

**Two-Day Training In:**

**Screening For Domestic Violence and Power Imbalances**

**Provided by:**

**Gary Direnfeld, MSW, RSW  
Interaction Consultants**

**Medora Uppal, Director,  
Women's Services, Good Shepherd Centres**

As per the Ministry of the Attorney General for the Province of Ontario:

**"All family arbitrators must have received at least a training program of 14 hours in screening parties for domestic violence and power imbalance."**

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This training program is designed in compliance with the directives as set out by the Ministry of the Attorney General and will include attention to the following elements:

- The nature and extent of domestic violence
- The nature of the arbitration process and how it differs from mediation or direct negotiations
- The roles and responsibilities of the screener
- How to screen for abuse and power imbalance
- The use of one or more tools for screening, including in an arbitration context
- The form and content of screening reports
- Limitations of screening techniques
- The effects on children of exposure to domestic violence
- How the best interests of the child are affected by domestic violence
- How to identify concerns of people from diverse cultures
- How to determine when arbitration is or is not appropriate, and how to develop options for proceeding with arbitration when arbitration would be appropriate with safeguards in place
- How to adapt parenting plans when domestic violence is present
- Knowledge of community resources to deal with domestic violence.

Att: Lawyers, social workers, psychologists, mental health/child/family professionals, divorce coaches, financial professionals, and medical professionals:

**If you provide or seek to provide family arbitration service or screening services, this training will equip you to meet the legislative requirements to conduct such practices.**

A certificate of attendance, indicating content delivered, will be provided based upon complete 2-day attendance.

There will be no certificate provided for partial attendance.

# **Two-Day Training In: Screening For Domestic Violence And Power Imbalances**

**Location:**

Good Shepherd Family Centre  
125 Wentworth St., South, Hamilton, Ontario

**Date/Time:**

Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> (9:00 am – 5:00 pm)

**Cost:**

\$572.25 (\$545.00 + 27.25 GST) in Canadian funds  
Send cheque or money order, payable to Interaction Consultants and send to:

Interaction Consultants  
20 Suter Crescent,  
Dundas, ON L9H 6R5

Telephone enquiries: 905 628-4847

**About the trainers:**

Gary Direnfeld is a social worker at 52 years of age and with more than 26 years of experience working with parents, teens and young children. With a private practice located in Dundas, Ontario, he provides counseling, mediation and assessment services on most matters of family life from the comfort of his home office. In addition to his private practice, Gary is a media personality and author. He has written hundreds of articles pertaining to family life, separation and divorce issues and appears regularly on various television and radio programs as a guest expert. He is also the host of a television show, Newlywed – Nearly Dead, appearing in nine countries worldwide. Courts in Ontario, Canada, have deemed Gary an expert on child development, parent-child relations, marital and family therapy, custody and access recommendations, social work and an expert for the purpose of giving a critique on a Section 112 (social work) report and an expert for the purpose of providing an opinion on a parenting plan.

Medora Uppal is the Director of Women's Services for Good Shepherd Centres. Medora oversees services provided for women and children affected by abuse including a shelter for women and children fleeing abuse (Martha House), counselling services, a therapeutic camp program, and second stage housing. Over the past 11 years Medora has worked directly with women and children at Martha House, and as a one to one counselor, as a facilitator of women's groups, and leads adventure based counselling programs with children. Medora is an advocate to end violence and abuse against women and children in Hamilton working with police, children's protection services, school boards, governments, and other community agencies. Medora has chaired Hamilton's local domestic violence coordinating committee (WAWG: Woman Abuse Working Group) and is Chair of the Board for Sexual Assault Centre of Hamilton and Area (SACHA).

**To register:** Payment must be received by Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 pm. In the event of a cancellation, notice must be received by Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> - 5:00 pm. There is a \$50.00 cancellation fee. There will be no refunds what-so-ever after that date for cancellations or no-shows. In the event of insufficient attendance, Interaction Consultants reserves the right to change venue or cancel the training and issue a full refund. Please include the following form with your payment of \$572.25:

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Registrant's Name	
Profession / Credentials	
Organization	
Contact Info	Tel: _____ Email: _____
Mailing Address	