

Region II Chapter Meetings

The local chapter meets regularly with a guest speaker and program open to the public. Past programs have included these topics:

- Cultural and Gender Issues in Mediation and Negotiation
- Cost of Conflict in the Workplace
- Nez Perce Tribal Mediation
- Mediator De-briefing
- “The Visionaries”
- Mediation and EEO Disputes
- Ombuds and Conflict Management
- Gandhi and Non-violence
- Uniform Mediation Act
- Victim Offender Mediation Program in Latah County
- Appreciative Approach to Managing Conflict
- Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
- Mediating Basin-wide Water Disputes

For information about upcoming chapter meetings and events, go to our web site: www.geocities.com/imaregion2



Discourage litigation. Persuade your neighbors to compromise whenever you can. Point out to them how the nominal winner is often a real loser – in fees, expenses, and waste of time.

– *Abraham Lincoln*

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.

– *Margaret Meade*

You can't shake hands with a clenched fist.

– *Indira Gandhi*

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

– *Marion Wright Edelman*

Region II Chapter of the Idaho Mediation Association, Inc.

Region II includes counties of
Latah, Nez Perce, Idaho,
Clearwater, and Lewis

Promoting mediation and providing
networking and educational
opportunities to mediation
practitioners



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For the mediation practitioner

The Region II chapter of the Idaho Mediation Association, Inc. (IMA) is a group interested in alternative forms of dispute resolution that meets to network, exchange ideas, and learn about mediation and conflict management. The chapter has monthly meetings with the program free and open to the public. Meeting dates, times, and locations are available at the chapter's web site at: community.palouse.net/imaregion2

The programs have guest speakers who present on a variety of topics related to conflict management.

By joining the chapter, you help to promote non-violent conflict resolution and foster networking with other area mediation practitioners. Chapter dues are \$10 for a calendar year, with a reduced rate of \$5 for students. Membership in the Region II chapter does not include membership in the state association. Additional membership and meeting information is on the chapter web site.

The Idaho Mediation Association, Inc. is a statewide association. The IMA web site at www.idahomediation.org has information about the state association, certification, the annual conference, and more.

For the mediation consumer

If you are looking for mediator services, the IMA web site at www.idahomediation.org has a "Find a Mediator" feature to locate "Certified Professional Mediators" by type of mediation or location (city, county, and region). In addition, local non-profit community mediation centers can be found in the "yellow pages" section of a phone book under "Mediation Services."

How does the process of mediation work?

There are no fixed rules, but the common elements to the process are these:

- 1) Introduction and opening statements – mediators describe their role and the process
- 2) Information gathering – the parties individually describe their views of the dispute and what they want by way of a solution
- 3) Identifying issues – the mediators assist the parties in identifying the main issues in dispute
- 4) Generating solutions – mediators will then encourage the parties to become problem solvers, look objectively at the issues, and discuss possible solutions
- 5) Agreement – when the parties have reached an agreement, the mediator may record the terms of the agreement

What is Mediation?

Mediation is a well established, cost-effective, fair, efficient, and confidential process for resolving disagreements. The Mediator, as an impartial third party, helps people in the dispute find a mutually acceptable resolution. The Mediator helps the parties discuss difficult issues and negotiate an agreement. Unlike court, in mediation, the decision-making authority rests with the parties themselves.

Benefits of Mediation:

Mediation, when contrasted with Litigation, has these benefits:

- It's less expensive
- Parties are more likely to comply with the outcome
- Mediations can usually be scheduled sooner than court dates
- Mediation is private and confidential
- Solutions can be more flexible and customized
- Participants take control of the process and have more impact on the outcome
- It allows the parties to preserve a more amicable relationship

