



The International
Rights of Children
Society

FORUM

Torn Apart: The Trauma of Parental Child Abduction

Fact: 90% of children in parental abduction cases are moved beyond the reach of Canadian law

Come and hear what the experts have to say about

- **the harm done to children by parental abduction**
- relevant **international law**
- discrepancies in **family law** from nation to nation
- **preventative steps** parents can take
- **personal stories** from left behind family

Speakers

Melissa Engdahl (Hawach) - Official Spokesperson for The Missing Children Society of Canada and author of *Flight of the Dragonfly*: the story of her daughters' abduction to Lebanon.

Colin Jones - Professor, International Program Coordinator, Doshisha University Law School, Kyoto, Japan and author of numerous articles on the subject of parental abduction.

Anne Bourdeau - Case Management Officer, Children's Issues, Consular Services and Emergency Management Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Matt Antell - Film maker working on "From the Shadows" a documentary about parental abduction.

Mairi Richter - Canadian teenager left behind when her two cousins were abducted.

Moderator

Wilf Wakely - Canadian lawyer and long time resident of Japan specializing in international transactions, and head of Wakely Law, a registered foreign law office in association with TMI Associates, one of Japan's largest law firms. Mr. Wakely has been involved in a number of cases involving children's rights issues in Japan.

Date Monday, November 3, 2008

Time 6:15 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Media Question period 5:30-6:00)

Venue YWCA Program Centre
535 Hornby Street, Vancouver

Registration

Space is limited - to secure your place please register by e-mail: forum@irocs.org or telephone: **1-866-373-1783**
Admission is free. Donations are welcomed.

Presented by:

**The International
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For further information on this Forum or the issue of International Parental Abduction please contact IROCS at info@irocs.org