

# ONLINE CHILD WITNESS COURT PREPARATION FACILITATOR TRAINING SERIES



A SERIES OF ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR THE COMMUNITY PROFESSIONAL

## LOG-ON AND LEARN - FOUR TRAINING MODULES - SCHEDULED ONLINE

Each module will consist of narrated Powerpoint presentations, readings, videoclips that can be completed at your own pace over the month. An electronic certificate will be provided for the completion of each module and a separate hard copy certificate will be issued upon completion of the series.

### 1) CORE CONCEPTS CENTRAL TO CHILD WITNESSES AND COURT PREPARATION

#### MODULE TEACHING OBJECTIVES

1. To understand how children can be vulnerable to abuse and thus required to testify in court
2. To identify the advantages to children receiving court preparation
3. To understand essential components of a credible and professional court preparation program
4. To identify core concepts necessary for child preparation
5. To identify core concepts necessary for preparing supportive parents/caregivers

### 2) CORE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND FAMILY DYNAMICS RELEVANT TO CHILD WITNESSES

#### MODULE TEACHING OBJECTIVES

1. To become clear about the expectations that the court system has of child witnesses
2. To identify how the vulnerability of children can impact their ability to disclose child abuse and testify about it
3. To understand the developmental and communication barriers of children at different ages
4. To become familiar with variables that are related to a favorable outcome for children both in court & in their later adjustment
5. To understand how the stress of child abuse and testifying in court affects family members

### 3) COURT ROLES, RULES AND LEGISLATION

#### MODULE TEACHING OBJECTIVES

1. To identify personnel in the courtroom and the roles they have
2. To become familiar with the proper etiquette and behaviour in the courtroom
3. To understand some of the more challenging court concepts and precedents
4. To understand how jurors assess child witnesses and their credibility
5. To be exposed to the legislation of The Criminal Code of Canada, Bill C-15 and Bill C-2 as it relates to child witnesses

### 4) COURT PREPARATION RESEARCH AND STRATEGIES

#### MODULE TEACHING OBJECTIVES

1. To recognize the costs/benefits of both group and individual preparation
2. To identify court preparation strategies most useful for young child witnesses
3. To identify court preparation strategies most useful for adolescents
4. To identify court preparation strategies most beneficial for parents/caregivers
5. To become familiar with online court preparation - the advantages and challenges

