Local Mediator joins new online Quarantine Conflict Resolution Service

Daniel Williams will be helping people experiencing conflict as a result of COVID-19 isolation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kamloops mediator <u>Daniel Williams</u> joins more than 20 Mediate BC colleagues in the launch of a new low-cost <u>Quarantine Conflict Resolution Service</u> (QCRS) to help people deal with conflicts related to quarantine or isolation.

Williams had just returned from visiting his son's family in Japan when COVID-19 concerns arose. Like so many others, he has felt stress in separation from loved ones.

"I fear for my family but cannot be close to them. I worry about my friends and can only message best wishes."

The combination of social isolation and this kind of increased anxiety can add stress to relationships. For the many people who are sharing small spaces during isolation or quarantine, the challenges can be even greater. It is normal for smaller matters to erupt into much larger conflicts under these circumstances.

As a mediator, Williams has been involved in the online resolution of a wide range of conflicts, particularly during his time as a Senior Case Manager at the Civil Resolution Tribunal, so he was quick to join Mediate BC's low-fee Quarantine Conflict Resolution Service to help people in need resolve these kinds of conflicts quickly and inexpensively.

As Williams says, "In these uncertain times, one thing is certain: conflict. Not only with the usual things that happen, now it is with strangers not giving social distance, not isolating responsibly, not taking personal responsibility. So much is different at this time."

What kinds of conflict can the Quarantine Conflict Resolution Service help with? Conflicts referred to this service must relate directly to issues of COVID-19 quarantine or isolation.

Examples include:

- Conflicts between roommates about the importance of social distancing
- Disagreements with older relatives about how they are keeping themselves safe
- Difficulties in formulating a plan with employers to work from home
- Conflicts over the use of shared spaces in cooperative housing where residents have varied health risks

For information or to find a mediator for a quarantine conflict, contact Mediate BC at lowbono@mediatebc.com or see the QCRS website: https://www.mediatebc.com/resolving-other-disputes/quarantine

QUOTES

"If you find yourself in conflict, maintain your distance but reach out to try to find common ground. We are so very lucky to have the technical means to communicate. Let us use what we have to be safe and deal with the upsets and transgressions as they come. We are all in this together." ~ Daniel Williams

"The stress and life changes happening right now create a whole new set of conflicts for us at a time when we are emotionally exhausted and struggling to handle them well without support. BC Mediators are here to help!" ~ Amanda Semenoff, Quarantine Conflict Resolution Service Manager

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Daniel Williams
Mediate BC Board Member and Civil Roster Mediator
250-318-0916
danwms@gmail.com

Amanda Semenoff*
Quarantine Conflict Resolution Service Manager
<u>Amanda.Semenoff@mediatebc.com</u>
778-877-7748

* Amanda is also an Auxiliary Fire Dispatcher with E-Comm911, and so is unavailable for comment while on shift.

Sharon Sutherland
Director of Strategic Innovation
Sharon.Sutherland@mediatebc.com
604-218-7214 (Text responses will be guicker)

ATTACHED IMAGE:

1. Daniel Williams