March 15, 2016

ADRIA Board of Directors
Room CE 223A - Ralph King Athletic Centre
Concordia University
7128 Ada Boulevard
Edmonton AB T5B 4E4

Dear ADRIA board members:

The ADRIA Mediation Advocacy Task Force is pleased to provide you with two documents - The White Paper on Mediation Advocacy and the corresponding Appendices.

The White Paper contains recommendations for Board consideration. It is the hope of the Task Force that the board will review the recommendations and develop a response to them along with a communication plan . (The Task Force has made a commitment to share the report and survey results with those groups who have contributed to them, and fulfilling this commitment would need to be part of this plan.)

The recommendations contain many opportunities for collaboration with other organizations who share an interest in promoting the use of mediation. Ultimately that will be of benefit to both our members and the mediation profession generally.

The Task Force is not suggesting that all these recommendations be implemented immediately, rather that they are received as a long term strategy and recommends the board prioritize them as part of their review. We suggest starting by promoting awareness of mediation to the public, businesses, government and the legal community, and as part of this, we also recommend ADRIA and ADRIC start work as soon as possible to develop clarity around the profession – using common language to describe mediation, the types of mediation, and so on.

We would also like to recognize the many hours contributed by Volunteer Task Force members (and ADRIA staff) who joined us in researching, writing and deliberating in order to produce the report and recommendations; and their dedication to what became a longer (and larger) project than any of us anticipated. While the Co-chairs remain available to respond to questions the Board may have, as the mandate of the Task Force has been fulfilled with the delivery of the White Paper, we would ask that the board dissolve this working group.

Sincerely,

Wendy Hassen, Co-chair Joanne Munro, Co-chair