

Fairness Includes Equality: Applying Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Concepts in Your Adjudicative Practice

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Grace Vaccarelli is a human rights lawyer, mediator, and workplace investigator, having been called to the Bar of Ontario in 2001 after receiving her LL.B. degree from Queen's University. Grace has worked exclusively in the social justice public sector. Prior to joining Ethical Associates, Grace was Senior Counsel and Manager of Legal Services at the Ontario Human Rights Legal Support Centre between 2008 and 2019.

Previously, Grace practiced for many years in

the community legal clinic system including working at the Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario, Kensington Bellwoods Community Legal Services, Neighbourhood Legal Services, and Tenant Duty Counsel. In those positions, Grace provided direct services to clients with a focus on housing and human rights issues. Grace has also held a number of start-up policy positions including in the Clinic Resource Office of Legal Aid Ontario in 2000, and at the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario in 2008, during the transition to the current direct access model.

In her human rights and social justice practice, Grace has represented numerous individuals from various identity backgrounds who faced barriers to accessing justice. Grace is also a respected leader in providing human rights training to a number of professional organizations. She brings the same attention to her work as a dedicated neutral, ensuring all participants have the space and safety to bring their story forward.