

LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR TRAINING IN FAMILY DYNAMICS:

Applicants for admission to the Family Roster of Mediate BC should have completed a combination of structured learning experiences totaling 21 hours, which together include the following objectives:

- I. Applicants should be able to define, discuss and demonstrate the appropriate and timely use of the following knowledge in working with a family in a mediation:
 1. The dynamics of separation and divorce including:
 - a) the psychological effects of family breakdown on family members;
 - b) the stages of the separation and divorce process;
 - c) the appropriate custody, access and visitation arrangements by age and maturity of the child; and
 - d) child development issues as those relate to the specifics of family re-organization and parenting plans.
 2. Abuse and control issues including:
 - a) family violence in the context of relationship power imbalances, control and abuse;
 - b) the "cycle of violence";
 - c) the "Power and Control Wheel";
 - d) the dynamics and effects of abuse on family members (including children);
 - e) characteristics of an abused person and why they may choose not to leave an abusive relationship;
 - f) characteristics of an abuser;
 - g) indicators of danger in abuse cases;
 - h) special issues with cultural groups;
 - i) characteristics of children who witness abuse;
 - j) child protection matters associated with family abuse and violence;
 - k) safety issues in mediation;
 - l) knowledge of (including strengths and limitations of) criminal and civil procedures and protection orders that may be of assistance in abuse cases;
 - m) knowledge of ethical rules and Standards of Professional Conduct for mediators in abuse cases;
 - n) knowledge of protective procedures and methods that can be used to adapt mediation processes in cases involving power imbalance or abuse;
 - o) knowledge of special provisions for use in parenting plans in high conflict abuse cases; and
 - p) how you would meet the concerns for your own safety when working with a client who has been abused or is an abuser.
 3. Mental health, addictions and other issues which may compromise the person's ability to participate in mediation and capacity to consent.

II. Applicants should be able to demonstrate the following in an appropriate and timely manner:

1. The competent use of assessment tools and techniques to either screen inappropriate family abuse cases from mediation, or to detect and assess family abuse during the mediation.
2. Safe referral techniques.
3. Safe termination techniques including use of information about sources of help for abused family members in communities.