

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH JUDICIALLY ASSISTED DISPUTE RESOLUTION REVIEW

Judicially Assisted Dispute Resolution (JADR) conferences have been available to parties in civil cases in the Winnipeg Centre since 1994. In the years since, JADR has become a popular and important aspect of the court's work. Participation is voluntary and relatively informal – the only requirements are that counsel for the parties must jointly request a JADR conference and provide the names of at least three members of the court who the parties agree would be an acceptable facilitator. A pre-conference meeting with the judge is also required to schedule a conference.

The Court has established a Committee consisting of Justices Suche (chair), Schulman, Little, and Spivak to review the JADR program and make any recommendations for improvement.

The Committee will be considering:

- the process by which JADR conferences are requested;
- how judges are appointed to facilitate conferences;
- whether any changes or additions to the format of conferences are in order, including neutral evaluation on a point of evidence or law;
- offering JADR conferences in the Family Division;
- offering JADR conferences in other judicial centres.

A critical aspect of this review is feedback from the profession. The Committee is interested in hearing from lawyers concerning their experience with JADR and any recommendations they may have for changes or additions to the existing program. Written submissions should be sent to:

JADR Review Committee
Court of Queen's Bench
408 York Avenue ROOM 226
WINNIPEG MB R3C 0P9

The Committee also invites the profession to meet with it for an informal discussion concerning the issues noted above or any other issues concerning the

(see over →)

JADR program. In addition to hearing from lawyers, the Committee will also advise of some of the options being examined.

Date: **Monday, November 9, 2009**

Time: **12:15 – 1:30 p.m.**

Location: **Law Society of Manitoba
210 Kennedy Street,
WINNIPEG MB**

RSVP: Jennifer Jones – 926-0206

A boxed lunch will be available for purchase **in advance** for \$8.

Dated: October 29, 2009