

PRESENTS

## IT'S TIME TO FOCUS: Focused Hearings

The use of focused hearings, otherwise known as Rule 1 hearings, are becoming increasingly popular with lawyers, litigants, and judges. Focused hearings are now commonplace in our courts. A focused hearing can be a creative way to ensure that litigants in the family and child protection justice systems have access to a just process that can effectively and affordably decide their cases. This program will provide you with the tools you need to prepare for and conduct a focused hearing, including providing answers to the following questions:

- When should you ask for a focused hearing in a domestic or child protection case?
- How do you ask for a focused hearing?
- When should you resist a request for a focused hearing and how do you do so?
- What are the options in setting up a focused hearing and how do you decide what options are right for your case?
- How do you prepare for a focused hearing?
- How is conducting a focused hearing different than a traditional unlimited trial?
- How do you handle self-represented parties?
- What are the evidentiary rules at a focused hearing?
- How do you manage documentary evidence at a focused hearing?

**Chair:** The Honourable Justice Roselyn Zisman, Ontario Court of Justice

**Speakers:** Sheila MacKinnon, Family Law Lawyer  
Rachel Buhler, Counsel, Catholic Children's Aid Society  
Paul Cooper, Family Law Lawyer

Project Managers: Karen Ksienski & David Miller

**Tuesday, September 19, 2017**

**4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (program starts at 5:00 p.m. sharp)**

**NORTH YORK MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HALL – 5110 Yonge Street  
West end of Lower Level – across from the North York Public Library**



**\$20 cash only please** (including refreshments)

***THIS PROGRAM MAY BE CLAIMED FOR 1.0 SUBSTANTIVE and 0.5 PROFESSIONALISM HOURS TOWARD CPD. This organization has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by Law Society of Upper Canada***

Shortly after the live presentation of this program, it will be available on video download and on DVD, with materials in electronic form, from the LAOLAW website at "Learning Opportunities" at [www.research.legalaid.on.ca/login.html](http://www.research.legalaid.on.ca/login.html).

These continuing education programs are NOT open to the public. Lawyers, Law Students and Court Workers are welcome.

Professional identification may be required for admission.

NEXT PROGRAM: November 7, 2017 – Trials and Appeals WITH CHAIR: THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE S. SHERR