



International Academy of Mediators

Conference Planning Meeting Report/Agenda

The committee met on March 8 with the agenda below. There were a few minor changes to the schedule.

Colleagues:

Thank you very much for participating in another very productive planning meeting on February 25th. This email will summarize the key decisions made and the follow-ups (in yellow) that are to be done hopefully before our next meeting during the week of March 7th. **If you haven't already done so, please respond to the "doodle poll" that Richard Rejino sent on February 25th.** I refer you as well to my emails dated December 20, 2021, at 5:04pm, December 22, 2021 at 1:29pm, December 28, 2021 at 1:23pm, January 6, 2022 at 6:43pm, January 26th at 7:10pm, January 28th at 3:26pm and February 10th at 6:02pm. All times are EST.

1. Update on General Romeo Dallaire

As already reported, despite Michael Dickstein's efforts and hard work, General Dallaire is not able to participate nor is another potential keynote speaker that General Dallaire suggested.

2. Update on Keynote Speaker, Justice Rosalie Abella

After hearing about General Dallaire, Paul Iacono arranged a phone call through back channels with retired Justice Rosalie Abella. The call took place during our meeting. **Paul Iacono reported that Justice Abella has kindly agreed to attend the conference as a keynote speaker.** She is aware of the theme of the conference. Our committee thanks Paul for securing Justice Rosalie Abella's participation and attendance at the conference.

3. Update on Subcommittee re Focus group Discussions and Pepp Talks

Please see an email that the writer sent on February 7th at 6:33pm forwarding an email from Jeff Trueman dated February 5th at 2:38pm setting out the subcommittee's ideas and plans. I also refer you to an email that the writer sent on February 24th at 8:08pm forwarding an email from Jeff Trueman dated February 22nd at 3:45. I also refer you to an email from the writer dated February 24th at 8:21pm forwarding an email from Orit Asnin dated February 24th at 10:23am.

The subcommittee is asked to prepare one document summarizing the Pepp Talks that have been confirmed and the Focus Group Discussions that have been confirmed together with a brief description of the Pepp talks and Focus Group Discussions.

4. The Draft Schedule, Topics Speakers and Panels

A. Thursday Morning and Afternoon

7:00-8:00-Optional Meditation **to be led by IAM members**

8:00-9:15-Breakfast

9:15-9:25-Welcome and Introduction by Jay and introduction of Michel

9:25-9:45-Michel Kallipetis- Introduction to Community-(Michel to provide brief description for brochure).

9:45-11:00-Keynote Speaker-Retired Justice Rosalie Abella (Paul Iacono to try to get a description of her topic).

11:00-11:15-Coffee Break

11:15-11:30-Pepp Talk-Rande Sotomayer: "Intentional Kindness: A Path to Resolution"

11:30-12:30-First Focus Group Discussion -Options and Descriptions to be Provided

12:30-1:30pm-Lunch

1:30-2:30-Louise Otis- 45 minute talk and 15 minutes questions and audience comments. (Andrea to speak to Louise to get title of talk for brochure).

2:30-3:15-IAM Green Pledge-John Sturrock and Jonathan Lloyd Jones-preferably 30 minute presentation and 15 minutes of questions and audience comments. (Michel to obtain brief description from John and Jonathan for brochure and presentation should be different from perspective at Edinburgh).

3:15-3:30-Coffee Break

3:30-4:30 or 4:45-Panel-Multistakeholder Environmental Mediation with Michael Brown and Paul Monicatti-Andrea Morrison to facilitate. There should not be a series of speeches. There should be interaction between panelists and facilitator. We also need description from Andrea, Michael and Paul regarding title and focus of panel for the brochure.

4:30 or 4:45-5:30-Free Time

5:30-6:30-Cocktail Party-(The idea is that new IAM members from the past few years would be introduced and recognized). Richard Rejino has been and will continue to be in touch with Louise Otis to see whether the City will sponsor the reception at the hotel.

7:00pm-Sign and Dine-(Richard and Carol to include as many restaurants with terraces (patios) as possible).

B. Friday Morning and Afternoon

7:00-8:00-Optional Meditation to be led by IAM members

8:00-9:00-Breakfast

9:00-9:15-Announcements?

9:15-10:15- Marie Claude Asselin-Mediation in the Sports Community-(Barb to get title of talk for brochure. Hopefully, last 15 minutes can be left for questions and audience comments).

10:15-11:15-Sports Panel-(Barb to confirm makeup of panel, including moderator/facilitator and description for brochure. Panel should be as interactive as possible as opposed to giving "speeches". Ideas discussed include

working with high functioning and high profile people, working with emotionally charged situations and working with people with egos and reputations. What can commercial mediators learn from these disputes?

11:15-11:30-Coffee Break

11:30-12:30- Second Focus Group Discussion -Options and Descriptions to be Provided

12:30-1:45-Lunch

1:45-2:45-- **John Beaucage**- "Dealing with Disputes in the Indigenous Community"--What skills can be transferred to commercial mediators? (Paul Iacono to speak to Mr. Beaucage to provide description of talk for brochure).

2:45-3:00-**Second Pepp Talk to be presented by Eleanor Barr**-Description of Pepp Talk to be finalized with Eleanor

3:00-3:15-Coffee break

3:30-4:30-Panel to be introduced by Michel Kalipetis. The panel to be chaired/moderated by Orit Asnin. The provisional title for the session is "Cross-Cultural Competence: What Is It and Why Do We Need It?" Michel and Orit are working on putting together the panel. The panelists are being finalized but invitations have been extended to John Beaucage and Professor Sukhsimranjit Singh of Pepperdine University.

4:30-6:00-Free Time

6:00-7:00-Cocktails- (The current consensus is that we will not have entertainers during the cocktails).

7:00-9:00-Banquet-(There was discussion about the New Trolls doing a 5-10 minute "set" during dinner. There was also discussion that new members being inducted would be briefly introduced (but not by their sponsors). Because we want to have as much time as possible for members to socialize during dinner, we are likely not going to have any cirque entertainers during dinner). Jay will make inquiries about a magician friend of his as to his availability to do magic at the tables during dinner.

9:00-onwards-New Trolls to entertain in Banquet Room and Free Time

C. Saturday Morning

7:30-8:30-Optional Meditation **to be led by IAM members**

8:30-9:30-Breakfast

9:30-9:50-Installation of New Board (including treasurer's report, Passing of the Gavel and introduction of new Board)

9:50-10:50- The SIRS (one or both) will either make a presentation or coordinate a panel at this time. Part of the purpose is to offer an exciting substantive session on Saturday morning to encourage North American members to attend and to delay their departure until the conclusion of the conference. The SIRS will hopefully tie their presentation to the theme of community.

10:50-11:50-Open Mike with Steve Paul-Where do we go from here as a community? What do we offer to the community at large?

11:50-12:00-Introduction of next live conference in Zurich, Switzerland

12:00-12:05pm-Concluding Remarks by Jay and Conference Ends

5. General Matters

It was suggested that we plan for a few reserve speakers in the event that speakers (or panelists) can't attend due to COVID. **This needs to be discussed.**

6. Administration and Social Matters

Richard Rejino advised that the hotel is being flexible in terms of cancelling the conference. The "drop dead" date is probably early to mid-March. There is a further deposit due in April.

Carol Wilbur sent an email on Friday January 21, 2022 at about 1:51pm EST with a link to a number of potential social plans for the spouses/partners of attendees as well as for everyone. Michael Dickstein and Andrea Morrison have provided some input in response to Carol's email. **The social plans will have to be decided. Please provide any additional input if you wish to do so.**

7. Schedule and Brochure

8. Conclusion

I trust this email accurately reflects our decisions, discussions and follow ups that are to be done. Please provide any comments that you may have.

I have copied Jeff Trueman once again so that his subcommittee on Pepp Talks and Focus group Discussions can be kept up to date in terms of what additional follow up needs to be done.

Once again, I am grateful to everyone for your assistance, participation, cooperation and support. Thank you very much.

Jay