

The 3 minutes of GENEVACCORD ADR - No.9, August 2014

Press release - "SWEET JUSTICE" Getting to the heart of mediation

GENEVACCORD Alternative Dispute Resolution SA is putting restorative justice in the spotlight. Audiences will be introduced to the mechanisms of conflict mediation through a play based on real life situations.

From 22 to 25 October 2014, well-known actors, mediators and lawyers will come together on stage at the Théâtre Les Salons in Geneva to demonstrate the power of a win-win approach.

Sweet
JUSTICE

Guy A. Bottequin

Alain Carré

Stéphanie Leclef

Avec la participation exceptionnelle
de M^e Marc Bonnant le 22 octobre

du 22 au 25 octobre 2014
THÉÂTRE LES SALONS GENEVE

Throughout the 47 Council of Europe states, more than 85% of disputes which go through mediation reach an agreement acceptable to all parties within three months.

The approach is rapidly gaining ground, proving immeasurably faster and more cost effective than going through the courts.

Although a desire to encourage mediation is written into the Constitution in Geneva, it is taking a while for this method of conflict resolution to take hold in mindsets and in practice.

Less than 1% of cases currently go to mediation, while the judges' workload is increasing considerably.

Under the umbrella of the Swiss Federation of Mediation Organizations (FSM/SDM), GENEVACCORD ADR, a specialist in conflict mediation, is launching an initiative to demonstrate to the general public how mediation works.

"SWEET JUSTICE" will give the audience the unique experience of observing a 'live' mediation. The play is based on a real case, addressing joint ownership following a divorce, complicated by a work dispute.

How will the mediator, as an assistant and facilitator, manage to restore communication between the parties? What means will he use to help them recognize their common interests? How does mediation, which is always strictly confidential, play out in reality? The drama will provide the answers.

Mediation is more than simply a conflict resolution process; it is a demanding art. Independence, impartiality, neutrality and strict confidentiality are essential qualities for a mediator.

Like a skilled conductor, the mediator gets the best from his instruments: uninterrupted listening, effective questioning, reformulation, positive silences, appealing to the parties' experience and emotions, interpreting non-verbal messages, and also using specific tools such as systemic applications and asides.

For Guy A. Bottequin, a mediator certified by the Republic and Canton of Geneva, it was an obvious choice to use Geneva's theatre and one of its stars, Alain Carré, to raise public awareness of this powerful method of conflict resolution.

He could not have found a better counsel for the defense than the renowned speaker, Maitre Marc Bonnant.

From 22 to 25 October at Théâtre Les Salons, Guy A. Bottequin, with 800 hours' mediation experience, will confront the parties to the conflict: Alain Carré, Stéphanie Leclef and Aïssa Derrouaz, actors who will perform live role-play. Not forgetting acting and narration by Sarkis Ohanessian and contributions from lawyer-mediators.

The gala evening on 22 October will conclude with the famous lawyer and speaker Maitre Marc Bonnant facing an adversary in a debate on mediation.

The sessions on Thursday 23, Friday 24 and Saturday 25 October will also be followed by a debate, with audience participation encouraged.

"SWEET JUSTICE"

Getting to the heart of mediation

Théâtre Les Salons

Rue Jean-François Bartholoni 6
1204 Geneva

Tickets:

Gala evening on 22 October 2014 :

CHF 60.-, including cocktail

Evenings of 23, 24 et 25 October 2014 :

CHF 40.-, students CHF 30.-

Information and reservation:

Service culturel Migros Genève

Rue du Prince 7, Geneva

www.migrosbilletterie.ch (from 15.09.14)

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A complex triangular case affecting private and professional lives: a couple goes through a no-fault divorce.

The wife, a gynaecologist, and husband, a cardiologist, are failing to come to an agreement over joint ownership. He wants to leave the private clinic where they both work, but a non-competition clause is preventing this.

Direction: Guy A. Bottequin and Alain Carré

The national umbrella organization FSM/SDM gives a helping hand to young mediators in French-speaking Switzerland

At its last steering committee meeting in Bern on 21 August 2014, the national umbrella organization FSM/SDM made a unanimous decision to support and encourage young mediators in French-speaking Switzerland to compete for the **Rhone Economic Forum's** "Les Galets du Rhône" award in 2015 and subsequent years.

Awards are given for a variety of topics, including conflict mediation. Applicants must be aged 27 years or under and must submit a dissertation, thesis or article they have written as a student, mediator, member of a non-profit mediation association or educational institution, etc. The project must have already been approved by a university or an organization such as the FSM/SDM.



Andrea Staubli,
President FSM/SDM

FORUM ÉCONOMIQUE
RHODANIEN®



Chrystel Girod, President
Alliance Française de Genève

The Rhône Economic Forum is a dedicated arena for French and Swiss business leaders, bankers, politicians, public administration officials, researchers, teachers and students.

It covers the three Swiss cantons: Valais, where the Rhône has its source, Vaud and Geneva, as well as the three French regions crossed by the Rhone: Rhône-Alpes, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Languedoc-Roussillon.

This represents a recognition of young people by the Rhône Economic Forum. It is helping them to integrate into economic life, giving them an understanding of business values, the need for an international perspective and their place within the 75 countries where French is spoken.

The next Forum will be held on 26 September 2014 in Lyon (France), led by Madame Chrystel Girod, founder and president of the Alliance Française in Geneva. The following one will be held in Geneva in September 2015.

Save the date! 6th Conference of the SCCM in Lucerne on 7 and 8 November 2014

The 6th Conference of the Swiss Chamber of Commercial Mediation starts on 7 November.

The first day will be dedicated to the topic: "Mediation in commercial affairs, conflict management and practical approaches for mediators, boards, governing bodies and groups."

The lectures and workshops will provide an update on the current state of professional conflict management within public companies and organizations, as well as a review of current practices and problems in implementation. An overview of mediation will be given, firstly across 60 countries, then concentrating on the situation in Switzerland.

C S M C *Chambre Suisse de Médiation Commerciale*
S K W M *Schweizer Kammer für Wirtschaftsmediation*
C S M C *Camera Svizzera per la Mediazione Commerciale*
S C C M *Swiss Chamber of Commercial Mediation*

One of the speakers will be Guy A. Bottequin, leading a workshop on "The importance of verbal and non-verbal communication in mediation: Techniques for oral expression, intonation, intention, body language, posture, bearing and engagement."

To improve participation and understanding, simultaneous German↔French translation will be available throughout the first day.

On 8 November 2014, the day will be dedicated to a workshop on "Posture as a central element of mediation in commercial affairs."

The program is rich and varied, with a good balance between theory and practice, and facilitated by conflict mediation professionals.

The Swiss section of GEMME celebrates its 10th anniversary



The Swiss section of GEMME (European Association of Judges for Mediation) is this year celebrating 10 years of existence.

GENEVACCORD ADR extends its congratulations to the association for a decade dedicated to promoting mediation, and will attend the conference organized to mark the occasion on 3 September 2014, with the theme:

"Coping with pressure in the context of mediation and judicial proceedings"

The conference will be held in Windisch and will be attended by André Jomini, judge of the Canton of Vaud, and president of the Swiss section of GEMME.

News from our partner Con-Sent ADR

Working session

A working session between GENEVACCORD ADR and Con-Sent ADR was held in Belgium on 23 and 24 July 2014.

It was a fruitful session, which enabled us to draw up a strategic plan for promoting mediation, as well as for gaining recognition from various institutions and governments across Europe, essential for raising the credibility and scope of a Pan European Axis of conflict mediation.



Both partners are also keen to see standards raised in conflict mediation, particularly through training courses on specific topics such as posture and non-verbal communication. This will help to ensure mediators are equipped with all the tools and skills they need to perform their role.

Event on 1 October 2014 in Ghent



Ghent city,
Belgium

A major conflict mediation event will be held in Ghent, Belgium, on Wednesday 1 October, with the theme:

"Save time and resources in resolving your business disputes".

The event is being organized by the Belgian Federal Mediation Commission, together with Con-Sent ADR and other supporters and partners.

Experienced mediators, Belgian and European political representatives and a variety of stakeholders will gather to exchange ideas, improve understanding, and learn more about this method for commercial conflict resolution. One of the speakers will be Guy A. Bottequin, giving a contribution in Dutch.

Full programme to be announced.

Poetic reflection of the month, suggested by our correspondent Raymonde Richter, lawyer and mediator. It is entitled "Attempt":

*Between
What I think
What I want to say
What I think I say
What I say
What you want to hear
What you think you hear
What you hear
What you want to understand
What you think you understand
What you understand
We have ten potential barriers to communication.
But let's try anyway...*

Bernard Werber

Attempt, from The Encyclopedia of Absolute and Relative Knowledge, 2000.



Raymonde Richter,
lawyer and mediator