



LISA CATTANACH BSc, LL.M , FRICS, FCI Arb.

“As an experienced Mediator and Adjudicator, I consider there is no ‘one size fits all’ for disputes. I believe there is a place for several methods of dispute resolution in both civil and commercial matters. We will never get rid of disputes; they are a fact of life. However, we should be looking at how best to resolve disputes when they do arise and work together to solve them using whichever method of ADR seems appropriate. Mediation is something that is generally undervalued in most areas but is particularly so in the construction industry. I know mediation to be successful and believe its use should be encouraged and embraced. This way we can build an industry that is less contentious for generations to come. I am pleased to be on the Scottish Branch Panel of Civil and Commercial Mediators and am keen to promote the use of mediation as a successful tool in dispute resolution”.

I have over 30 years’ experience in the construction industry and am convinced that there is no one form of ADR that suits every dispute. Following qualification as a quantity surveyor and working in private practice, I spent many years focusing on negotiation and conciliation, witnessing the many benefits of both. I moved into contract advice and attained an LLM in Construction Law and Arbitration in 2010. I continue to give contractual advice to Employers, main contractors and subcontractors on Standard Form contracts as well as bespoke Contracts and bespoke amendments. My experience in contractual issues led to me being a past Chair of Scottish Building Contracts Committee (SBCC). I have acted as expert witness on many occasions and achieved accredited Expert Witness Status with the RICS some years ago.

Following the establishment of adjudication and a period of related study, I became a registered adjudicator with RICS in 2002. I remain so and have also achieved adjudicator registration with the Royal Institute of British Architects; the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Scottish Branch); Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and UK Adjudicators. I have considerable experience acting as adjudicator and as party representative in adjudication and find this experience helpful in working with parties both commercial and domestic.

My concentration on dispute resolution led to an introduction to mediation and, many years ago, I became keen to develop my skills in this direction. As I have said above, I do not believe that “one size fits all” in the world of civil and commercial disputes. I became an Accredited RICS Mediator in November 2014. I have been involved in many mediations ranging from employment issues and residential disputes to construction claims regarding significant liability and quantum. I am also a Registered Practitioner with Scottish Mediation. I consider mediation remains underutilised, not only in the construction industry but in many other civil and commercial fields, and I am committed to its development.

I am delighted to have been successful in joining the Ciarb Scottish Branch Mediation Panel for Civil and Commercial Mediators and look forward to offering parties, from all fields, assistance in this form of dispute resolution.



Professional Experience

March 2000 to date

Construction Dispute Resolution (CDR)

Managing Director having been a Director since May 2009

I have over 20 years' experience as an adjudicator and have been appointed to over 90 Adjudications to date. I also act as Party Representative and Adviser and have done so in some 60 Adjudications. Since 2014, I have assisted parties facilitate settlement by mediation, both in civil and commercial matters. I have been appointed on numerous occasions to prepare Expert Witness Reports in the areas of quantum; loss and expense; value and validity of variations in Final Account. I also act for Local Authorities providing advice and was appointed as a Joint Consultant with a Solicitor by a Local Authority on a complex Arbitration regarding a significant community project. Since joining CDR, I have been involved in continuing research and investigation into Adjudication within the construction industry in association with GCU.

June 1994 to
March 2000

Unick Surveyors, 4 Park Gate, Glasgow, G3 6DL

Managing surveyor responsible for all quantity surveying disciplines from inception to completion on a variety of projects throughout the UK. Assistant to the Project Manager on various large projects throughout the UK. Personal responsibility for bespoke forms of contract, warranties and novation agreements for Developers on one of Britain's largest private mixed-use developments at Birmingham Great Park, Birmingham. I was also involved in providing cost, programme and contractual advice to various international "blue chip" companies and worked extensively with The Sundance Corporation (USA), General Cinemas (South America) and with United Cinemas International (China & Korea). Latterly I was seconded to assist on expert witness cases and adjudications, an involvement that I enjoyed on a professional basis and decided to pursue full time, prompting me to join CDR.

1993& 1992

Wilkinson & Lowe, Glasgow.

I was involved in the preparation of Bills of Quantities for several small contracts. I also assisted the Project Surveyors in producing cost plans, monthly valuations and cost reports and agreeing final accounts.

Education and Professional Qualifications

- February 2017 : Accredited RICS Expert Witness
- January 2015 : Elected as Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.
- June 2010 : Attained LL.M in Construction Law and Arbitration from The Robert Gordon University. Dissertation topic "Impact of Case Law upon the Adjudication Process".
- April 2008 : Admitted as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb).
- October 1996 : Elected as Professional Associate of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).
- June 1994 : BSc in Quantity Surveying from Glasgow Caledonian University



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