, M.S.W., J.D., St. Charles, MO*

*Alan E. Freed, J.D., Paule, Camazine & Blumenthal, St. Louis, MO*

## 70. Rx for Toxic Exchanges

Dysfunctional co-parenting, communication problems and parental conflicts based on unfinished partner business are all exacerbated by issues surrounding the allocation of parenting time and exchange of children. Presenters will identify presenting problems for families struggling with access disputes, shortcomings of traditional interventions and describe the multi-tiered approach to fitting the intervention to the severity of the conflict. The Child-Friendly Exchange Program utilizes parent education, print and web-based information; dispute resolution services, and monitored parental exchanges of children to reduce the impact of parental conflict over access on children. Documented outcomes of various interventions will be presented.

*Kathleen Bird, J.D., Office of Dispute Resolution Services, Liberty, MO*

*Dawn Kuhlman, M.A., Office of Dispute Resolution Services, Liberty, MO*



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- April 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Thursday-Saturday — King of Prussia, PA
- May 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Thursday-Saturday — Houston, TX
- September 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Thursday-Saturday — King of Prussia, PA
- November 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Thursday-Saturday — Atlanta, GA

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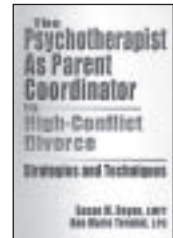
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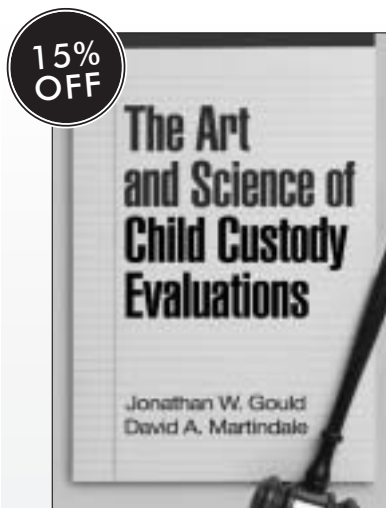
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## Hofstra Law | LL.M. Program

# FAMILY LAW

Hofstra Law School established its LL.M. in Family Law in response to contemporary family law practice's increased demand for specialization and need for an interdisciplinary focus to resolve family issues. Our graduate program will help lawyers *make an impact* in family law by providing:

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For more information about this program or how to apply, please contact Franca Fanizzi, Coordinator for the Family Law Programs at (516) 463-0386 or visit our web site at [law.hofstra.edu/llmfamilylaw](http://law.hofstra.edu/llmfamilylaw).

# Important Conference Information

## AFCC Silent Auction

AFCC's Tenth Annual Silent Auction takes place Friday, May 30. The auction will open at 5:30pm and the bidding closes at 7:00pm. Items include sports memorabilia, original artwork, fine wines, weekend hotel packages and many one-of-a-kind items. Auction proceeds will help support AFCC's special projects and programs. Contributors will be recognized in the silent auction catalog and in the *AFCC NEWS*. If you would like to donate an item to the AFCC Silent Auction, please contact David Vigliotta, AFCC Marketing and Development Manager at (608) 664-3750 or [dvigliotta@afccnet.org](mailto:dvigliotta@afccnet.org).

## Continuing Education Credits

AFCC will provide a certificate of conference attendance for a processing fee of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. *The certificate will verify attendance at conference sessions and may be used to apply for continuing education credits with the registrant's accrediting institution.* A complete list of conference sessions eligible for continuing education credits will be available at the AFCC registration desk.

**Psychologists:** AFCC is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. AFCC maintains responsibility for this program and its content. The program is eligible for up to 22.5 hours of continuing education.

**Mental Health Professionals:** In Canada, the regulation of professions is a provincial responsibility and continuing education or accreditation varies by province. British Columbia does not have established CE requirements. Continuing education approval from the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) is pending; however, individuals will need to verify approval with their credentialing or licensing boards.

**Mediators:** All conference sessions are eligible for continuing education units through the Association for Conflict Resolution.

**Lawyers:** Applications have been submitted to the Washington State Bar Association and the Oregon State Bar for approval of continuing legal education (CLE) credits.

**BC Lawyers:** Attendance at the parts of this program relating to the study or practice of law can be recorded as continuing education in completing your Annual Report to the Law Society of British Columbia.

## Audio Recording

Conference sessions will be recorded and audio CDs and MP3s may be ordered online at [www.dcporder.com/afcc](http://www.dcporder.com/afcc) after the conference concludes. No personal audio-recording of sessions is permitted.

## Conference Scholarships

Thanks to the outstanding support of AFCC members who contributed to the AFCC Resource Development Fund, conference scholarships will be awarded for AFCC's 45th Annual Conference. In addition to regular conference scholarships, a limited number of scholarships will be designated to Court Services professionals, graduate students, professionals working in the greater Vancouver area and international participants. International conference scholarships include a travel stipend of US \$1,000 for participants living outside of North America in addition to conference registration fees and one full-day pre-conference institute. All other scholarships include registration fees only. Recipients are

responsible for funding their own travel, lodging, meals and related expenses. The scholarship application is available on the AFCC Web site at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org). For more information please call AFCC at (608) 664-3750.

## Exhibitor Forum

The Exhibitor Forum will be open during conference hours. A learning opportunity in itself, the Exhibitor Forum provides a chance to meet face-to-face with representatives and discuss your product needs and services. AFCC publications will be available for purchase at the AFCC membership table. If you are interested in renting exhibit space or distributing materials to conference delegates, please contact Dawn Holmes (608) 664-3750 or e-mail [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org).

## Conference Bookstore

AFCC's official bookseller for this conference is 32 Books and the bookstore will be open during conference hours. If you wish to display a book for sale, please send an email to [deb@32books.com](mailto:deb@32books.com) and mention AFCC bookstore in the subject line.

## Conference Orientation and Networking

If you are new to AFCC or this is your first conference, join us on Wednesday at 5:00pm to meet colleagues, learn about AFCC and discover AFCC traditions, such as the Hospitality Suite, Taste of the Town and AFCC's Silent Auction. If you are here alone, this is a great chance to connect with others and make plans for the week. **International attendees, new members, spouses and guests are encouraged to attend.** The location will be posted at the AFCC registration desk. Everyone is welcome!

## For Early Birds—Morning Run/Walk

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday, meet your colleagues in the lobby promptly at 7:00am for a refreshing start to your day. The route will vary although you'll always be in close proximity to the hotel.

## AFCC Hospitality Suite

AFCC's Hospitality Suite will be open for informal networking and refreshment, Wednesday from 9:30pm-12:00midnight, Thursday from 9:00pm-12:00midnight and Friday from 9:00pm-12:00midnight. Please wear your name badge. The Hospitality Suite location will be posted at the AFCC registration desk.

## Taste of the Town

Thursday evening is your opportunity to enjoy the area with friends and colleagues. Sign up on Wednesday or before 1:00pm on Thursday and join a group of 8-10 for dinner at a restaurant in downtown Vancouver. Menus and sign-up sheets will be available onsite. Participants are responsible for food, beverage and any transportation costs.

## Special Needs

If you have special meal requests or other special needs, please note this on the registration form. The Westin Bayshore meeting facilities, its guest rooms, common areas and its transportation services are in compliance with the public accommodation requirements of the ADA.

*All Sessions will be smoke free.*

# Registration Information

*Please read before completing your conference registration form!*

**AFCC Members' Lower Registration Rates:** Register by March 7, 2008 to receive the lowest rates for the conference! The Early Bird Special rates are available only to AFCC members. Not a member? Check the New Membership Special, register at the AFCC member rate and save up to \$130!

**New Membership Special:** Join AFCC when you register for the conference and receive a twelve-month membership for \$140—a \$10 discount—and save even more by registering at the AFCC member rate! To join, simply check the New Membership Special rate on the registration form. The New Membership Special is available only to first time AFCC members.

**Pre-conference Institute Registration:** Includes attendance at a pre-conference institute, refreshment break and institute materials. *Institute registration is separate from registration for the full conference.*

**Conference Registration:** Includes all conference sessions and materials, conference proceedings book, refreshment breaks, Reception, Awards Luncheon, Annual Banquet and AFCC Hospitality Suite. *Pre-conference Institutes require a separate registration fee.*

**Spouse/Guest Registration:** Available only to persons accompanying a full conference registrant. Includes all plenary sessions, Reception, Awards Luncheon, Annual Banquet and AFCC Hospitality Suite.

**Conference Presenter Registration:** Available only to conference presenters. Includes all conference sessions and materials, Reception,

The Canadian and U.S. dollars were at par when conference fees were set. When paying by check, all fees are the same amount in SCAD and \$US and payment in Canadian or U.S. dollars is accepted. All credit card transactions will be processed in U.S. dollars and the exchange rate on the day of transaction will apply.

Awards Luncheon, Annual Banquet and AFCC Hospitality Suite. *A separate registration fee is required for presenters who wish to attend Pre-conference Institutes.*

**Full-Time Student Registration:** Includes admission to conference plenary and workshop sessions only and a conference proceedings book. Meal functions are not included; however, meal tickets may be purchased separately. Registration must include proof of full-time student status. *Separate registration is required for pre-conference institutes.*

**Attendance Certificate Registration:** Includes a certificate indicating total hours attended at conference plenary sessions, workshops and institutes. Forms will be available at the AFCC Registration Desk.

## **Additional Awards Luncheon Ticket**

The Awards Luncheon is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$45. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

## **Additional Annual Banquet Ticket**

The Annual Banquet is included in the conference registration fee. Additional tickets are available for \$65. Meal ticket prices reflect the estimated cost to AFCC.

*AFCC reserves the right to cancel or substitute any presenter or session should circumstances arise beyond our control.*

# Travel and Lodging Information

## **Hotel Information**

The Westin Bayshore  
1601 Bayshore Drive  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6G 2V4

The Westin Bayshore Resort & Marina is nestled on the shores of Coal Harbour, adjacent to the 1,000-acre Stanley Park and a short walk to the heart of downtown Vancouver. The hotel offers panoramic views of the North Shore Mountains, the ocean and the downtown city lights of Vancouver. Information on the city and activities can be found at [www.tourismvancouver.com](http://www.tourismvancouver.com).

**Make your reservations today!** The Westin Bayshore is offering a special rate to AFCC conference registrants of \$178 CAD per night for single accommodations and \$199 CAD per night for double accommodations. Each person per room is an additional \$21 CAD per night. All rooms are subject to availability and *early reservations are encouraged* to ensure a room at these great rates. On Friday, April 25, 2008 the AFCC block of non-reserved rooms will be released to the public for general sale and the special group rate will not be guaranteed after that date. The toll-free number for reservations is 1-800-WESTIN-1 (1-800-937-8461) and the direct line for the Westin Bayshore is (604) 682-3377. Please request the AFCC-Vancouver 2008 special rate. Or, make your reservations online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) by clicking on the AFCC-Vancouver 2008 link.

## **Air Travel Information**

The Vancouver International Airport (YVR) is located 22 KM / 12 Miles South of Downtown Vancouver. There are more than a dozen international flights in and out of YVR every day, with 22 bound for the United States. More information on the airport can be found at [www.yvr.ca](http://www.yvr.ca). Burkhalter Travel, AFCC's preferred travel agency, is available to assist you with the best rates for your airline and rental car needs. Contact Burkhalter Travel at (800) 688-0156 or (608) 255-2774 and ask for Dan or Barbara.

## **Alternative Transportation to Vancouver**

Bellingham, Washington is the closest U.S. city to Vancouver. Bellingham airport (BLI) information can be found at [\[bellingham.org\]\(http://www.bellingham.org\). Seattle airport \(SEA\) information can be found at \[www.portseattle.org/seatac\]\(http://www.portseattle.org/seatac\). Quick Shuttle specializes in cross border transportation and their Web site is \[www.quickcoach.com\]\(http://www.quickcoach.com\). Airporter shuttle, Amtrak train and Greyhound bus also provide ground transportation from Seattle and Bellingham to Vancouver. Transportation information is available at this Web site link: \[www.bellingham.org/PDF/Transportation\\\_Options.pdf\]\(http://www.bellingham.org/PDF/Transportation\_Options.pdf\).](http://www.portof-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

## **Proof of Citizenship**

You will be required to present proof of citizenship when entering and leaving Canada. All U.S. citizens are required to have a valid passport.

## **Ground Transportation**

Taxi fare from the Vancouver International Airport is \$35-\$40 CAD one way and takes 20-25 minutes. The Airporter Bus is approximately \$14 CAD one way or \$21 CAD roundtrip and picks up and drops off at The Westin Bayshore every 30 minutes, 6am – 12midnight.

## **Rental Car Information**

Car rental facilities are conveniently located just steps from the terminal on the ground floor. Companies operating their vehicle pickup and return services directly from this area include: Alamo, Avis, Budget, Dollar, Hertz, National and Thrifty.

## **Parking**

Parking is available at The Westin Bayshore at a cost of \$23 CAD per day.

## **Climate**

The weather in Vancouver, British Columbia is warm in the late spring, with temperatures in the mid-to-high 60's°F 18-21°C. Evenings can be cool, so take a light jacket or sweater.

## **Room Sharing**

If you are in search of a roommate, check the box on the registration form or email [afcc@afccnet.org](mailto:afcc@afccnet.org). Your name will be placed on a list that will be provided to others who request roommate information. Please be certain to note your gender. Roommates are responsible for contacting one another and making hotel reservations.

# Conference Registration Form

**AFCC 45th Annual Conference • May 28-31, 2008 • Vancouver, B.C.**

Please register by April 18, 2008 to ensure that your name appears on the list of conference attendees in the conference proceedings book.

Register online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)

Please type or print clearly. This form may be duplicated.

First Name (Dr. / Mr. / Ms.) \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Information: First name or Nickname (as you would like it to appear on your name badge) \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
(If they are registering below at the Spouse/Guest rate)

Is this your first AFCC Conference? \_\_\_\_\_  Yes  No

I would like to be listed for a roommate  
 Male  Female  Smoking  Non-smoking

**New Membership Special**  
Join AFCC for 12 months and register at AFCC member rates!  \$140

Do you have any special needs?  Meals  Access  Other

Please provide details: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate amount(s) when making your selections and enter your total at the bottom

*Canadian and US dollar at par*

|   | Paid by<br>March 7<br>\$CAD/\$US | Paid by<br>May 2<br>\$CAD/\$US | Paid after<br>May 2<br>\$CAD/\$US |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Pre-conference Institute Registration Rates</b>                  |                                  |                                |                                   |
| Full Day Institute Registration – AFCC Member                       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$130   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$140 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$160    |
| Full Day Institute Registration – Non-member                        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$175   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$175 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$195    |
| <b>Conference Registration Rates</b>                                |                                  |                                |                                   |
| Conference Registration – AFCC Member                               | <input type="checkbox"/> \$410   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$440 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$470    |
| Conference Registration – Non-member                                | <input type="checkbox"/> \$495   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$495 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$530    |
| Conference Presenter Rate – AFCC Member                             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$220   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$220 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$240    |
| Conference Presenter Rate – Non-member                              | <input type="checkbox"/> \$240   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$240 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$260    |
| Full-time Student Rate<br>(ID required. No meals included)          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$175   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$195 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$215    |
| <b>Other Registration Rates</b>                                     |                                  |                                |                                   |
| Certificate of Attendance – AFCC Member                             | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10     |
| Certificate of Attendance – Non-member                              | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15     |
| Additional Luncheon Ticket  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$45     |
| Additional Banquet Ticket   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$65    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$65  | <input type="checkbox"/> \$65     |
| Spouse/Guest Registration Rate<br>(Meals and plenary sessions only) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$220   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$220 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$240    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | \$ _____                         | \$ _____                       | \$ _____                          |

**Institute Selections—Wednesday, May 28, 2008**

If you have registered for an institute, please check only one of the following boxes:

**Pre-conference Institutes 9:00am-4:30pm**

- 1. Advanced Institute on Parenting Coordination
- 2. Advanced Mediation Practice Strategies
- 3. Cross-Examination and Expert Testimony in Parenting Disputes
- 4. Handling Clients with Borderline and Narcissistic Personality Traits
- 5. Triaging Court Services: Fitting the Forum to the Family
- 6. Judicial Officers Institute

**Conference Workshop Selections**

Seating is not guaranteed and will be first-come first-served. Your selections will ensure that sessions with more attendees will be scheduled in larger meeting rooms. Participants who register for a 3-hour advanced workshop are requested to select workshop numbers for both Parts I and II.

(Please write in one workshop number per time slot)

|                  |                 |             |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Thursday, May 29 | 10:30am-12:00pm | 1-10 _____  |
| Thursday, May 29 | 1:45pm-3:15pm   | 11-20 _____ |
| Thursday, May 29 | 3:30pm-5:00pm   | 21-29 _____ |
| Thursday, May 29 | 3:30pm-5:00pm   | 30 _____    |
| Friday, May 30   | 1:45pm-3:15pm   | 31-40 _____ |
| Friday, May 30   | 3:30pm-5:00pm   | 41-50 _____ |
| Saturday, May 31 | 9:15am-10:45am  | 51-60 _____ |
| Saturday, May 31 | 11:00am-12:30pm | 61-70 _____ |

You may register online at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org) or return the completed form and payment to:

AFCC  
6525 Grand Teton Plaza  
Madison, WI 53719  
Phone: (608) 664-3750  
Fax: (608) 664-3751

**Method of Payment**

Registrations must be paid in full prior to attendance.

Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed (U.S. or Canadian currency only please)

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my  Visa  MasterCard  
 American Express  Discover

Credit card transactions will be processed in US dollars; exchange rate on day of transaction will apply.

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Order # \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellation Policy:** Transfer of registration to another person may be done at any time without a fee. All requests for refunds must be made in writing. Written notice of cancellation received by fax or postmarked by May 5, 2008 will be issued a full refund minus a \$60US service fee. Written notice received by fax or postmarked by May 19, 2008 will have the \$60US service fee deducted and the balance will be issued as a credit for future AFCC conferences, publications or membership dues. No refunds or credits will be issued for cancellations received after May 19, 2008.

## Conference Topics Include:

Domestic Violence,  
Differentiation and Family Court

Client Centered Mediation

Advanced Innovations  
in Parenting Coordination

The Role of Divorce Coaches and Child  
Specialists

Matching Domestic Violence Patterns  
and Parenting Plans

Conflict Resolution in Child Protection  
Children and the Mediation Process

The Uniform Collaborative Law Act

Psychological Abuse  
in High Conflict Cases

Domestic Violence  
in South Africa and Ethiopia

Australian Family Law Reform

Divorce and the Adolescent

Canada's Domestic Violence Benchbook

Advanced Issues in Psychological Testing

The Con Game: How to Avoid Being Had

The Professional as Story Teller

AFCC 45th Annual Conference

# VANCOUVER

## Fitting the Forum to the Family

Emerging Challenges for Family Courts

May 28–31, 2008  
Westin Bayshore



Register online at  
[www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org)



6525 Grand Teton Plaza  
Madison, WI 53719

Association of Family and Conciliation Courts  
AFCC 45th Annual Conference

# VANCOUVER

## Fitting the Forum to the Family

Emerging Challenges for Family Courts

May 28–31, 2008  
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