

Children's Participation in Justice Processes: *Finding the Best Ways Forward*

Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family
Office of the Child and Youth Advocate
Hyatt Regency • Calgary, Alberta

Agenda

Pre-Symposium Conference Thursday 14 September 2017

11:00 to 4:30	Symposium and conference registration <i>Lobby</i>
1:00 to 2:30	Fundamentals of Family Law in Canada, Part I The Canadian law on domestic relations and the resolution of disputes John-Paul Boyd, executive director, Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family <i>Stephen Room A & B</i>
2:30 to 2:45	Break <i>Grand Foyer</i>
2:45 to 4:30	Fundamentals of Family Law in Canada, Part II Parenting after separation, child support and hearing from children John-Paul Boyd <i>Stephen Room A & B</i>
5:00 to 7:00	Reception <i>Atrium</i>

The pre-symposium conference on family law in Canada is open to all participants but is designed for mental health professionals and for people whose work does not usually involve the justice system. The conference will discuss the law on parenting and the care of children after separation, contemporary dispute resolution processes, and the traditional and emerging ways that the views and voices of children and youth are presented in those processes. The conference is intended to provide valuable additional context for the work of the symposium. Register for the conference at www.findingthebestwaysforward.com.

Workshop materials are available at
www.findingthebestwaysforward.com/materials/

Tweet about the conference and symposium using hashtag
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Day One
Friday 15 September 2017

7:00 to 4:30	Symposium registration <i>Lobby</i>			
7:00 to 8:15	Breakfast <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
8:15 to 8:50	Plenary session Welcoming remarks, introduction to the day and the symposium Del Graff, Alberta Child and Youth Advocate John-Paul Boyd, executive director, Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			
8:50 to 10:00	Plenary session Keynote address Why I didn't say anything Sheldon Kennedy, director, Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			
10:00 to 10:15	Break <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
10:15 to 11:45 Workshop #1	Best practices for representing youth in conflict with the law Mark Cherrington Nicole Mizzi, RSW Patricia Yuzwenko	Challenges and lessons learned establishing children's legal clinics Dale Hensley, QC Katherine Kavassalis Betty Ann Pottruff, QC	Judicial interviews with children Prof Nicholas Bala Dr Rachel Birnbaum Hon L Cook-Stanhope, PCJ Hon G Marriott, QBJ	The voice of the alienated child Melissa Ander, RCC Rob Croezen, RSW Allyson Jones, RCC
11:45 to 12:45	Lunch <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
12:45 to 1:15	Plenary session Youth panel Learning from the experiences of young people <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			
1:15 to 2:45 Workshop #2	Representing children in family law and child protection cases: Ethical and practical dilemmas Carolyn Leach Shuah Roskies	Are we there yet? A roadmap for establishing a child interviewer roster Bev Churchill Arlene H Henry, QC Carla Lewis Bobbi Poushinsky	The role of children's counsel: Where do we go from here? Elizabeth Aspinall Anna Loparco Hon R Saccomani, PCJ	Hearing the voices of infants and toddlers Sonja Lusignan Evelyn Wotherspoon, RSW
2:45 to 3:00	Break <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
3:00 to 4:30 Workshop #3	The role of children's counsel in child protection ADR proceedings Martha Héder Carolyn Leach	Are we there yet? Developing a training model for child interviewers Bev Churchill Arlene H Henry, QC Carla Lewis Bobbi Poushinsky	Child participation in mediation and parenting coordination Dr Lorri Yassenik	The voice of the child in parenting coordination Dr Francine Cyr Catherine Quigley
5:00 to 7:00	Reception <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			

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Day Two
Saturday 16 September 2017

7:00 to 2:15	Symposium registration <i>Lobby</i>			
7:00 to 8:15	Breakfast <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
8:15 to 8:30	Plenary session Welcoming remarks, introduction to the day John-Paul Boyd, executive director, Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			
8:30 to 9:45	Plenary session Keynote address How to build a brain: The effects of early experiences on brain development, learning and health Dr Nicole Sherren, scientific director, Alberta Family Wellness Initiative <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			
9:45 to 10:00	Break <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
10:00 to 11:30 Workshop #4	Limits to children's participation: Are there any, should there be? Dr Rachel Birnbaum Dale Hensley, QC Dr Gary Kneier Caterina Tempesta	The intersection of the UN CRC, the Charter and human rights legislation Mary Birdsell Emily Chan	A case management protocol for high-conflict families: Children's participation Dr Francine Cyr Dr Élisabeth Godbout Dr Karine Poitras	Assessing the competence and credibility of children Prof Nicholas Bala
11:30 to 12:30	Lunch <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
12:30 to 2:00 Workshop #5	Shifting identities: Young aboriginal leaders graduating from the care system Amber Abou Holly Anderson, RSW Cheyenne Andy Orlene Andy Jordan Arcand Amber Moon	The CBA Child Rights Toolkit and the UN CRC: Fundamental to child participation Dale Hensley, QC Hon D Martinson, QC Caterina Tempesta Uncensored	The privacy rights of children and youth Mary Birdsell Emily Chan	Voice of the child reports: When, how and by whom? Dr Rachel Birnbaum Dr Steven Carter Patricia Hébert, QC
2:00 to 2:15	Break <i>Grand Foyer</i>			
2:15 to 3:45	Plenary session Concluding remarks Kathleen Ganley, Alberta Minister of Justice and Solicitor General Preliminary results of research on children's involvement in justice processes, cross-country roundup, review of workshop outcomes, moving forward John-Paul Boyd, executive director, Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family <i>Imperial Ballroom 5, 7 & 9</i>			

Funding for the symposium has been generously provided by the
Alberta Law Foundation