

G. W. (Wayne) Braid

Mediation Skills for the 21st Century



It is my pleasure to welcome you back to our *Scrivener*.

I believe I can guarantee that over the next 80 pages, something will capture your attention and imagination or you will discover a new concept that you find downright appealing!

Our Magazine Committee creates the focus of every issue. As I work with our Editor-in-Chief Val Wilson, I always find it a challenge to visualize how each article will be of interest to our readers and how we can introduce enough other material into the magazine to attract readers who are not drawn to our theme.



Each issue brings its own flavor and personality and eventually assumes a life of its own. Miraculously, it all comes together under Val's experienced eye, with the help of Ken Sherk who works with me as the other legal editor.

If you are a regular reader of this magazine, please contact us if you are interested in submitting an article...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributing authors who invest time to research their subjects and provide articles for our readers.

If you are a regular reader of this magazine, please contact us if you are interested in submitting an article on a special project or subject appropriate for our editorial environment. While we cannot accommodate everyone and all material, we would like to hear from you. scrivener@notaries.bc.ca

Over the past few years, there has been a major focus within the legal community—and within society—on interest-based mediation. We explore that topic in this issue, as well as other forms of mediation.

We hear from a number of people who practise in the field of mediation—and from other professionals who

use mediation skills—that mediation training taught them important skills that they apply in their daily business practices and in their personal lives.

We are delighted to have Sharon Sutherland as our Cover Story personality and to feature her work at UBC. Our President Chris Dupuis in his article describes his experience during the mediation training program conducted by Sharon for BC Notaries. I was involved in that initial program and regularly use many of the skills I learned in that course. I often refer to the print materials and the textbook we used as a guide during that week.

To live and work in a world where there is little or no conflict is, of course, impossible. To live and work in a world where we can manage conflict and where we can help people reduce their stress and anxiety in day-to-day lives is, however, something we can strive to add to our own individual abilities.

*Meditation brings wisdom.
Lack of mediation leaves ignorance.
Know well what leads you forward and
what holds you back and choose the path
that leads to wisdom.*

That quote is from the Buddha, some 1500 years ago.

Maybe mediation is not so new after all!

Happy reading! ▲