

PRESENTERS - Resolving Problems at the Crossroads of Immigration, Family, and Child Law

Joy-Ann Cohen (Program Chair), Joy-Ann Cohen Barrister & Solicitor | <http://www.jacohenlaw.com> (Toronto)



Joy-Ann is a Toronto lawyer in private practice who has looked at immigration issues facing families when they unite, separate or divorce. She was recently hired on contract by the Federal Dept. of Justice for a consultation paper on these issues. At the last Canadian Bar Association Annual Immigration Conference in Ottawa, she spoke on topics of special interest to young people, such as study permits, international exchange programs, and the transition from post-graduation work permit to permanent residence. She has chaired several projects, including one for the Canadian Bar Association on using designated representatives to assist claimants through the immigration tribunal process. She has a Master of Arts degree in journalism and a Master of Laws degree. She has worked as an adjunct immigration law professor at a university and as an instructor or trainer in other settings.

Véronique Malka, CKR Law | <https://www.ckrlaw.com> (New York)



Véronique provides representation in Canadian immigration and human rights law from CKR Law in New York. Veronique is recognized for handling cases of child abductions under the Hague Convention. She has earned an Award of Merit from the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children in Washington, D.C. She started her career as a family law lawyer in Ontario, and then made a transition to Canadian immigration law, which she practiced first in Ontario, then in New Jersey and now New York. Her clients are U.S. individuals whose goal is to move to Canada.

The Honourable Stanley B. Sherr, Ontario Court of Justice, (North York)



Judge Sherr was appointed to the Bench as a family law judge in 2005 after a 24-year career practicing family law, largely in the area of child protection. He hears many cases where issues arise as to custody and access where one parent is facing deportation, and therefore he has extensive experience deciding family law cases that have an impact on whether someone remains in Canada or leaves.

Andrew Wlodyka, Partner, Direction Legal | <http://www.directionlegal.com> (Vancouver)



Mr. Wlodyka is a partner with the Vancouver law firm of Direction Legal LLP. Mr. Wlodyka has served as a former member of the Immigration Appeal Board (1986-1988) and Assistant Deputy Chair of the Immigration Appeal Division, Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, where he sat on many family class related cases. He has lectured and written extensively on immigration related topics for the Continuing Legal Education Society of B.C, the Canadian Bar Association National and Provincial Sections and the University of British Columbia, Continued Studies Program, especially in relation to family class cases including topics involving the validity of marriages, whether the relationships were bona fide, and whether the international adoptions were in the best interest of the child. He has published a guide about practice before the Immigration Appeal Division with Carswell.