

## **BARBARA McNEIL**

Barbara McNeil, CMed. QArb.  
B.Sc.Ag. M.A.

403 850 4227

[bma@barbaramcneil.com](mailto:bma@barbaramcneil.com)

[www.barbaramcneil.com](http://www.barbaramcneil.com)



### **Overview**

Barbara McNeil is an experienced mediator, facilitator, adjudicator, and dispute resolution trainer with over 30 years experience. She specializes in helping individuals and organizations navigate and resolve tough issues and complex disputes. Barbara brings an extensive understanding of both rural and urban communities throughout the province.

### **Intermunicipal Mediation and Facilitation Experience**

Since the inception of Alberta's roster program, Barbara has played a pivotal role in municipal mediation, addressing issues such as:

- 690 Appeals
- Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks
- Cost/Revenue Sharing Agreements
- Annexations
- Strategic Planning
- Council dynamics

She has also:

- Supported staff in addressing and overcoming interpersonal challenges
- Conducted Code of Conduct Investigations
- Facilitated Restorative Processes for post-investigation reconciliation.

### **Recent Related Projects**

- Chaired and facilitated a collaborative Aggregate Resource Steering Committee to achieve consensus recommendations for the municipality's aggregate resource policy.
- Co-mediated an annexation initiative that evolved into a major joint collaborative planning and economic development initiative for the parties – a mainly rural municipality and a major urban centre.
- Mediated discussions among four municipalities, supporting their development of a regional water commission. Planned and facilitated the related open houses.
- Planned and facilitated public engagement visioning sessions for a municipality as a key step in their rewriting of their Municipal Development Plan.

### **Adjudication/Arbitration**

As a Hearing Commissioner with the Alberta Energy Regulator (2013 – 2017), Barbara adjudicated hearings for energy applications and appeals. Other roles include chairing the Town of Banff's Development Appeal Board (2011-2017) and serving on the Municipal Government Board during the 1990s, where she adjudicated assessment appeals.

### **Meditation /Arbitration (Med-Arb)**

Barbara is skilled in Med-Arb, a hybrid approach combining mediation and arbitration. Trained and experienced in both mediation and adjudication, Barbara has completed training in med-arb and she adheres to the National Med-Arb Rules. As an AER hearing commissioner, she designed and led evaluative mediations - a form of med/arb.

### **Education and Training**

Barbara's academic foundations include degrees in Agriculture and Public Administration. Barbara has obtained certification in:

- Mediation
- Arbitration
- Conflict resolution
- Administrative justice
- Workplace investigation
- Ombuds Practice

Barbara is an experienced instructor, having taught mediation and conflict resolution for Municipal Affairs, the University of Calgary, and many private clients.

### **Professional Associations**

A long-time member of the Alberta Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta, Barbara served as president for four years. She is a member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Canada. Barbara is a committed board member of the Banff Canmore Foundation.

References available on request.