

Family Law Section Report 2014-2015

Executive:

Chair: Andrea Dodgson, Deeley Fabbri Sellen Law Corporation
Vice Chair: Jessica Dillon, Tapper Cuddy LLP
Past Chair: Lawrence Pinsky, Taylor McCaffrey LLP
Members: Robynne Kazina, Taylor McCaffrey LLP
Connie Petersen, Petersen King
Jurgen Feldschmid, Duboff Edwards Haight and Schater
Marcelin Murray, Fillmore Riley LLP

Meetings: Executive met once per month from September to May

Legal Education Seminars (all Law at Lunches unless otherwise noted):

- November 2014 – First Choice Seminar with Lorraine MocarSKI of Family Conciliation Services
- December 2014 – Exclusive Occupation and Occupation Rent presented by the Honourable Mr. Justice Johnston
- January Mid-Winter 2015 – A Year in Review of important National and Manitoba family law cases presented by Aaron Franks and Lawrence Pinsky
- March 2015 – All day Joint Bench and Bar Symposium called “SOS: Settlement Options and Solutions” focusing on new Case Conference Rules and the use of mediation, collaboration and arbitration to settle files
- April 2015 – Parental Alienation presented by Nicolas Bala
- May 2015 – Family Law at the Court of Appeal level to be presented by The Honourable Madam Justice Steele
- June 2015 – Welcome to Family Law – What They didn’t Teach you at Law School to be presented by the Honourable Madam Justice Allen, Erin Eisbrenner and Connie Petersen

Committees

- Case Conference – proposed changes to the Case Management Rules to give more powers to the Case Conference Judge and procedural steps to take before getting a Case Conference date
- Auto Order clauses – continuing Committee work to improve the Auto Order clauses
- Access to Justice – Committee developed to address Access to Justice issues in northern Manitoba

Involvement with National Section

- One executive member attends the annual National Family Law Section meeting in Ottawa each fall to learn of programs and trends across the country and to attend a second day meeting with the Department of Justice to learn of new government programs and to interact with the federal government to make improvements in area of family law
- Participation in bi-monthly conference calls with provincial chairs of other Family Law sections

Social Events

- December 2014 – Annual Holiday Party attended by family lawyers, family Judges and Masters hosted at Tapper Cuddy LLP
- June 2015 – Annual Family Law BBQ attended by family lawyer, family Judges and Masters hosted at Taylor McCaffrey LLP

Submitted by,
Andrea Dodgson, Chair MBA Family Law Section