

Association of Collaborative Family Professionals (Edmonton)  
Minutes of board meeting held  
4:05 PM to 4:50 PM, Tuesday, May 9, 2017  
Via Zoom teleconference.

• **Present:**

Holly Brady  
Deanna Koebernick  
Paul Govenlock  
Linda Long  
Jack Hauptman

Tim Perry  
Agnes Leung  
Vince Gervais  
• **Absent:**  
Gordon Andreiuk  
Crystal Hawryluk

Anita Dorczak  
Pat Gay  
Moosa Jiwaji  
Anne Daines  
Graeme Clark

1. **Meeting called to order 4:05 PM** by chair, Deanna Koebernick.

2. **Agenda.** Nothing prepared beforehand, so create now.

- 2.1. Approve minutes of the April 2017 meeting.
- 2.2. Membership fees collected, update.
- 2.3. Law day on April 22.
- 2.4. Proposed workshop with Linda Kohanov.
- 2.5. Follow up the various committees.
- 2.6. Brochures. CDAA or create own.

**Motion.** Approve the agenda as listed above.

3. **Approve minutes of previous meeting.**

- 3.1. Review the minutes of the April 11, 2017 board meeting.

**Motion.** Approve the minutes of April 11, 2017 without changes. Jack/ Linda Carried.

4. **Membership fees, update.** Agnes Leung reporting.

- 4.1. Membership year April 2016 - March 2017, collected \$22,700 for 75 full members, and 2 associate members.
- 4.2. Signatories for the bank accounts. Agnes, Moosa, Gordon and Linda need to go into the Oliver RBC.
- 4.3. Is anyone tracking the people who do not renew, and why they are not renewing? Would that be Susan?
- 4.4. Someone should be conducting exit interviews for the people who decide not to renew. Is this a job of membership committee? Linda will follow up with Susan.

5. **Law Day, April 22, 2017**

- 5.1. Participants: Holly, Gordon, Karim, Vince, Melissa.
- 5.2. Lots of girl guides, parents with children, tire kickers. The real benefit is to network annually with other professionals.
- 5.3. Pete Desrochers (exec director of AAMS), now with the Negotiators spoke to Holly and Gordon about the weekend divorce workshops he is running with other lawyers and mediators. See the **attached** brochure from Pete.
- 5.4. Vince told us about one person who came up and told Vince and Karim that he had been quoted \$15k to completely settle their divorce. Karim was able to inform that person about what is really involved in a collaborative divorce file.

**6. Linda Kohanov, proposed training.**

- 6.1. Deanna attended a 4-day training with Linda Kohanov in Arizona. She found it to be a very powerful and influential workshop. Liked the use of Linda's use of the terms predatory versus non-predatory.
- 6.2. Deanna described to Linda what we are doing with the collaborative Divorce process, and Linda said that we are trying to set up a non-predatory process. Litigation process is in large part a predatory process. A predator is anyone who is aware of your weaknesses, and takes advantage of your weaknesses, to one up themselves or take advantage. Predatory process is a learned behaviour.
- 6.3. Deanna found out that Linda Kohanov is coming to Lethbridge to give a workshop, and this is an opportunity for Edmonton to bring her in as well. Deanna asked whether Linda could put together a 1-day workshop that covers pretty much the 4-day workshop. She put together a quick brochure for Deanna. The brochure speaks for itself and has been distributed already to the board. [A copy of the Brochure and announcement Marla distributed is **attached** to today's minutes.]
- 6.4. Linda Kohanov is available Monday June 19, after she is finished in Lethbridge. She is willing to cancel on 1 week notice if we do not sufficient enrollment. Do we open it to AFMS and other organizations too.
- 6.5. Linda Long wondering if she would meet our needs for the DRN Symposium in May 2018. Will find out.
- 6.6. Sue Bedier put together a proposed budget based on location at Providence Centre. Break even: 25 registrants at \$250, or 18 registrants at \$300. Decided to go with the \$250 fee.
- 6.7. Discussion about the education committee having jurisdiction to organize a training like this without coming to the board.

**Motion:** to proceed with putting on the Linda Kohanov training at \$250 registration fee. Send the notice out to AFMS and Calgary ACP associations immediately. CBA if they will circulate.

Deanna/Linda Carried.

**7. Education Committee**

- 7.1. Paul brought up the audio recordings. Sue Bedier is basically the administrator of the ACFP website, and would be the one to post that stuff.
- 7.2. Paul reported on the Palix community event last night at the Hotel MacDonald.
- 7.3. Yesterday's presentation was about the 30 hour online course that Palix is now offering about brain development, adverse childhood experiences. Paul would like to link it to our own website.
- 7.4. Would that online course fulfill to our ACFP education requirements. Education committee will meet later in May and will discuss
- 7.5. Palix would also be a good presenter about "change agent", and how to grow network of people. Great for DRN, and would be good for ACFP ½ day, etc.

**8. Committees and chairs.** [Prepared by Deanna after today's meeting. Include in June minutes]

8.1. Discussion about soliciting volunteers for the committees.

**9. Brochures.**

- 9.1. Do we just adopt the CDAA brochures that Anne Daines distributed at a recent lunch and learn, or design completely new brochure. CDAA will provide its brochures free of charge.
- 9.2. Decide at the public awareness committee meeting at the end of May.
- 9.3. The pdf-version of the CDAA brochure is **attached**. The paper version folds out in a very interesting way. The design reflects the CDAA website as much as possible. [At the end of August 2017, Nathalie Tremblay agreed to distribute the CDAA brochures at the courthouse Resolution Support Centres (a.k.a. FLIC). GA 2017.09.10]
- 9.4. [there is also a brochure sponsored by Palix, released on June 2, 2017 at the Calgary ACP lunch, and that will be distributed at the courthouse Resolution Support Centres (a.k.a. FLIC). Copy **attached**. Also available free of charge through Palix.]

**10. Summer board meetings.**

- 10.1. Tim had suggested last time that the board should continue to meet during the summer.
- 10.2. We don't stop having meetings during the winter when people are away for winter holidays.
- 10.3. Discussion about having July and August meetings to avoid losing momentum. Whoever comes comes.

**Motion:** continue with our monthly meetings through the summer. [They were cancelled. GA 2017.09.10]

**11. Board meeting dates for the coming year.** 4:00 PM, the second Tuesday of each month.

- 11.1. July 11, 2017
- 11.2. August 8, 2017.
- 11.3. September 12, 2017
- 11.4. October 10, 2017
- 11.5. November 14, 2017
- 11.6. January 9, 2018.
- 11.7. February 13, 2018.
- 11.8. March 13, 2018.
- 11.9. April 10, 2018

**12. Adjourn. 4:50 p.m.**

Tim/ Deanna Carried

Attachments:

- (i) Linda Kohanov training info
- (ii) Pete Deroches brochure about divorce weekend workshops
- (iii) CDAA brochure
- (iv) Palix brochure about collaborative divorce.

Minutes prepared by GA from the Zoom recording 2017\_06\_13  
Distributed to Board for review 2017\_06\_13  
Distributed to Notice Secretary 2017\_09\_11

## Gordon Andreiuk

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**From:** Marla S. Miller Q.C. <marla.miller@millerboileau.com>  
**Sent:** May 25, 2017 9:52 AM  
**To:** Agnes Leung; Amy Cardinal; Andrea Campbell; Andrew Lawson; Anita Dorczak; Anna Priemaza; Anne Daines; Brandi Smith; Brenda Pisko; Brent Rathgeber; Bruce Reid; Catherine Zrymiak; Cathryn Hildebrandt Person; Chandra Flett; Chris Taskey; Christopher Jackson; Crystal Hawryluk; Daryn Hobal; Deanna Koebernick; Deborah Kay; Diane Marsh; Diane Priebe; Eleanor Boddy, Q.C.; Gordon Andreiuk; Graeme Clark; Greg Pickering; Greg Turner; Gwen Chamaschuk; Holly Brady; Jack Hauptman; James Samaroden; James Taylor; Jasmine Chu; Jessica Chapman; Jessica Maude; Jim Bateman; JoAnn Quinn; Joanne Pompana; Karim Mawani; Kirk Laird; Krista Rumberg; Lance Clark; Leslieh@Ebody.Com; Linda Long; Lisa Chieduch; Loreen P. Brenneis; Lorraine Stark; Lucille Birkett; Lynn Hutchinson; Margaret Weir Andreassen; Marie Gordon; Mark Demas; Mark Johnson; Mark.grabill@SBDfinancial.ca; Marla S. Miller; Mel Garbe; Melissa Bourgeois; Michael C. Good; Michael Klause; Michelle Di Toppa; Micia Kawulka; Moosa Jiwaji; Nora LeBlanc; Owen Kirkaldy; Pareza Kanji; Pat Gay; Paul Govenlock; Peter Graburn; Pierre R. Boileau; Rebecca Cuthbertson Hulst; Rhyannon O'Heron; Rose-Marie Cassis; Ruth Fast; Sandy Miller; Sara Peacock; Scott Richardson; Sharlene Yanitski; Sharon Smith; Sid Kobewka; Stephanie Dobson; Sue Bedier; Susan Zwaenepoel; Sylvia Tensfeldt; Tammy Olson; Tim Perry; Tim Sax; Tony Richard; Trish Hebert; Vanesa Hutchinson; Vincent Gervais; Vincent Tong; Wendy Phillips-Berard; William Zadworny  
**Subject:** ACFP(E): Training - The Power Behind Non-violence (June 19, 2017)  
**Attachments:** PBNV Edmonton.pdf; June 2017 Epona Quest Course reg form.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

This time with the Course Brochure and Registration form attached.....



Why yes, that *is* William Shatner with Linda Kohanov

## ASSOCIATION OF COLLABORATIVE FAMILY PROFESSIONALS (EDMONTON)

Presents

## LINDA KOHANOV

of EPONA QUEST WORLDWIDE

### The Power Behind Non-Violence: Horse Sense for Challenging Times

**Learn new ways to transform interpersonal conflict, power struggles, bullying and other challenges at home, school, work, and in political, religious, or social activism contexts.**

**WHEN:** June 19, 2017 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. (Deadline to register is May 31, 2017!!)

**WHERE:** Providence Renewal Centre  
3005 – 119 Street NW, Edmonton, AB, T6J 5R5

**INSTRUCTOR:** Linda Kohanov

Please see the attached for further details about Linda Kohanov and the course and registration information.

**TOPIC:** The Power Behind Non-Violence: Horse Sense for Challenging Times

**COST:** \$250.00 (includes GST)  
Space is limited.

**Please register by May 31, 2017**

Please make cheques payable to: Association of Collaborative Family Professionals (Edmonton)

Mail cheque and registration form to: Sue Bedier,  
ACFP(Edmonton), 1470 Strathcona Dr. SW. Calgary, AB T3H 4R7

**TRAINING:** This will qualify for 6 hours of training credit

**WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?=1AQIxykJqBA&list=PLjPUdfjflTyn6rM8iKiN2ezEuKhxeRdCO>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SYUK5Q4Ik>

# THE POWER BEHIND NONVIOLENCE

## Horse Sense for Challenging Times

*A Daylong Skill Building Workshop*



Join bestselling author Linda Kohanov  
for a life-changing experience  
of renewal, power and hope.

**Monday, June 19, 2017**

**9:30 am to 5:30 pm**

**Providence Renewal Centre**

**3005 119 St. NW**

**Edmonton, AB T6J5R5**

**Tuition: \$250.00 (Canadian)**

**Sponsored by:**

**Association of Collaborative Family Professionals  
(ACFP Edmonton)**

**Info and Registration:**

**[suebedieracp@gmail.com](mailto:suebedieracp@gmail.com)**

**780-983-3494**

*"An innovative and practical, nature-based approach to leadership—and life. It's not just for corporate executives. Parents, teachers, community organizers, film directors, and especially politicians would all benefit from learning these skills."*

**William Shatner, actor, director, author**

In this engaging, moving, immensely practical workshop, Linda Kohanov shares the skills she accessed to rehabilitate Midnight Merlin, a dangerous, formerly abused stallion, while showing how these principles can be translated into handling challenging people and situations.

The daylong seminar is for anyone who wants to learn new ways to transform interpersonal conflict, power struggles, bullying, and other challenges at home, school, work, and in political, religious, or social activism contexts.

Based on skills featured in her books *The Power of the Herd: A Nonpredatory Approach to Social Intelligence, Leadership and Innovation* and *The Five Roles of a Master Herder: A Revolutionary Approach to Socially Intelligent Leadership*, this workshop offers innovative tools for working with frightened, aggressive, abused, or potentially explosive children and adults—situations that call for considerable finesse and empathy backed by a skillful use of power.

The Power Behind Nonviolence training is for lawyers, mental health professionals, divorce coaches and financial advisors, mediators, teachers, parents, health care workers, clergy, social activists, first-responders, law enforcement personnel, and people who work or live with those who act out in aggressive or intensely fearful ways at times.

**Significant family and social change is not going to occur until sensitive, caring people become empowered rather than overwhelmed. We need thoughtful, compassionate individuals to enter situations where suffering and conflict proliferate, and show a different form of strength, one that holds people accountable without becoming abusive. Otherwise we will continue to see frustrated, disillusioned teenagers and spouses acting out violently, bullies stirring up fear to gain control, and sociopaths callously thriving at others' expense.**

**Linda Kohanov**



**Linda Kohanov is the author of five books translated into multiple languages, including *The Tao of Equus*, *Riding between the Worlds*, *Way of the Horse*, *The Power of the Herd*, and *The Five Roles of a Master Herder*. For over fifteen years, she has developed horse-inspired activities and principles to teach advanced human development skills to thousands of people. Since 2003, she has also trained over 300 instructors worldwide how to employ horse-facilitated learning to teach parenting, leadership, trauma recovery, conflict resolution, and authentic community building.**

[www.eponaquest.com](http://www.eponaquest.com)

**At home, school, work, and most definitely in politics, we often find ourselves standing by, watching nasty altercations we can neither predict nor stop, knee-jerk reactions that start unnecessary battles that sometimes do erupt in shootings, beatings, and large scale acts of terrorism. It's not enough to ask, "Why can't we all just get along?" We must make some serious culture-wide efforts to ask, "How can we all get along." To even attempt to answer this question, we must stop blaming others and playing the victim. We must stand up to aggressors who also see themselves as victims of past injustice (and often truly are). And we must resist the urge to use shame as a weapon. To do this we need power combined with compassion. We need to exercise "emotional heroism."**

In peace and in war, George Washington exhibited emotional heroism, advising his closest associates to "Let your *heart* feel for the affliction and distress of everyone." Dealing with the pain and resentment experienced in his own war-torn country 200 years later, the Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh observed that 'When another person makes you suffer, it is because he suffers deeply in himself. He does not need punishment. He needs help...Happiness and safety are not an individual matter. His happiness and safety are crucial to your happiness and safety.'

"No one made this controversial notion more apparent to me than Merlin," Linda emphasizes. "Misunderstanding and punishment created the monster he became. I knew I would never be safe around him until his trauma was transformed, not through naive, 'it's not his fault' indulgence, but through a heroic use of power combined with mindfulness, compassion, and self-control. Whenever I achieved this balanced state of power in myself, Merlin would shift from violence to thoughtfulness and respect, learning over time to trust feelings of safety, connection, affection, and wellbeing. If a horse can achieve this, why can't we?"

#### **In this workshop, you will learn how to:**

- Build trust, respect, and connection in challenging situations
- Help others manage fear and anxiety in times of significant change, conflict or competition
- Understand the messages behind emotion, in yourself and others, and use this information to make informed, thoughtful choices (without, ironically, mentioning the emotions themselves)
- Learn how to be assertive without being aggressive
- Employ nonverbal and conversational techniques for diffusing conflict and gaining cooperation from dominant, confused, frightened or aggressive people
- Understand the differences between predatory and nonpredatory power, and when and how to use both for the good of the "herd" and "tribe"
- Learn the difference between the Leader and Dominant roles, and when and how to use both effectively
- Develop emotional heroism, that rare combination of power and compassion, courage and self-control, accountability and forgiveness that great secular and religious leaders throughout history used to create significant social change

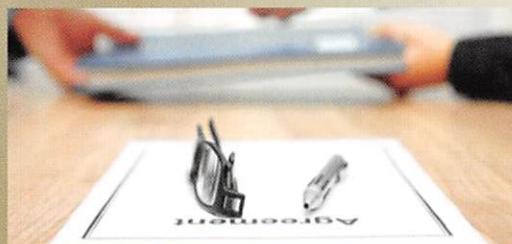
## Weekend Divorce Workshop

You can be ready to file your divorce after just one weekend. No expensive legal bills, no going to court. This is a proto-type workshop to help couples resolve their disputes over children, support, property, etc. and then help them prepare their divorce or separation agreements, and actually help them file for divorce.

Maximum of 10 couples

If more couples wish to register, other workshops may be arranged

You will have an entire weekend with access to divorce lawyers and mediators who can answer all your questions, explain your options and help you move forward with dignity and without fear.



NOTHING LIKE THIS HAS EVER BEEN OFFERED

# Moving Forward



Phone: 888-411-9710

*Workshop@thenegotiators.com*

*www.thenegotiators.com*



## Moving Forward

*Weekend Divorce Workshops*



*These workshops really work!!*

*Grateful clients have been delighted with the results*

*Now is not the time you should be broken by exorbitant legal bills when you are already going through one of the most difficult, emotional and financially stressful times of your life!*

A number of conscientious and independent lawyers and mediators got together to create a process where couples can be divorced for 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the time of going to court. One intense but satisfying weekend...as opposed to months or years of stress, fear, uncertainty, continuing hostilities and never ending legal bills. All the hard issues are dealt with and all the correct procedures are followed.

#### **Nothing is left out**

Couples have access to several lawyers and mediators who are absolutely neutral and will give you the straight facts. You will learn what the laws state, what happened in cases similar to yours, and about numerous possible options to resolve any issues where you are deadlocked. Furthermore, the Workshop will take the myth and mystery out of filing for divorce. Everything will be explained to you in detail.



**It can be that simple...that cheap...that painless...that quick...that complete!!**

To participate in the weekend divorce workshops, both parties must attend. And "yes" it can all be done in a weekend. The process developed by this group of independent lawyers and mediators can have you ready to jointly file your divorce papers, regardless if you are separated, just commencing your divorce or have been locked in legal battles forever.



#### **Why you should attend a "Moving Forward" Weekend Divorce Workshop**

- This is a whole new revolutionary divorce process
- The process leaves out absolutely nothing
- You will be ready to file your divorce after just one weekend
- You will have several lawyers and mediators at your disposal 'instantly'
- All lawyers and mediators are neutral. So they will tell it to you "like it is"
- All lawyers and mediators are from different firms, but work together extremely well
- All professionals have total trust and confidence in each other's integrity and professionalism
- You will be working with among the most senior and/or respected lawyers and mediators in Alberta.
- We make it as light, amiable and as 'fun' as possible, given the circumstances
- You can work in groups, or enjoy the privacy of "breakout rooms" when needed
- You will learn much more about yourselves, each other and your situations
- If there are children, we will always put them first (just as the courts will)
- There are more options and alternatives than you ever imagined.

*The Weekend Workshop Team has very close ties to the very best psychologists, real-estate lawyers, business planners, accountants, mortgage brokers, tax experts, investigators, grief recovery specialists, will & estate specialists and social workers. You now have an incredible infrastructure at your disposal – just like that.*

**Cost: \$950 + GST = \$997.50**



COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE  
ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

# FACING DIVORCE or SEPARATION?

Collaborative Divorce

You Have a *Choice*



COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE  
ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

[collaborativepractice.ca](http://collaborativepractice.ca)

## PROTECT

what's most important



## PRESERVE

the assets you've worked to build



## TAKE HOLD

of your future



## TAKE CHARGE

of your decisions



If only it were as easy as putting on pads and shields to protect yourself from the impact of divorce. Collaborative Divorce works to minimize the pain of separation through a respectful, family-focused process.

Home, business, investments—a costly divorce places them all at risk. The Collaborative Divorce process uses efficient problem-solving approaches to preserve what you and your family have worked for.

Feel like you're being pushed and pulled in every direction? Collaborative Divorce can help calm the storm so you can see your way clear to establish goals and priorities for tomorrow.

Divorce can make you feel like you're struggling for control. Collaborative Divorce offers a manageable alternative that keeps decisions about children and finances in your hands.

**TALK TO A COLLABORATIVE  
PROFESSIONAL TODAY!**

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE  
ALBERTA ASSOCIATION

[collaborativepractice.ca](http://collaborativepractice.ca)

# WHAT IS COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE?

Collaborative Divorce is an out-of-court process that enables separating or divorcing couples to create their own solutions and agreements with the help of specially trained professionals.



## THE COLLABORATIVE TEAM

Your lawyer is the mainstay of your Collaborative Team. You and your lawyer may choose to add a divorce coach, child specialist and/or financial specialist.



### Collaborative Lawyers

Help you:

- Understand the advantages of settling your divorce out of court
- Prepare for and participate in settlement meetings
- Identify your most important interests and goals
- Use interest-based negotiation skills to generate options
- Evaluate your options in terms of the law and your interests and goals
- Reach a legally binding settlement

### + Child Specialists

Help you:

- Understand how well your child is coping with the separation
- Address your child's needs
- Understand your child's hopes, fears and needs for a more child-centered agreement
- Develop a parenting plan that will grow with your child
- Avoid exposing your child to toxic stress

### + Divorce Coaches

Help you:

- Manage emotions in preparation for settlement meetings
- Manage the stress of separation
- Articulate your needs and goals during settlement meetings
- Develop effective co-parenting skills for the health and wellbeing of your children
- Learn effective communication skills

### + Financial Specialists

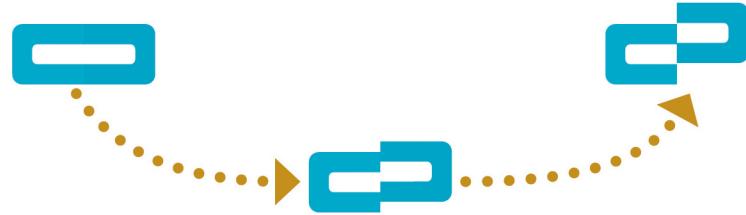
Help you:

- Get an accurate picture of your financial situation
- Open creative possibilities for settlement
- Make informed financial decisions
- Minimize taxes and preserve family assets
- Choose the best financial options for your future

# IS COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE RIGHT FOR YOU?

IT IS IF:

1. You value making your own choices and decisions, instead of leaving it to a judge.
2. Confidentiality and privacy are important.
3. Your children's interests are your first priority.
4. Preserving relationships is important.
5. You want to treat each other fairly.
6. You can think outside the box to reach a win-win outcome.



## HOW THE COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE PROCESS WORKS

### 1 Contact Collaborative Lawyers

You and your partner agree to a Collaborative Divorce and each of you meet with your own collaborative lawyer.

### 2 Sign the Participation Agreement

You and your partner contract to settle your divorce without going to court.

### 3 Add Other Collaborative Professionals

You and your lawyers may choose to add a child specialist, divorce coach(es) or financial specialist to your Collaborative Team.

### 4 Disclose Information

Both parties freely disclose all financial and other relevant information.

### 5 Participate in Settlement Meetings

Your collaborative lawyer and other team members will assist you and your partner to communicate and negotiate directly with one another.

### 6 Negotiate Agreements

Your collaborative team will help you and your partner reach property, support and parenting agreements that reflect the shared needs, interests and goals of all family members

### 7 Sign Your Agreement

Congratulations! The agreements you and your partner reached will be turned into a legally binding contract.

### 8 Obtain Court Orders

Your lawyers will obtain any necessary court orders and the divorce judgment.



**CHOOSE** the Collaborative Divorce Process:  
[collaborativepractice.ca](http://collaborativepractice.ca)

## **Additional Resources**

Find out more about mediation, collaborative divorce options, and the story of brain development using these resources.

Alberta Family Mediation Society  
[afms.ca](http://afms.ca)

Collaborative Law  
[collaborativepractice.ca](http://collaborativepractice.ca)

Resolution and Court Administration Services  
[rcas.alberta.ca](http://rcas.alberta.ca)

Alberta Family Wellness Initiative  
[albertafamilywellness.org](http://albertafamilywellness.org)



# **Getting Through the Breakup Earthquake**

**Managing the Stress  
of Separation**



# THE BREAKUP EARTHQUAKE

**When a couple breaks up, the separation shakes the whole family. This disruptive experience can be thought of as a "breakup earthquake."**

A breakup earthquake sends shockwaves of anger, sadness, and confusion through each family member. It can weaken the family's structure and crack the foundations of its relationships. At worst, it can tear a family apart.

## Understanding Toxic Stress

The breakup earthquake is usually accompanied by ongoing conflict, which causes ongoing stress in the family. Constant, unrelieved stress is called "toxic stress" because it can have a damaging effect on the brain and body.

## Stress and Young Brains

Because their brains are in crucial stages of development, young children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of toxic stress. A brain needs a healthy foundation to support future development and lifelong health. Children whose brain development is compromised by the stress of a major breakup earthquake are more likely to experience physical illness, mental health problems, and social challenges throughout their lives.

## Collaborative Practice and Mediation

With the right support and skills, families can minimize the fallout of a breakup earthquake and avoid the effects of toxic stress. Collaborative practice and mediation

helps families gain the tools necessary to support their children's healthy development while protecting their property and finances.



In the collaborative practice and mediation process, specially trained lawyers and other professionals help families restructure. Like aid workers in a disaster, these professionals help families find positive and practical resolutions.



**This process helps separating couples — with or without children — find constructive ways to communicate. It helps families maintain integrity, resolve conflict, and make decisions, and it provides less expensive, less stressful alternatives to legal battles.**

