

The Violence Against Women services and Child Welfare working group of Central West Region proudly presents:

Dr. Michael Saini

***Custody & Access Issues for
High Conflict Families &
Families who have Experienced Violence***

Working with children and parents involved in high conflict custody and access disputes can be challenging to child welfare, counsellors, and legal professionals, especially when domestic violence, child maltreatment or alienation is alleged. This workshop will explore the factors associated with high conflict families and address the complexity of working with this volatile population. Since children's exposure to domestic violence is the most substantiated type of child maltreatment in custody cases, professionals need to be vigilant in keeping families safe while working with repeated allegations, hostile interactions among parents and strained parent-child relationships.

The workshop will focus on early detection of high conflict families and how to best intervene for the sake of the children. Within this complex framework for understanding and responding to the needs of high conflict families, the benefits and challenges of distinguishing domestic violence, high conflict, child maltreatment and alienation cases will be explored in order to provide families with the most effective services.

Join us for this presentation, discussion & review of case studies.

Thursday October 27, 2011

Registration: 8:30 am Session: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Holiday Inn @ Bronte

2525 Wyecroft Rd, Oakville, ON

Light refreshments will be served (no lunch)

Registration is required: bavina.kobbeer@ontario.ca 905-567-7177 ext 316

No fee. Cancellations required 48 hours in advance of event.

Session is restricted to professionals working in child welfare and violence against women services in Central West Region (Dufferin, Peel, Waterloo, Wellington)

Dr. Michael Saini is an Assistant Professor at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto. He has conducted research to explore high conflict divorce, parenting competency after divorce, virtual visitation, the intersection of child welfare & custody disputes, & alternatives to legal disputes within family law & the child welfare context. He is an editorial board member for the Family Court Review & the Journal of Child Custody, & a member of the Association of Family & Conciliation Courts. For the past 12 years, he has been conducting custody evaluations & assisting children's counsel for the Office of the Children's Lawyer, Ministry of the Attorney General.

Workshop funded by the Ministry of Community & Social Services