



THE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE TO FAMILY LAW ISSUES

Practical advice that drills down on the **tools** and **strategies** you need to effectively deal with the **complex family law issues** educator's face, including:

- Interpreting **court orders**: the role of the school & position of the boards
- Dealing with a **court summons**: What's the process? What documents can be provided? Should you speak with counsel?
- When does the **Office of the Children's Lawyer** get involved? What are your obligations?
- Dealing with **challenging interactions** between parents and school
- The implementation of **joint custody** arrangements in school: who makes what decisions and how to communicate with the parents

Understand *"Brain Science and Leadership in the Education System"* with our Keynote Speaker, **Nathalie Boutet**, Boutet Family Law.

Register today at:

osgoodepd.ca/educators-guide

Program Chairs

Jennifer Trépanier
Keel Cottrelle LLP

Nicola Simmons
Keel Cottrelle LLP

Date and Time

November 10, 2017
8:30 am – 3:30 pm EST
In Person or Webcast

ONLINE REPLAY:
December 12, 2017

Location

Osgoode Professional
Development
1 Dundas St. West, 26th Floor
Toronto, ON

Endorsed by



The Educator's Guide to Family Law Issues

Teachers, administrators and school board personnel grapple with increasingly complex family law issues. Having a grounding in the key issues and a toolkit of best practices will ensure you can effectively respond when called upon to do so.

Designed and delivered by education law experts, this *OsgoodePD* program provides education professionals and their advisors with a clear understanding of their legal obligations in the face of these pressing family law issues and the strategies they need to handle them on the front line.

Topics Include

- The legal regime governing family law matters: the law guiding your actions
- Interpreting an access parent's right to student information
- Access: the right to education information under the *Children's Law Reform Act*
- Understanding commonly used family law language and terminology
- Best practices in responding to requests for Ontario School Record information
- An update on recent Human Rights decisions including:
 - The obligations and limits on student accommodation
 - Adapting board policies to accommodate joint custody arrangements

Who Should Attend?

- School administrators
- Teachers
- Supervisory Officers
- School Trustees
- Directors of Education
- School Board Staff
- Advocates for students and parents
- Representatives from Federations, the Ministry of Education and Ontario College of Teachers
- Legal practitioners – education law practitioners, family lawyers, civil litigators, human rights

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Agenda

8:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30 a.m.

Welcome from the Chairs

Jennifer Trépanier, Keel Cottrelle LLP

Nicola Simmons, Keel Cottrelle LLP

8:40 a.m.

The Legislative Context Surrounding Family Law Matters

Nicola Simmons, Keel Cottrelle LLP

Education professionals are increasingly being asked to address a myriad of family law issues. Having a thorough understanding of the legal regime governing this area is critical to effectively and confidently dealing with these issues. This opening session of the day will give you a good grounding of the legislative landscape by providing an overview of the following:

- *The Education Act*
- *Children's Law Reform Act*
- *Child and Family Services Act*
- Applicable privacy laws including *MFIPPA* and *PHIPA*

9:15 a.m.

Understanding and Managing Custody & Access Issues at the School Level

The Hon. Marvin A. Zuker, Associate Professor, Leadership; Higher & Adult Education, University of Toronto, OISE

Fareen L. Jamal, Jamal Family Law Professional Corporation

Martha Heder, Counsel, Personal Rights, Legal, Office of the Children's Lawyer, Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario

- Who are the parties and their representatives and what are their roles?
- Family law language and terminology

- Custody and access defined
- Different custody and access arrangements and their implications
- Case law update on family law issues
- Trends in separation agreements
- Trends in court orders
- General tips for school administrators

10:15 a.m.

Group Discussion & Q&A Session

10:30 a.m.

Break

10:45 a.m.

Frontline Strategies for Educators in Addressing Family Law Matters

Shane McNaught, Legal Counsel, Protective Services, Ontario Principals' Council

Mark Loya, Manager of Employee Relations, Labour & Legal & In-House Counsel at Durham District School Board

- Interpreting court orders – role of the school and position of the boards
 - Enforcement – police? CAS?
- Facilitation of custody/access arrangements
 - How to determine which parent makes decisions and gives consent
- Ontario School Record
 - Responding to requests (access parent vs. custodial parent)
- Dealing with a court summons
 - What is the process?
 - What documents can be provided?
 - Should school staff speak with counsel?
- When does the Office of the Children's Lawyer become involved?
 - What are your obligations?
 - What documentation do you need before sharing information?
 - Do you allow interviews at school?
 - What about requests for information?
- Dealing with contentious family law disputes

- How to manage when an access parent comes to school to try to visit a child.
- Access parents & their rights
- Exclusion or trespass issues
- Strategies for complying with your obligations under legislation as well as board and tribunal rulings

12:00 p.m.

Group Discussion & Q&A Session

12:15 p.m.

LUNCH AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS

"Brain Science and Leadership in the Education System"

Nathalie Boutet, Boutet Family Law

It can get challenging working with students, parents and various professionals when it gets emotional. During this presentation, using neuroscience and other teachings, Nathalie will explain how humans respond to stress, fear and conflicts, the debilitating impacts of strong emotions, strategies to stay focused, and best practices for successful leaders.

1:15 p.m.

Family Law Issues in Schools: Case Study Overview

To prepare you for the afternoon group work, the Chairs will present a series of mini case studies meant to get you thinking about the family law issues you are likely to face at your school/board including:

- Interpretation of language from sample court orders
- The implementation of joint custody arrangements in the school setting
 - Who makes what decisions and how to communicate with the parents
- Practice staying neutral when parents try to put school "in the middle"
- Interpreting an access parent's right to student information and legal implications when a new 'significant other' gets involved in the child's education

- Work through a situation when a parent breaches a Court Order
- Practice how to respond to a parent who asks staff to get involved in court proceedings
- Practice dealing with safety concerns raised by a parent

1:30 p.m.

Break-out Sessions/Group Work

Jennifer Trépanier, Keel Cottrelle LLP

Nicola Simmons, Keel Cottrelle LLP

The Hon. Marvin A. Zuker, Associate Professor, Leadership, Higher & Adult Education, University of Toronto, OISE

Shane McNaught, Legal Counsel, Protective Services, Ontario Principals' Council

Mark Loya, Manager of Employee Relations, Labour & Legal & In-House Counsel at Durham District School Board

In this interactive session you will work in smaller groups with your colleagues to discuss and analyze the case studies. Following a short break the entire group will re-convene and report back on the issues and strategies identified by their group.

2:30 p.m.

Break

2:45 p.m.

Bringing it All Together: Group Reporting and Discussion

To close out the day the entire group will reconvene and talk about the main issues and resulting strategies that emerged in their group. The concluding group discussion will reinforce your understanding of the issues and provide you with the best practices and tools needed to address these issues.

3:30 p.m.

Conference Ends

Chairs

Jennifer Trépanier, Keel Cottrelle LLP

Nicola Simmons, Keel Cottrelle LLP

Keynote Speaker

Nathalie Boutet, Boutet Family Law

Faculty Includes

Martha Heder, Counsel,
Personal Rights, Legal,
Office of the Children's
Lawyer, Ministry of the
Attorney General of Ontario

Fareen L. Jamal, Jamal
Family Law Professional
Corporation

Mark Loya, Manager of
Employee Relations, Labour
& Legal & In-House Counsel
at Durham District School
Board

Shane McNaught, Legal
Counsel Protective Services,
Ontario Principals' Council

**The Hon. Marvin A.
Zuker**, Associate Professor,
Leadership, Higher & Adult
Education, University of
Toronto, OISE

Participate in **interactive break-out sessions** where you will review a series of case studies that will highlight family law issues raised throughout the day. You will leave with a better understanding and a fistful of strategies you can immediately put to use.

Registration Details

Fee per Delegate

\$545 plus HST

Fees include attendance, program materials, continental breakfast, lunch and break refreshments. Group discounts are available. Visit www.osgoodepd.ca/group-discounts for details. Please inquire about financial assistance.

Program Changes

We will make every effort to present the program as advertised, but it may be necessary to change the date, location, speakers or content with little or no notice. In the event of program cancellation, York University's and Osgoode Hall Law School's liability is limited to reimbursement of paid fees.

Cancellations and Substitutions

Substitution of registrants is permitted at any time. If you are unable to find a substitute, a full refund is available if a cancellation request is received in writing 14 days prior to the program date. If a cancellation request is made with less than 14 days notice, a \$75 administration fee will apply. No other refund is available.



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LSUC (ON): 6h 30m CPD (6h Substantive, 30m Professionalism)

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