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!
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

David C. Dundee
Paul & Company
Suzanne S. Williams
Brown Henderson Melbye
- Child rights: What they look like; why they matter; and how a child-focused 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
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