



**The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts  
Ontario Chapter**

## Mission, Vision, Values

The AFCC is an interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to the resolution of family conflict. AFCC members share a strong commitment to education, innovation, and collaboration in order to benefit communities, empower families, and promote a healthy future for children.

We promote a collaborative approach to serving the needs of children among those who work in and with family law systems, encouraging education, research and innovation and identifying best practices.

The AFCC, Ontario chapter is an interdisciplinary association of family law judges, lawyers, mental health professionals, social workers, mediators, court administrators and other professionals in the family justice system.

We are dedicated to providing an interdisciplinary forum for the exchange of ideas and the development of procedures to assist families in conflict; to encouraging the improvement of courts and court procedures emphasizing collaborative methods of dispute resolution; and working to develop and improve the provision of services that aid in resolution of family disputes

### **Vision**

- Our Vision is a justice system in which all professionals work collaboratively through education, support, and access to services to achieve the best possible outcome for children and families.

### **Values**

- Collaboration and respect among professions and disciplines
- Learning through inquiry, discussion and debate
- Innovation in addressing the needs of families and children in conflict
- Empowering families to resolve conflict and make decisions about their future

## Strategic Directions 2018-2021

### **1 Within our circle of influence, advance Access to Justice and Services**

- Leverage our reputation and multi-disciplinary membership

### **2 Foster and increase membership**

- High quality education opportunities as a membership strategy
- Develop new approaches to reach members
- Provide access to resources and people they need to deliver excellent service for families need
- Facilitate the exchange of ideas – hosting opportunities to hear a variety of points of view in key/critical issues anchored on good research on relevant topics
- Celebrate extraordinary leaders in our fields & highlight them (bio and benefit of membership)

### **3 Strengthen organizational structure and optimize our resources**

- Develop a comprehensive communication strategy
- Secure appropriate organizational support
- Leverage the experience, expertise, skills of the Board of Directors (as an asset to the organization)
- Increase our diversity throughout our organizational structure (Board and committees) considering intentional equity
- Use IT effectively throughout the organization
- Increase sources of funding and sponsors
- Improve local AFCC-O chapter connection, provincial influence and connection with AFCC and communicate the benefits of each

### **4 Focus on Research & Training which can lead to significant change in the system**

- Develop a 2 year (long term) research and training framework (cyclical approach)
- Develop a strategy on how research will be funded

### **5 Advance our mentoring strategy for professionals**

- Develop a strategy linked to post-secondary education to link to AFCC-O based on data
- Build on and ensure a multidisciplinary strategy to upper graduate students in different disciplines