



**Family Mediation Canada / Médiation Familiale Canada**

**Presents:**

## **The Hearts and Minds of Working with Families in High Conflict: A Family Mediation Canada Webinar Series**

**Hosted by**

**Michael Saini, PhD, MSW, RSW  
Factor-Inwentash Chair in Law and Social Work  
University of Toronto**

This 4-part webinar series (one hour each webinar) will assist family mediators to engage with families involved in high conflict child custody disputes by exploring the connections of mediation with neuroscience, emotional regulation, adult attachment patterns, and fear-based relationships. Emotional awareness within the mediation process will be foundational to identify and repair errors in neutrality and engagement. Practical strategies for overcoming fear-based relationship conflicts and the concept of multi-partial alliances will be offered to help mediators convey empathy, engagement and emotional clarity. Reflecting on developments in neuro-principles and trauma-informed practice, the workshop will offer practical tips for developing responsive approaches to engage with clients.

**Webinar 1, Tuesday, Jan. 28 – 1:30 PM ET:** Understanding high conflict in the brain: Neuroscience, drama and trauma. This first webinar will introduce you to neuroscience and trauma. We will focus on the basic brain functions, the brain during conflict, brain communication and an introduction to neuromodulators.

**Webinar 2, Wednesday, Feb. 26 – 1:30 PM ET:** Understanding high conflict in the heart: Insecure and fearful adult attachment patterns. The second webinar will focus on adult attachment (from cradle to grave), adult attachment patterns, primary and secondary emotions and the association of fearful attachment and conflict.

**Webinar 3, Wednesday, March 25 – 1:30 PM ET:** When mediators get stuck in high conflict: Moving from neutrality to multi-partial alliances. The third webinar will illustrate patterns of disengagement with high conflict parents. We will focus on multi-partial alliances and empathy, engagement and emotional clarity to connect with clients.

**Webinar 4, Wednesday, April 29 – 1:30 PM ET:** Reflections on working with families involved in high conflict: Lessons from neuroscience, conflict resolution and decision making in mediation. Based on a summary from the first three webinars, this final webinar will be an interactive session with participants to consider practical strategies to connect neuroscience, conflict resolution and decision making in mediation. This last webinar will be an opportunity for participants to ask the facilitator questions and to expand on any area covered within the webinar series.



Michael A. Saini, PhD, is an Associate Professor at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto and holds the endowed Factor-Inwentash Chair in Law and Social Work. He is the Co-Director of the Combined J.D. and M.S.W. program and with the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto. Dr. Saini is a Board Member of the Association of Family Conciliation and the Courts and an editorial board member for the Family Court Review and the Journal of Divorce and Remarriage. He provides risk management consultation for both child protection agencies and children's mental health agencies for working with families involved in high conflict child custody disputes.

## WEBINAR REGISTRATION FORM

THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF WORKING WITH FAMILIES IN HIGH CONFLICT: A FAMILY MEDIATION  
CANADA WEBINAR SERIES

Hosted by Michael Saini, PhD, MSW, RSW  
Factor-Inwentash Chair in Law and Social Work, University of Toronto

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Please register me for the following:	FMC MEMBER	NON-MEMBER	Attending on the day or recording?	Amount
Tuesday, Jan. 28 – 1:30 PM ET	<b>\$69.00</b>	<b>\$79.00</b>		
Wednesday, Feb. 26 – 1:30 PM ET	<b>\$69.00</b>	<b>\$79.00</b>		
Wednesday, March 25 – 1:30 PM ET	<b>\$69.00</b>	<b>\$79.00</b>		
Wednesday, April 29 – 1:30 PM ET	<b>\$69.00</b>	<b>\$79.00</b>		
Entire Series (4 webinars)	<b>\$240.00</b>	<b>\$280.00</b>		
<b>Method of payment</b> _____ (see options on next page)				<b>\$</b>
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