



OPENING DOORS:

TRIBUNALS CREATING EFFECTIVE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 29th and 30th, 2009

Lister Conference Centre (2nd Floor)
University of Alberta, 87 Avenue & 116 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H6

Members: \$495.00 Non-Members: \$625.00 GST Extra
Registration Forms: on web at www.FOAJ.ca under Conference 2009

Take advantage of the Pre-conference and Post-conference courses.
Both count towards the Certificate of Administrative Justice!
Interpreting Legislation: April 28 & 29, 2009
Evidence: May 1, 2009
Registration Forms: on web at www.FOAJ.ca under Courses

WEDNESDAY APRIL 29, 2009

Registration: 6:30 pm
AGM: 7:00 pm
Keynote Address: 7:30 pm

Opening Doors: Tribunals Creating Access to Administrative Justice

Speaker: Brian Goodman – Chairperson, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

Creating effective access to fair processes is one of the biggest issues facing tribunals today and often one of the most misunderstood issues. Access refers to the client's focus, but the tribunal must take the steps to create that access. Effective access means affordable, understandable, timely, and predictable processes, communications, and outcomes. It can involve self-empowerment for clients; sensitivity to their needs; and an environment that is responsive, flexible, and appropriate to differing cultures. How can tribunals meet the challenges of creating effective access for their clients? What new techniques, rules, procedures and ideas are tribunals using to meet these challenges? Brian Goodman will discuss access and draw on his experiences to set the tone for the conference.

FOUNDATION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE
JUSTICE 

CONFERENCE TOPICS

Thursday April 30, 2009

Registration: 7:30am

Keynote Address: 8:30 am

Tribunals' Responsiveness to the Mentally Ill Participant

Speaker: The Honourable Mr. Justice Edward F. Ormston, Chair, Ontario Mental Health Court

In the system of justice, individuals interact with many people working under defined roles and procedures. Processes often create barriers that prevent the tribunal from identifying and responding to the unique needs of the mentally ill participant. Self-representation is common at tribunals. The ability to understand the process and effectively participate is compromised when a participant is mentally ill. Mr. Justice Ormston established and leads Canada's first Mental Health Court reflecting a form of "therapeutic jurisprudence". The Court is non-adversarial, with relaxed rules of procedure, decorum, and evidence. From this Mental Health Court, we can learn about ways to create effective cooperation between two systems.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

Descriptions and speaker bios available at <http://www.foundationofadminjustice.ca/con2009.htm>

1. Evidence:

Are the Old Ways the Only Ways?

Speakers:

*Carol M. Zukiwski, Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer LLP,
Julie Gagnon, Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer LLP*

2. Cultural Diversity:

How Do Tribunals Respond?

Speakers: TBA

3. Administrative Dispute Resolution:

The New ADR

Speakers:

*Bill Diepeveen - Manager, Mediation Services, Municipal Affairs
Sandra L. Schulz, Q.C. - Legal Counsel, Dispute Resolution Programs,
Alberta Justice*

4. Residential Schools Tribunals:

What Are the Lessons Learned

Speakers:

*Daniel R. Ish, Q.C. - Chief Adjudicator,
Indian Residential Schools Independent Assessment Process*

5. Focus on Fairness:

Access is Critical!

Speakers:

*Kevin Fenwick, Q.C. - Saskatchewan Ombudsman
Joanne Smart - Senior Counsel, Alberta Ombudsman*

6. Streamlined Processes:

Can Tribunals Use One Model Code?

Speaker:

*William (Bill) W. Shores, Q.C., Shores Jardine LLP
Michael Finley - Director of Research, Law Reform
Commission of Saskatchewan*

7. Make it Clear:

What Are You Really Saying?

Speaker:

Christine Mowat - President, Wordsmith Associates

Registration Forms at: www.FOAJ.ca
Call FAJ at 780-466-0501 for information.