

The Annual Report of the Membership Committee of Family Mediation Canada

Members of the Committee : Carrie Cekerevac, Andrew Pavey, Margot Gyorgy-Culver and Frank Bulger

It is an honour and a privilege for me to present the Membership Committee report today and in the process to report a successful and growing year from the prospective of membership in the organization. In addition to the fact that our membership is increasing there also appears to be fewer non renewals amongst members which I attribute the improvement in membership management and services offered to members by FMC. We currently have 538 members in FMC-- 53 new members since the last Annual meeting in Nov. /08.

During the year the committee developed ``The Family Mediation Canada Membership Committee Terms of Reference'' as is as follows:

1. The FMC Membership Committee shall be comprised of a FMC Board member who shall act as chair, the Operations Manager of FMC, and any others who may be appointed from time to time.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the enrolment and renewal of members in FMC with a view of maintaining the highest possible enrolment.
3. With prior approval from the Board of Directors, the Committee shall initiate a membership renewal campaign whereby Board Members may be assigned the responsibility of canvassing non-renewed individuals. Other possible promotional strategies may be utilized from time to time.
4. The Committee shall respond to inquiries from the membership and, where appropriate, welcome new members with information packages and general information.
5. The Committee shall maintain membership statistics and provide regular updates for the Board.

Some of the other items which the Committee and the Board have worked on during the past year include the following:

- FMC is producing a new wallet card for its membership and plans to complete this in the coming months.
- FMC has held draws for our membership including books and registrations for the Ireland World Summit on Elder Mediation.
- The membership committee works hard on renewal retention of its members via personal calls from the board, email reminders and mail outs.
- Marketing efforts to recruit new members are being done by searching for mediators and professionals across Canada and sending them a potential membership flyer or a potential

membership pkg in the mail. We also have inquiries for a complimentary copy of resolve at which time those inquiries are also sent a membership pkg.

- Thank you to those of you who have recruited new members for FMC. FMC still continues to implement the referral program; if you refer a member you will get \$25 off your next year's membership renewal dues.
- Benefits for Members: We are looking at ideas where we can do more for our membership like a free membership renewal draw, a draw for a free webinar registration, a free brochure order or free advertising in Resolve. We welcome any ideas.
- The committee has prepared a proof of enrolment form for student members this year as well as a supporting membership declaration form; which will go out to members on their renewal date. All students are required to be enrolled in at least three courses and are required to fill out the proof of enrolment form along with their membership application or annual renewal. Supporting members must sign a declaration that they have not practiced mediation in the last six months and do not intend to practice mediation during their membership term.

As chair of the Committee I want to thank Committee Members and the Board of FMC for all of the help and support they have given during the year. I want to especially thank Carrie Cekerevac for her consistent and conscientious management and support to the Committee. In many ways Carrie is the "public face" for FMC for our members. Given that I will be retiring from the Board at this meeting I want to say it has been a pleasure working with FMC and I wish the organization and the Board well in the future.

Respectfully Submitted

Francis P. Bulger