

Michelle M. Simpson BA JD CMed CARb
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Michelle Simpson holds a *Juris Doctor* (Bilingual Law Degree-French/English) from the University of Ottawa, a Certificate in Conflict Management with assessments from the Alberta Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta (“ADRIA”) and a Certificate in Arbitration from ADRIA.

Michelle is a Chartered Mediator, a Chartered Arbitrator and a lawyer. Michelle ‘s background in law for over 35 years lends itself well to her combined legal, arbitration and mediation practices relative to providing legal substance. Current rosters include: National Energy Board, Subway Restaurants, CAMVAP, Real Estate Council of Alberta, Alberta Pipeline and the Better Business Bureau.

In addition to the large number of hours devoted by Michelle to the study of conflict resolution Michelle has broad and extensive experience in mediating high conflict and multi-party disputes.

Michelle instructs the National Introductory Arbitration course for ADRIA and has instructed many courses on the development of dispute resolution skills.

Michelle has experience using web-based technologies in her practice.

As Honorary Consul for Barbados and as Canadian Legal Advisor to the Rocky Mountain Trade Corridor (an organization that facilitated trade among Canada, the United States and Mexico) Michelle has experienced cultural diversity and has learned of its importance relative to the dispute resolution process.

Michelle’s interest in sport and her understanding of its politics comes from a variety of places. Michelle played organized recreational soccer through her University years as well as in her adult life. Michelle’s husband ran track throughout his time at the University of Alberta. One of Michelle’s children played basketball at a college level and another has worn the Canadian Hockey jersey as well as jerseys from teams in the WHL, the ECHL, the AHL and the NHL.

Michelle’s belief is that team and individual strength is enhanced when people choose to face and resolve conflict in a constructive and respectful manner. Setting up a constructive and respectful process for conflict resolution is Michelle’s first priority.

Professional Memberships:

Law Society of Alberta

Canadian Bar Association

- *Member of Alternative Dispute Resolution and Construction sections.*
- *Member of the CBA National Committee on Appropriate Dispute Resolution*
- *Co-Chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, North*

ADR Institute of Alberta

- *Member of the Board of Directors*
- *Chair, Governance Committee*
- *Chair Roster Development Committee*

ADR Institute of Canada

- *Committee member-Roster Development*
- *Committee member-Arbitration Course Development*
- *Committee member-Arbitration Course Instructors*

Registered Canadian Trade-mark Agent

Past Member, Edmonton Consular Corps

Past Member, International Bar Association

Past Member, American Bar Association

Michelle 's Relevant Professional & Community-Oriented Accomplishments include:

- *CBA/ADRIA representative for Law Day 2017 at the Alberta Courts, Edmonton*
- *Appointed as Honorary Consul for Barbados July 2005 until December 31, 2014.*
- *Edmonton Consular Corps from July 2005 until December 31, 2014 and Member of the Executive from 2012-2014.*
- *Retained as Counsel to a variety of appeal panels throughout Alberta*
- *Practicing law for 35 years in the areas of construction, business, real estate (commercial and residential), and workplace issues and in small, medium and large firms*
- *Presenting cases before all levels of the Court with the exception of the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal*
- *Acting as counsel for large publicly traded corporations, medium sized businesses, franchisors, franchisees, developers, buyers, sellers, lessors, lessees (both commercial and residential), appeal panels, contractors, sub-contractors, owners, lienholders, employers, employees and individuals of a variety of cultural backgrounds*
- *Developer of curriculum and Instructor for Institute of Chartered Accountants, HSBC Bank and Royal Bank and for the insurance industry on "Fighting Fair"*

- *Developer of curriculum and Coach for weekend boot camps for students planning to present themselves for negotiation or mediation assessments with ADRIA*
- *Developed curriculum for “Real Estate 101 for Mediators and Arbitrators” and presented the same to mediators and arbitrators in Edmonton*
- *Canadian Bar Association, Presenter to Alternative Dispute Resolution Section regarding **arbitration and its characteristics for resolving disputes***
- *Canadian Bar Association, Presenter to Real Estate Section regarding the **benefits of mediation and arbitration to resolve real estate disputes**, winter 2011*
- *Canadian Bar Association, Presenter to Business Law Section regarding the **drafting of effective arbitration clauses**, winter 2011 and again in March 2016*
- *Alberta Bar Admission course instructor on **ethics, real estate and plain language drafting***