Michelle M. Simpson
#208-10301 109 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 1N4
Phone: 780-431-1444 ext 240
Fax: 780-435-1424

Michelle Simpson BA JD CMed, CArb holds a *Juris Doctor* (Bilingual Law Degree-French/English) from the University of Ottawa, a Certificate in Conflict Management with assessments from ADRIA and a Certificate in Arbitration from ADRIA. Michelle is a Chartered Arbitrator, a Chartered Mediator and a lawyer. Michelle 's background in law for over 30 years and as Honorary Consul for Barbados in Alberta lend themselves well to her combined legal, arbitration and mediation practices in terms of providing both legal substance and an understanding of cultural differences. As a lawyer, Chartered Mediator, and Chartered Arbitrator, Michelle provides legal, arbitration and mediation services related to business, workplace, insurance, construction, and real estate issues. Current rosters include: Subway Restaurants, CAMVAP, Real Estate Council of Alberta, Alberta Pipeline and the Better Business Bureau.

Michelle has concluded over 30 arbitrations since March of 2013 on a variety of issues. As an Arbitrator, Michelle believes that the elements of a successful arbitration include:

*Finality. Bringing finality to the issues between the parties. A decision as binding and as enforceable as any Court's.

*Fairness. Full disclosure of documents and the names of witnesses to be presented at the hearing prior to the hearing. An opportunity for each party to fully present their case and to fully examine and question the other party's documents and witnesses

*Process. A process negotiated by the parties and which ensures fairness in the eyes of the Arbitrator

*Flexibility Opportunities for timeliness and cost efficiencies to be canvassed and decided upon by the parties with the Arbitrator's procedural eye on fairness

*Decision A written decision presented on a timely basis with clear reasons

*Private The Arbitral process is private. No one need know there is an issue being arbitrated and only those in the room need know of the issues or any outcome unless one party wishes to enforce or appeal (where available) the arbitrator's decision through the Courts

<u>Michelle holds a number of Professional Memberships:</u>

Law Society of Alberta

Canadian Bar Association-Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Construction sections

Registered Canadian Trade-mark Agent

ADRIA and ADRIC

Edmonton Consular Corps

Past Member, International Bar Association

Past Member, American Bar Association

<u>Michelle 's Relevant Professional & Community-Oriented Accomplishments include:</u>

- *Practicing law for over 30 years in the areas of business, real estate (commercial and residential), construction and workplace issues and in small, medium and large firms*
- *Presenting cases before all levels of the Court excluding the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal and Tax Court*
- *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, 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*
- *Chair, Legal Liaison Committee, ADRIA*
    - *developed proposed program for discussion with government on "Access to Justice"*
    - *developed roster of mediators and arbitrators for use by the Real Estate Council of Alberta*
- ***Developed curriculum** for "Real Estate 101 for Mediators and Arbitrators" and presented the same to mediators and arbitrators in Edmonton*
- ***Honorary Consul for Barbados** in Alberta since June, 2005*
- *Member of the Executive Committee, **Edmonton Consular Corps***
- *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*