

## BC COLLABORATIVE ROSTER SOCIETY (the “Roster”)

### **DIRECTORS REPORT 2015:**

The purposes of the Roster, as set out in the Constitution, are:

- To administer a roster of collaborative professionals who have met a minimum standard of training and experience and who will abide by an established code of conduct
- To provide educational opportunities to build skills for collaborative professionals to assist in providing access to collaborative practice throughout the province
- To facilitate public access to collaborative professionals
- To promote the expanded use of collaborative practice in dispute resolution
- To enhance the profile and credibility of collaborative practice in the province.

The “Vision” of the Roster is to transform how conflict is resolved in British Columbia through Collaborative Practice.

The “Mission” of the Roster is to maintain and support a roster of qualified professionals in British Columbia dedicated to excellence and respect in the healthy resolution of disputes in our communities.

In 2013 the board developed a 3 year Strategic Plan. The 3 key objectives of the Strategic Plan are:

- supporting professional excellence
- increasing public awareness and use of collaborative practice, and
- strengthening organizational capacity.

We have been guided by the Strategic Plan throughout 2015.

#### Supporting Professional Excellence:

We held a training for collaborative professionals with Dr. Gabor Mate, focusing on stress and resilience and the impact on conflict resolution.

We have a training in February 2016 with Dr. Evelyn Zellerer on the use of circles to resolve conflict.

We are in discussions about the following trainings for 2016:

- a training for the financial neutrals and collaborative lawyers working with financial neutrals, and
- a training for mental health professionals wanting to do the child specialist work.

We implemented a mentorship program with our Pro Bono Project, to partner a collaborative lawyer with less experience with a more experienced collaborative lawyer.

## Strengthening Organizational Capacity:

### Finances:

Our membership presently stands at 34 members, with an additional 4 renewals expected and 2 members on maternity leave for this year. We have had, and expect to continue to have, new members applying to the Roster upon reaching the required minimum number of completed collaborative cases and meeting the training requirement.

We received funds from sponsors of our Pro Bono Collaborative Project. We generated income from our training in basic collaborative practice.

### Board Health and Capacity:

We welcomed Marge Thompson to the board. Marge lends valuable collaborative experience to the board and is instrumental in reaching out to the Vancouver Island collaborative community.

We are welcoming Justine Mercer and Stephanie Fabbro to the board, each being respected collaborative professionals in the Vancouver community and look forward to their input and direction.

Danny Zack retired from the board as he has served for 3 consecutive terms and we thank him for his valuable contribution to the board and the collaborative community.

Lindsey MacInnes is taking a temporary maternity leave from the board until the New Year.

The following committee's operated throughout the year:

- Public Education – Danny Zack, Deirdre Severide, Nikki Charlton
- Website – Nancy Cameron, Deirdre Severide, Bev Churchill
- Membership Committee – Bev Churchill, Marge Thompson, Lindsey MacInnes
- Corporate Links and Sponsorship – Danny Zack, Nikki Charlton
- Training and Qualified Trainings Committee – Nancy, Nikki
- Practice Group Outreach – Bev Churchill, Marge Thompson

We formed another committee, the Executive Search Committee, to recruit new and replace retiring board members.

We have a retreat on November 23, 2015 and have hired a facilitator to assist us in developing standards of conduct, a process for complaints against our members and a process for conflict amongst our members.

## Increasing Public Awareness and Use of CP:

We continued our efforts at reaching out provincially and met with interested professionals in the Okanagan and Nanaimo.

During the year we spent considerable time and effort on the development and implementation of the Collaborative Pro Bono Pilot Project. We developed extensive protocols, held a training

for the professionals participating in the project and hired an administrator. Many of the board members met with referral sources to market the project. To date we have completed 8 collaborative cases with Minutes of Settlement. We are continuing the pilot project in 2016 and have retained a developmental evaluator to provide feedback to us. We intend to transition into a low bono/fixed fee project in the coming year.

We committed to speaking at the Collaborative Divorce Dinner meetings on a regular basis to encourage those professionals to join the roster. We undertook a survey of CDV members to better understand any obstacles to membership in the Roster.

The Roster offered its first basic 3 day training in collaborative practice. 33 new collaborative professionals completed the training and appeared motivated to build a collaborative practice..