

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

MICHAEL COCHRANE (PROGRAM CO-CHAIR AND SPEAKER)

Michael Cochrane is a partner at Brauti, Thorning, Zibarras LLP and the head of their Family Law and Estates Group. He was called to the Bar in 1980 and has practiced law in both the public and private sectors. He is the author of the national bestselling books: *Surviving Your Divorce: A Guide to Canadian Family Law* (6th edition); *Do We Need A Marriage Contract: Understanding How a Legal Agreement Can Strengthen Your Life Together*; *Do We Need a Cohabitation Agreement: Understanding How a Legal Agreement Can Strengthen Your Life Together*; *Family Law in Ontario for Lawyers and Law Clerks*; and *Strictly Legal: Everything You Need to Know About Canadian Law* (2nd edition). He was on the Editorial Board for JUST magazine, the publication of the Ontario Bar Association (and received a KRW Canadian Business Press Award for his article, "Hearts Broken All Around," which appeared in the inaugural issue of JUST), and was an Executive Member of the OBA, ADR Section, for several years. He is an avid golfer and the author of the recently published book about Canadian golf legend George Lyon, entitled *Olympic Lyon: The Untold Story of the Last Gold Medal for Golf*.

ANNIE NOA KENET (PROGRAM CO-CHAIR)

Annie Noa Kenet has been practicing in the area of family law since her call to the bar in 2007. Annie advocates on behalf of clients at mediations, arbitrations, the Ontario Court of Justice and the Superior Court of Justice. Annie's practice encompasses all issues relating to family law, such as property division (equalization), spousal support, child support, custody, and access. She is accomplished in all levels of negotiation, alternative dispute resolution and litigation. Annie is experienced in negotiating and drafting all forms of domestic contracts including Separation Agreements, Marriage Contracts and Cohabitation Agreements. Annie serves as vice-chair on the Executive of the Ontario Bar Association, Family Law Section and is a member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Advocates' Society. She has lectured to law clerks and young lawyers about various issues in family law. Annie co-chaired the OBA Institute, Family Law in 2015 and 2016 and is excited to be co-chairing the OBA Bread and Butter Issues in Family Law in 2017 and 2018.

THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE MARVIN KURZ

The Honourable Marvin Kurz is a family court judge of the Ontario Court of Justice. Prior to his appointment in December 2016, he practiced family, civil litigation and human rights law for over 32 years. He appeared in courts at every level including three courts of appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. He is a former small claims court deputy judge and a former Superior Court of Justice dispute resolution officer. He has spoken at numerous continuing legal education programmes.

THE HONOURABLE MARY JO NOLAN

The Honourable Mary Jo Nolan was appointed to the Superior Court of Justice for Ontario in April, 2005 after an interesting and varied legal career in private practice, with the Ministry of the Attorney General, Courts Administration, the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee and as a Case Management Master. She retired from the Court in July, 2014. Since that time she has been the principal of Nolan Mediation and Arbitration Services, providing services in Southwestern Ontario in both family and civil matters. Prior to her call to the bar in 1981, Mary Jo was a social worker and manager with Children's Aid Societies in Toronto, Hamilton and Windsor. She has never lost her passion for families in crisis and for the rights of children. In addition, Mary Jo was an adjunct professor in the Faculty of Law, University of Windsor, teaching Civil Procedure and Civil Trial Advocacy from 1999 until her appointment to the Court. She has been a member of the Civil Rules Committee, the Unified Family Court Expansion Project, the Provincial Case Management Steering Committee and a member of the Civil Justice Review Committee – Family Group. Mary Jo continues her involvement with the Faculty of Law as a frequent guest lecturer and as a student mentor. On her retirement from the court, her judicial colleagues and family endowed an annual financial award in her name for a student with an interest in pursuing a career in family law. Mary Jo has a unique background of experience in all aspects of the justice system in Ontario with a particular concern for families and children. She brings this knowledge and experience to her work as a mediator and arbitrator. On June 19, 2017 the Law Society of Upper Canada conferred on Mary Jo the Degree of Doctor of Laws , honoris causa,(LLD) in recognition of her contributions throughout her career to access to Justice.

HERSCHEL FOGELMAN

Herschel Fogelman is the principal of Fogelman Law. After almost two decades with a prestigious Bay Street firm, Herschel started his own practice focusing solely on family law. His approach is to find a negotiated settlement to his clients' problems, but he recognizes that not all problems can be solved through negotiation. When necessary, Herschel is an experienced litigator with success at all levels of court including the Ontario Court of Appeal.

DAN GOLDBERG

Dan Goldberg is General Counsel with the Office of the Children's Lawyer which is an independent law office within the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario. For almost thirty years Dan has represented children in custody/access and child protection cases. Dan received his Bachelor of Arts (B.A. Honours), 1976; Bachelor of Common Laws (LL.B.), 1979; Bachelor of Civil Law (B.C.L.), 1980, all from McGill University. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 1982. Dan has organized and spoken at numerous Ontario Bar Association (OBA), Law Society of Upper Canada and Association of Law Officers of the Crown (ALOC) educational programs. Dan has been a guest lecturer on Family and Children's Law at McGill University, Queen's University, University of Toronto, University of Ottawa, Osgoode Hall Law School (LL.B. and LL.M. programs) and at the Bar Admission Course. Dan has frequently presented to Judges at Judicial education conferences on various family law topics. Dan has presented at several Annual Association of Family & Conciliation Courts (AFCC) Conferences. Dan has also presented to a National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) Conference. In 2009, Dan presented at the Fifth World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights. For the past twenty-six years Dan has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Family Law Section of the OBA during which time he has, among other functions, chaired the Lief Competition for Excellence in Academic Writing in Family Law. Dan is Chair of the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario's Articling & Summer Law Student Committee. Dan was a former member of the North York Legal Aid Area Committee and of the North York (north Toronto) Bench and Bar Committee. Dan was a member of the initial organizing group of the Ontario Chapter of AFCC. Dan has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada in *Gordon v. Goertz*, successfully arguing on the issue of relocation rights of custodial parents. Dan has written articles on parental alienation, relocation rights, grandparent-grandchild access (for the Department of Justice, Canada), the impact of religion in custody/access disputes and on the legal representation of children in both child protection cases as well as custody/access disputes. Dan authored a chapter on Representing Children in the book, *Canadian Child Welfare Law: Children, Families, and the State* (2nd ed.), edited by N. Bala et al., published in 2004. Dan has also co-authored (with N. Bala, B. Fidler and C. Houston) *Alienated Children and Parental Separation: Legal Responses in Canada's Family Courts*, published in (2007) 33 *Queen's Law Journal*. Most recently, Dan wrote an article on Judicial Interviews of Children in Custody and Access Cases published in *Children and the Law: Essays in Honour of Professor Nicholas Bala* (2011).

CHERYL GOLDHART

Cheryl Goldhart is certified as a Specialist in Family Law by the Law Society of Upper Canada and has practiced exclusively in the area of family law since she was called to the bar in 1987. She specializes in negotiating complex agreements encompassing all areas of family law and litigates in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the Ontario Court of Justice, and the Court of Appeal. She is also an accomplished mediator and arbitrator. Cheryl is the past Chair of the Ontario Bar Association, Family Law Executive, and a past member of the Canadian Bar Association (Federal), Family Law Executive. She is Chair of the Dispute Resolution Officer Committee in Toronto and has worked as a Dispute Resolution Officer at the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for more than 15 years. Cheryl is a past member of the Panel of the Children's Lawyer of Ontario, representing children in custody, access and child protection cases. She is a standing member of the Bench and Bar Committee of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Toronto), and a Director of the Advocates Society. Cheryl is a frequent lecturer on various topics in family law. Over her years of practice, she has written numerous articles for the Bar Admission Course, professional journals, periodicals and magazines. Cheryl has been certified as a "Best Lawyer in Canada" for family law since 2008. In 2016, Cheryl was awarded the OBA Award for Excellence in Family Law in Memory of James McLeod.

HOWARD HURWITZ

Howard is a social worker, currently in private practice and specializing in working with families experiencing a separation or divorce. In that capacity he provides custody assessments, mediation, mediation/arbitration, Parenting Co-ordination and counselling services. Howard has an MSW and over 38 years' experience in various child welfare, children's mental health and family counseling agencies. He was the former Director of Child Welfare Services at Jewish Family and Child Service in Toronto for 16 years. Howard is the creator and chairperson of the High Conflict Forum which is a community based network of lawyers, judges, mental health professionals and child welfare staff from more than 30 agencies, serving high conflict families experiencing a separation or divorce. Howard is frequently called upon to provide consultation to other professionals around working with high conflict families. Howard is an experienced trainer who frequently provides training within the child welfare and family law sectors. He has also presented at various international conferences and is deemed to be an expert by the courts on working with high conflict families and cases where children resist contact with a parent. Howard has also co-authored a book with Dr. Barbara Fidler and Professor Nicholas Bala on 'Emotional Harm and Parent-Child Contact Problems in High Conflict Separations.'

AUDREY LEE

Audrey is a founding Partner in the law firm of Rossi Rodriguez McNeill & Lee LLP ("RRML LLP"). Audrey has been practising family law exclusively since her legal career began. After receiving her LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School in 2007, Audrey went on to complete her articling term at the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Family Responsibility Office. Upon her call to the Bar of Ontario in 2008, she joined a prominent family law firm in Toronto where she grew her practice for seven years prior to the formation of RRML LLP in 2015. Audrey appears frequently in courts across the Greater Toronto Area and has represented clients at all levels of court in the province. She has extensive litigation experience in all family law matters. Audrey is a skilled negotiator who has assisted a multitude of clients in the negotiation and preparation of all types of domestic contracts. Audrey also represents clients in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) processes, including mediation and mediation/arbitration, helping clients achieve resolution in a non-adversarial environment. Audrey has acted as a volunteer duty counsel lawyer for Pro Bono Law Ontario at the Superior Court of Justice and the Small Claims Court in Toronto, assisting self-represented litigants in civil matters. Audrey has appeared as a guest lecturer for the Seneca College law clerk program to speak to students about family law rules and practice. Audrey is a member of the Ontario Bar Association / Canadian Bar Association.

DR. HELEN RADOVANOVIC

Dr. Helen Radovanovic is a registered psychologist in private practice and a founding member of "Family Solutions," a multidisciplinary team assisting high-conflict families. Her practice includes child, adult, and family counseling around general and divorce stressors. Dr. Radovanovic provides specialized services for separated families, including mediation, parenting plan assessments and parenting coordination. Dr. Radovanovic was formerly an Assistant Professor with the Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto, and staff psychologist at the Family Court Clinic of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health for a ten year period. She has provided education and training; conducted research; been published in peer-reviewed journals; and presented extensively at professional conferences on high-conflict separated families.

RAJ K. SHARDA

Raj was called to the bar in 1996, he has practiced law, with the Office of Public Guardian, Ron E. Folkes a small law firm, and since 2005 with Sharda Law as a sole practitioner. Raj's barrister and Solicitor practice has included family law, and the often linked areas of child welfare, commercial, estates, and criminal law for over 20 years. Raj serves as a Deputy Judge and as an Adjudicator with the Law Society tribunal. He has served as an adjudicator with the Consent and Capacity Board of Ontario. Raj was President of the Peel Law Association. He is an OBA Council Member for Central West, and since 2015 was elected the Regional Benchers for Central West, for the Law Society of Upper Canada. Recently Raj has become a father for the first time to his 2 year old daughter, Jyothi, who inspires him everyday to work hard for children and families with whom he interacts through his practice.

NICOLE TELLIER

Nicole Tellier graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1986 and was called to the Bar in 1988. Her practice is restricted to family law. She appears in all levels of court, with four cases in the Supreme Court of Canada. She has extensive experience in resolving and litigating difficult parenting cases and complex financial matters. She also provides mediation and arbitration services. She is a former director of The Advocates' Society and former executive member of the OBA Family Law Section and continues to be actively involved in those organizations. She has been engaged in law reform by testifying as an expert before numerous federal and provincial justice committees on criminal, constitutional and family law issues. She contributes widely to continuing legal education programs. In 2010, she received the Ontario Bar Association Award for Excellence in Family Law.

ROSLYN M. TSAO

Roslyn is a managing Partner at Epstein Cole. Roslyn's practice is devoted to all aspects of family law, including parenting, property division and support. Roslyn also has achieved successful outcomes for clients by focusing on practical, results-oriented legal advice and ongoing dialogue with her clients. She vigorously advocates for her clients not only in the courtroom but also by negotiation, mediation/arbitration and collaborative family law. Roslyn's prior experience in other areas of law like employment, wills & estates, criminal, real estate and taxation enable her to provide effective and comprehensive legal representation. Roslyn's client base includes high net worth individuals with complex asset or compensation structures and international clients who reside outside of Canada. Roslyn is an Associate Editor of the Reports in Family Law and a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers. Roslyn is also a co-chair of the University of Toronto Tribunal, Trial Division, for academic disciplinary matters.

LORNA YATES

Lorna is a founding partner at Cohen Peeters Yates LLP. Lorna's client service focused approach, along with her energetic advocacy on behalf of her clients, is the foundation for her successful practice. Lorna has experience in all areas of family law, including negotiation of complex marriage contracts, separation agreements and parenting plans. Lorna has appeared before the Ontario Court of Justice, Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Divisional Court of the Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Appeal. Lorna was called to the bar in February, 2002, after obtaining her LL.B. from Queen's University and B.A. from McGill University. Lorna is married and is the proud mom of young twins. In her spare time (not that she has much!), Lorna is involved in the Toronto Parents of Multiple Births Association (TPOMBA) and is a Board Member for George Herman House, an organization which provides holistic programming and supportive housing for women with mental and emotional health issues.

FADWA YEHIA

Fadwa Yehia is an associate lawyer at Lenkinski Law. She joined the firm in July 2014. She was called to the Bar in 2004 after articling with a full service law firm. She also has a special designation from Osgoode Hall Law School in international, comparative and transnational law. Fadwa has experience in criminal and immigration law but has focused her practice on family law exclusively since 2006. Her practice in family law centres on child-related issues including complex custody matters, access and mobility disputes, as well as sensitive cases involving the Children's Aid Society. Fadwa has successfully argued motions and trials in the Ontario Court of Justice and the Superior Court of Justice and has also done appeals at the Superior and Divisional Court level. Fadwa provides clients with advice on child and spousal support, property division, marriage contracts, and separation agreements.