

## Derek Minus launches Mediation and Arbitration Chambers

### MEDIATION & ARBITRATION CHAMBERS

The Chartered Institute has an enviable reputation as a premier trainer of professional dispute resolution skills. However, whilst the Institute must primarily be focussed on the professional training of dispute resolvers, there is a need in Australia to promote the availability of qualified members to assist organisations resolve their disputes.

Members of the Institute with qualifications in mediation and arbitration, may therefore be interested in joining a new chambers being set up to market their skills and mediation and arbitration services to Australian organisations.

Mediation & Arbitration Chambers has been established to provide the opportunity to join a small, specialist group devoted to dispute resolution practice generally and specifically the use of combined processes of mediation/conciliation and arbitration. The practice will offer and advertise the informality of mediation/conciliation and the determinative outcome of arbitration as a combined service, which gives parties both flexibility and finality in resolving their disputes in a confidential context.

#### Virtual Chambers

Whether you currently reside in Sydney or any other location in Australia that provides reliable and fast internet service you can be "in chambers" without ever leaving your present established accommodation, because Mediation & Arbitration Chambers has been established as a true "virtual chambers".

Through offices in the Sydney CBD, members will be offered a dedicated city

phone number, mailing address, email address and DX facilities. All calls are handled by a digital PABX with integrated VOIP (voice over internet protocol) facilities. That means you can get calls on your given local number on a special internet capable phone anywhere you can get good internet access, including overseas. When not available to take calls, all of your calls can be redirected to another phone or automatically stored and forwarded to you instantly over the internet, where they can be played on your computer or saved for later retrieval. The same with faxes.

#### Promoting the Practice

As the first virtual chambers and specialist practice to be established in the combined areas of mediation and arbitration in Australia, it is expected that the chambers will achieve some initial presence in legal areas. It is intended to build on this through low cost

strategic marketing, information sharing and relationship building activities.

All members of chambers will be listed on the chamber's web site including photograph and full biographical details. Personalised stationery, including business cards, and pre-formatted letterhead, with compliments and facsimile sheets prepared in the Chambers style will also be available to maintain a unity of identity.

The Chambers will advertise a general phone number and members will be encouraged to create their own practice under the umbrella of the chambers. However, it is expected that opportunities will be developed for members to work together to share dispute process activities

as a group.

#### Interested to join?

Practitioners who hold a current practising certificate as a legal practitioner with existing qualifications in mediation (with appropriate accreditation) and arbitration (graded status) and experience would have the necessary standing to represent themselves as specialist practitioners.

Additionally, practitioners across a range of different practice areas and industry backgrounds are sought, so as to offer the widest possible skill set available.

For an information package please send an email to: [info@medarb.com.au](mailto:info@medarb.com.au).

#### Personals Condolences

We extend our deepest sympathies and condolences to **Doug Jones**, our former President and current Chairman of the Institute's Board of Trustees, on the recent death of his wife, Rosslyn, after a brief battle with cancer.

#### Thanks

We extend our thanks and good wishes to our former Executive Officer, **Peter Robinson**, who has completed his tenure as Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Commercial Disputes Centre (ACDC) and returned to the hallowed halls of the NSW Attorney-General's Department.

#### Congratulations

We offer our congratulations to our Honorary Treasurer, **Michael Sanig**, who last month graduated from the University of Western Sydney with a Masters Degree in Legal Practice and has been admitted as a lawyer to the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

#### Welcome Back

**Malcolm Holmes** has recently returned from teaching the Diploma Course run by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) at Keble College at the University of Oxford. This followed on from the very successful course run at UNSW in late June/early July.

Please submit your personal news to the Editor at the address on page 3.



Derek Minus