



FMC

Family Mediation Canada / Médiation Familiale Canada

**International Mediation Committee Report
Prepared for the 2015 FMC Annual General Meeting
on Saturday, November 14, 2015**

The International Family Committee would like to have more trained and experienced family mediators who can join the committee. This area of family mediation appears to be growing in Canada. FMC certification includes Standards of Practice, ethics and training in the various models, alongside evolving diversity. We recognize and understand that no mediation model can be imposed on clients, including Quebec's co-mediation model, which started in 1984.

We continue to seek out new members who have experience and help build an FMC IF team. It is important that people on this committee that have experience working in family mediation, and have a background in family violence, couple dynamics, children and their voice, parental alienation, and cultural sensitivity. The aim of this committee is to promote and advance the practice of International Family Mediation when it is appropriate and without any strong arming of clients. Our goals are to expand knowledge about IF Mediation, to provide education and possible prevention. We want to raise visibility of IF mediation as one of the alternatives available to families who are involved with international custody disputes. We hope to collaborate with our Central Authorities and Consular Affairs, alongside other agencies in Canada and abroad. In addition we hope to further our collaboration with the provincial associations, and develop additional work to both Hague and non-Hague cases. We need to further explore the issues of prevention and education and apply this nationally.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Damianakis
International Mediation Committee Chair
Family Mediation Canada