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FAMILY LAW 2016: A FOCUS ON CHILDREN AND PARENTING ISSUES

Chaired by
Trudi L. Brown, Q.C.
Brown Henderson Melbye

March 3rd, 2016 • UBC Robson Square • Vancouver, BC

Live Webinar also available!

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CHAIR



Trudi L. Brown, Q.C., Partner, Brown Henderson Melbye, Victoria, BC. Since early in her legal career, Trudi has focused her practice primarily in the area of family law. She was one of the first lawyers in Victoria to embrace collaborative law, and is still firmly wedded to the concept of resolving family law disputes without going to trial. Trudi is a family law mediator and arbitrator, and a member of the B.C. Hear the Child society - which means that she interviews children whose parents are unable to agree on parenting plans. She is also a member of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. Trudi annually edits, along with Madam Justice Huddart of the Court of Appeal of British Columbia, *British Columbia Family Law Practice*, and she is regularly sought after as a presenter, speaker and master of ceremonies of various programs in the legal profession and community. She also continues to co-chair the National Family Law Program operated under the auspices of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada. Trudi has been named one of the Best Lawyers in Canada, as chosen by her peers.

FACULTY



Sally Campbell, Mediator, Hornby Island, BC. A retired lawyer, Sally Campbell is a facilitative mediator with experience working in a wide range of contexts of emotional, substantive and cultural complexity. Her work includes conflict analysis and assessment, process design, coaching, facilitation, leadership mentoring and training, as well as mediation. She is a member of the Civil and Family Mediators Roster with Mediate BC, and has completed two terms as a board member of that organization; and is a Certified Comprehensive Mediator with Family Mediation Canada. Sally served as a member of the Advisory Committee for the Practicum Project in Child Protection Mediation for BC from 2006-2009; and as a member of the Family Mediation Practicum Project Advisory Committee from 2007-2010.



Nikki Charlton, Partner, Farris, Vaughan, Wills & Murphy LLP, Vancouver, BC. Nikki specializes exclusively in the area of family law. Her practice includes all matters affecting families in British Columbia such as separation, divorce, property division, common law trusts, spousal support, child support, guardianship, residency, and parenting time. Nikki has extensive experience drafting complex cohabitation, marriage, and separation agreements, and has appeared before all levels of court in British Columbia. As a member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals, Nikki provides services from either a collaborative or litigation approach depending on the individual needs of her clients. Nikki was called to the B.C. Bar in 2004. She received her certification as a Family Law Mediator in 2007 and her certification as a Collaborative Family Law Lawyer in 2008. Nikki has been active in the Canadian Bar Association, and was on the executive committee of the Family Law Section from 2009 – 2011. She is on the Board of Directors and is a member of the BC Collaborative Roster Society, a member of Collaborative Divorce Vancouver Practice Group, the North Shore Collaborative and Dispute Resolution Practice Group, International Association of Collaborative Practitioners and the Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia. Nikki is a contributor to continuing education seminars for other lawyers, and presents regularly at conferences on various complex family law issues.



David C. Dundee, Lawyer and Mediator, Paul & Company, Kamloops, BC. David is a family lawyer practising with Paul & Company in Kamloops. He is chair of the CBA Kamloops Family Law Section, chair of the CBA National Family Law Section, and has served on various CBABC working groups for family law reform as well as on the Attorney General's Family Law Practice Advisory Group and the most recent Justice Summit steering committee. He is a director of the BC Hear the Child Society and of the Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family. He also serves on the TLABC Family Law Committee. David has contributed to various CLE and PBLI courses, to the Family Law Practice Manual, the Family Law Act Transition Guide, and the Clicklaw Wikibook, JP Boyd on Family Law. One of the reasons he was invited to assist with this conference is that he was an original member of the CBA National Children's Law Committee, whose UNCRC subcommittee created the Children's Rights Toolkit.



Kiu Ghanavizchian, CA, CBV, MBA, Blair Mackay Mynett Valuations Inc., Vancouver, BC. Kiu is a partner at Blair Mackay Mynett Valuations Inc. and holds the designations of Chartered Accountant (2001) and Chartered Business Valuator (2009). In 2007 he completed his Masters of Business Administration at the Sauder School of Business (University of British Columbia). Kiu specializes in business valuations and has prepared reports in the context of Family Law matters, shareholder disputes, corporate reorganizations, acquisitions and divestitures and estate planning. Some of the industries involved in those valuation assignments have included agriculture, construction, distribution, manufacturing, professional practices, real estate, restaurant and hospitality, retail, software and transportation. Kiu also routinely prepares expert reports regarding the amount of income available to a spouse pursuant to the *Federal Child Support Guidelines*. Kiu is a regular speaker on the topic of business valuations and the use of financial statements for both legal and non-legal audiences and, prior to joining Blair Mackay Mynett, was a lecturer at the University of British Columbia where he taught courses dealing with financial accounting, financial statement analysis and the use of financial information in business valuations. Kiu has given expert witness testimony in the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

Dr. Mary Korpach, Registered Psychologist, Private Practice, Surrey, BC. Dr. Korpach is a registered psychologist who received her training in the United States, and has been practising in British Columbia since 1993. She has been assessing and treating children, adults, and families since 1986, and has been qualified as an expert witness in British Columbia in custody and access issues, parental capacity assessments, parental alienation, interviewing children, child and family matters, intimate partner violence, child abuse issues, sexual abuse, clinical and forensic psychology, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, and professional issues relating to the practice of psychology. The majority of her practice involves preparing psychological reports including Section 211 assessments, Views of the Child reports, and expert reports in civil matters, as well as Hear the Child reports. Dr. Korpach has also consulted with the child maltreatment clinic at Surrey Memorial Hospital since 1996, provides regulatory and practice supervision, and is an adjunct faculty member at Simon Fraser University.



Morag MacLeod, Family Law Lawyer, Vancouver, BC. Morag MacLeod is a senior family litigator, arbitrator, mediator, and parenting co-ordinator in private practice in Vancouver. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the Trial Lawyers Association of BC and chairs its Family Law Litigation Group and the popular TLABC Family Listserv. She is the Vice President of the BC Parenting Coordinators Roster Society and a Fellow of the International Academy of

Matrimonial Lawyers. She is a member of the CBA, VBA, Family Mediation Canada, the BC Hear the Child Society, the Family Law Advocates Group and the Editorial Board of the CLEBC Family Law Sourcebook. She is a contributing author to various CLEBC and other publications and is a frequent presenter on family law and litigation topics.



Suzanne S. Williams, Lawyer, Brown Henderson Melbye, Victoria, BC. Over the past 20 years Suzanne has been an advocate for children and worked as a lawyer in private practice, for Canada's Department of Justice and with an international child rights and development organization based at a university. She frequently works with multi-disciplinary teams in Canada and internationally to strengthen the way governments and professionals implement child rights. This includes leading work for more than 10 years in BC focused on advancing children's rights within the family justice system and improving how adults hear from children and consider their views in decision-making. Her research, education, training, and pilot practice on hearing the views of children were instrumental in developing the Hear the Child Interview tool and provisions contained in the *Family Law Act*, as well as establishing the BC Hear the Child Society in 2010 and the BC child interviewer roster in 2012. Suzanne has been invited to present to numerous audiences such as the National Judicial Institute of Canada, the Association of Family Conciliation Courts, the World Congress on Family Law and Child Rights, and Canada's Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights. More recently Suzanne co-chaired with the Honourable Justice Donna J. Martinson QC (retired) a ground breaking Access to Justice for Children Conference, and is working with the Canadian Bar Association's National Children's Law Committee to develop a Child Rights Toolkit to improve how the rights of children are respected and implemented in Canada.

FAMILY LAW 2016: A FOCUS ON CHILDREN AND PARENTING ISSUES

Children and parenting considerations are some of the most delicate and complex issues faced by family law practitioners. The involvement of minor children can heighten intensity and create additional conflict and cost in already complex family disputes. Lawyers and others practising in this difficult area, along with their clients, benefit from maintaining an up-to-date understanding of the law, and of best practices, strategies and tools for resolving disputes and reducing conflict while protecting the best interests of the children.

This program assembles a variety of experts to guide you through the newest developments and trickiest issues in this challenging area of practice. You will hear from lawyers, financial professionals, doctors and mediators involved at different levels of the process, and gain a solid understanding of some of the most pressing concerns facing you today. You will leave with enhanced knowledge of the area, helpful tools and sound strategies that you can put to use immediately in your practice.

KEY AREAS ADDRESSED:

- Child rights in practice and the CBA toolkit for Canadian lawyers
- How to define income for child support purposes
- Understanding custody and access reports
- Mediation as a tool for resolving parenting issues
- Issues involved in relocation of children
- Ethical considerations in the practice of family law

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- Lawyers of all levels advising on family law matters
- Family law arbitrators
- Family law mediators
- Government officials and employees engaged in family matters
- Family service providers

FAMILY LAW 2016: A FOCUS ON CHILDREN AND PARENTING ISSUES

MARCH 3RD, 2016

9:00 Welcome and Introduction by PBLI

9:05 Chair's Welcome and Introduction

Trudi L. Brown, Q.C.
Brown Henderson Melbye

9:10 The What, Why and How of Child Rights in Family Law Practice

David C. Dundee
Paul & Company
Suzanne S. Williams
Brown Henderson Melbye

- Child rights: What they look like; why they matter; and how a child-focussed approach can help you in your practice
- A preview of the new CBA Child Rights Toolkit for Canadian Lawyers
- Tips to help you implement child rights in practice

9:55 Questions and Discussion

10:05 Defining Income for Child Support Purposes

Kiu Ghanavizchian
Blair Mackay Mynett Valuations Inc.

- How is income defined for purposes of calculating child support?
- What are some of the contentious issues that arise when determining a spouse's available income?
- What financial documents and other information is necessary in order to determine a spouse's available income?

10:50 Questions and Discussion

11:00 Refreshment Adjournment

11:15 Navigating Psychological Reports in Family Law

Dr. Mary Korpach
Psychologist

- Section 211 reports
- Parenting assessments
- Views of the Child and Hear the Child reports

12:05 Questions and Discussion

12:15 Networking Lunch

1:15 Mediation of Parenting Issues

Sally Campbell
Mediator

- Parenting issues as distinct from money issues
- Biases parties bring to issues surrounding parenting
- "Appropriate" parenting vs. control
- Flexibility going forward
- Voice of the child
- Dispute resolution mechanisms
- Forgiveness and closure
- Other considerations

2:00 Questions and Discussion

2:10 Refreshment Adjournment

2:25 Child Relocation

Nikki Charlton
Farris, Vaughan, Wills & Murphy LLP

- Mobility issues
- Relocation pursuant to the *Divorce Act* vs. the *Family Law Act*
- Other considerations

3:20 Questions and Discussion

3:30 The Practice of Family Law: What Are We Doing Wrong?

Trudi L. Brown, Q.C.
Brown Henderson Melbye

Morag MacLeod
Family Law Lawyer

- Ethical considerations in the practice of family law

4:15 Questions and Discussion

4:25 Chair's Closing Remarks

4:30 Program Concludes

INFORMATION

Four Ways to Register:

1. Telephone us: 604-730-2500 or toll free 877-730-2555
2. Fax us: 604-730-5085 or toll free 866-730-5085
3. Mail your registration form with payment
4. Register at www.pbli.com/1247

Registration: The registration fee is \$770.00 plus GST of \$38.50 totalling **\$808.50** covering your attendance at the program (in person or by live webinar), written materials, a light breakfast, a networking lunch and refreshments throughout the day.

Early Bird Discount: Register by February 3rd, 2016 and receive a \$100 discount on the registration fee (\$670.00 plus GST).

Group Discount: Register four persons from the same organization at the same time and you are entitled to a complimentary fifth registration. Early Bird and Group Discount cannot be combined.

Payment: You may pay by VISA, MasterCard or cheque. Cheques should be made payable to the Pacific Business & Law Institute. Registration fees must be paid prior to the program.

When and Where: Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. The program starts at **9:00 a.m.** UBC Robson Square is located at the basement level of **800 Robson Street** in Vancouver, BC. Please visit <http://robsonsquare.ubc.ca/find-us/> for directions.

Materials: The faculty will prepare papers and/or other materials explaining many of the points raised during this program. Materials will be available for pick-up at the program. Please contact us at registrations@pbli.com if you are unable to attend the program and wish to purchase a set of materials.

Your Privacy: We will keep all information that you provide to us in strict confidence, other than to prepare a delegate list containing your name, title, firm and city for our faculty and the program delegates. We do not share our mailing lists with any non-affiliated organization.

Cancellations: Full refunds will be given for cancellations (less a \$60.00 administration fee) if notice is received in writing five full business days prior to the program (**February 25th, 2016**). After that time we are unable to refund registration fees. Substitutions will be permitted. We reserve the right to cancel, change or revise the date, faculty, content, venue, or the availability of webinar for this event.

Course Accreditation: Attendance at this course can be listed for up to **6 hours** (including 1 hour of ethics) of continuing professional development with the Law Society of BC.

Registration Form

Pacific Business & Law Institute

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FAMILY LAW 2016: A FOCUS ON CHILDREN AND PARENTING ISSUES

March 3rd, 2016
UBC Robson Square, Vancouver, BC

In person Live webinar

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