

## **DEBRA RODRIGUES**

**R.S.W., Hons. B.A., B.S.W., Acc. F.M. (OAFM), FDRP Med. (FDRIO), C.P. Med. (OAFM), Cert. Elder Med. (FMC), Acc. Elder Med. (OAFM), C.R.P.**

Ms. Rodrigues never stops growing as a professional. Ms. Rodrigues is professionally quoted in many magazines and newspapers and has appeared on television/radio programs as an expert. Ms. Rodrigues teaches two three-day comprehensive courses on “Child-Inclusive Mediation” and “Voice of the Child Reports” and has presented this topic at numerous conferences and webinars. Ms. Rodrigues taught in the post-graduate Family Mediation Certificate Program at York University and taught Child Protection Mediation via OAFM. She also provides an 80-hour Family Mediation Practicum course, supervises other mediators, and is a Family Dispute Resolution consultant.

Ms. Rodrigues has presented on Parenting Coordination at the Peel Lawyers’ Association and at the Ontario Courts of Justice Conference. She developed and/or delivered training curriculum/presentations for the Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse, the Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies, Seneca College, the Peel District School Board, Children’s Aid Societies, Family Mediation Canada, Ontario Association of Family Mediation, and FDRIO, as well as for other public and private organizations.

Ms. Rodrigues has worked as a Family Mediator for several Family Courts. Ms. Rodrigues provides Child-Inclusive, Separation & Divorce, Family, Elder, Child Protection, Workplace and Family Business Mediation. She co-developed and presented a Model of Structuring Mediation Internships. She provided province-wide training to child welfare workers, police officers and mental health therapists through the Institute for the Prevention of Child Abuse and training for the Ontario Association of Children’s Aid Societies.

Ms. Rodrigues also conducted province-wide clinical audits of 13 Child Welfare Agencies under the Ministry of Community and Social Services including as clinical audit supervisor. She completed a 10-month internship in family therapy and has undergone much subsequent training as a counsellor including Brief Solution Focused, ACT (Acceptance and Commitment Therapy), EMI, Cybercounselling, MBSR and MBCT. Ms. Rodrigues provides counselling for individuals, couples, and families, and has run many therapeutic groups in the past. She completed training in family arbitration, Capacity Assessments and Parenting Capacity Assessments. Ms. Rodrigues was

a clinical Investigator for the Office of the Children’s Lawyer for 14 years and during the same time provided Section 30 Parenting Plan Assessments. She is an Accredited Child Protection Mediator with the Ontario Child Protection Mediation Roster.

Ms. Rodrigues was President of the Board of Directors for Distress Line Peel, participated on the Standards Committee for OAFM in relation to the Voice of the Child and is a Child-Inclusive Mediation committee member. Ms. Rodrigues is a member of OAFM, OASW, OCSWSSW, AFCC, FDRIO, FMC.

The following is a short list of services provided in her career.

- 36 Years of Experience
- Director of PCCS Mediators & Counsellors – 30 years
- Professional Registered Social Worker
- Accredited Family Mediator
  - Developed and teaches an 80-hour Family Mediation Practicum
- Teaches Child Inclusive Mediation and Voice of the Child Reports courses.
- Past Instructor at York University, Post Graduate Family Mediation Program Screening and Assessing for Domestic Violence and Power Imbalances; and Advanced Mediation
- Past President of OAFM Peel-Dufferin Chapter
- Workplace Mediator
- Certified Elder Mediator
- FDR Consultant and Trainer
- EAP Accredited Mediator
- Child Protection Roster Mediator (Ontario Child Protection Mediation Roster)
- Child Protection Mediation Trainer
- Court Mediator – Milton, Brampton, Orangeville, Guelph, Hamilton
- Supervisor of Mediation Students
- Counsellor – Individuals, Couples, Families, Groups
- Qualified Capacity Assessor and Parenting Capacity Assessor (past)
- Clinical Investigator for the Office of the Children’s Lawyer (14 years)
- Qualified Expert Witness – Child and Family, Child Abuse, Separation and Divorce
- Parenting Coordinator
- Collaborative Family Professional and Child Specialist
- Custody and Access Assessor
- Professional Trainer
- Family Group Conference Coordinator (Past)
- Facilitator of Permanency Planning Meetings (Past)
- Designed and Lead Cooperative Parenting Groups (Past)
- Therapeutic Reconnection Counselling (Past)
- Therapeutic Supervised Access (Past)
- Chair of Permanency Planning Conferences
- Arbitration – Trained
- Certified Recognition Professional

